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NEWSLETTER



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T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE FROM IPPL

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We have T-shirts of a silverback Mountain gorilla with his baby, a chimpanzee family, and a gibbon family. The IPPL T-shirts come in 4 sizes, Small, Medium, Large and Extra-Large. The small size also fits most children aged 8 to 14.

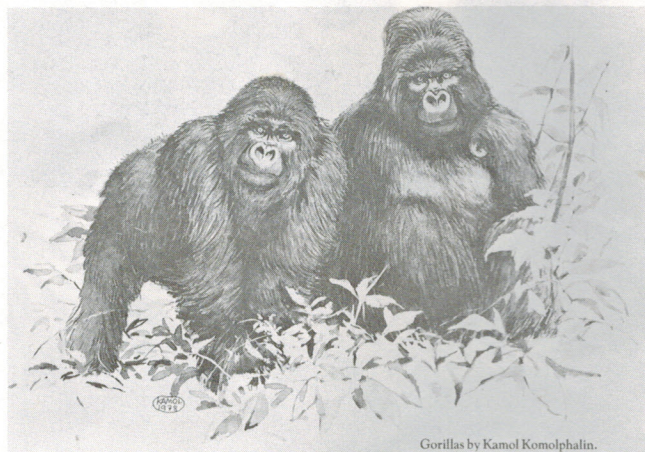
The shirts come in 4 colors, aqua, lavender, beige and silver. Please provide a second color choice when ordering.

In addition, we have new T-shirts with a Chinese Golden monkey design. These come in 4 sizes, Small, Medium, Large, and Extra-Large but are only available in tan.

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THE "POLISH CONNECTION"

The International Primate Protection League has received copies of documents which show that Poland has become an important way-station for endangered wildlife smuggled from Asia, Africa, and South America.

Polish zoos do not have hard currency (such as US dollars or sterling) to buy animals. Therefore some Polish zoos obtain shipments of animals from smugglers, keep them in "quarantine" for a while, and then re-export most of the animals, while retaining a few specimens for their collections as a reward for participating in this sordid traffic.

Poland is not a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. Polish zoos appear to have no trouble bringing wild animals into the country. Nor do they appear to have any problem getting export documents asserting that the imported animals were "born in captivity."

Among the animals involved in "Polish Connection" shipments are gorillas, orang-utans, gibbons, tapirs, and several South American species. Also of great concern is the trafficking in Douc Langurs. Douc Langurs are listed in the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's **Red Data Book** in the category "Endangered." The world population has been estimated by John and Kathy McKinnon as no more than 72,200, with less than 10,000 in protected areas. Douc Langurs are found only in war-ravaged Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, and were badly harmed by bombing and defoliation. Douc Langurs are also extremely fragile animals. They need total protection, but animal smugglers have set their sights on these beautiful monkeys. A Thai animal dealer once informed IPPL that Douc Langurs have so much trouble adjusting to captivity that 90% die within the first month of captive living. This does not exempt these lovely animals from the depredations of animal smugglers. In 1987, a Thai delegation flying to Vietnam to attend a conference on kouprey conservation were amazed to find Thai smuggler Preecha Varavaishit of Pimjai Birds on the same plane. One wonders if he was planning more than a vacation!

Extracts from the package of documents received at IPPL Headquarters follow. When you have read them, you will really grasp the full horror of the international trade in live animals, and, we hope, be ready to get out your pen and write letters!

Letter from Preecha Varavaishit of Pimjai Birds, Bangkok, Thailand, to Ingemar Forss of Copenhagen, Denmark, dated 1 April 1986. In this letter, Pimjai informs Forss that:

We are still in the animal business and we would export most of the animals [that] exist in our area to any country.

This is an amazing boast since Thailand and most of the countries of Southeast Asia protect most of their endangered species. Preecha goes on to offer baby elephants, one year old, for sale at US \$20,000 each. The elephants would be shipped from Singapore, which has no wild elephants of its own, on Singapore export documents. Pimjai complains about smuggling getting harder:

We are not issuing any price-list now as it is very complicated by authorities from wildlife conservation throughout the world.

Animal Request List from Zoo Forss, dated 25 September 1986. Forss requests:

- 3 orang-utans
- 15 young gibbons
- 8 Douc Langurs
- 6 Malayan tapirs
- 11 Slow lorises
- 4 Clouded leopards
- 2 Wattled cassowaries

All these animals are protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and most by national protective laws also.

Invoice from "Phoudou Zoo," 234 Thadeua Road, Vientiane, Laos, to Poznan Zoo, Poland, dated 13 December 1986. This invoice lists 2 Malayan tapirs sold for US \$4,000 each, 2 Douc



Slow Loris: Photo John McGreal

Langurs for US \$2,800 each, and 20 slow lorises for US \$140 each, for a total bill of \$16,400. There are no zoos in Laos, but animal dealers operating out of Laos call themselves "zoos." It makes them sound more legitimate!

Invoice from "Phoudou Zoo" to Skansen Aquarium, Stockholm, Sweden, dated 13 December 1986. This invoice is for 20 slow lorises, sold to the Skansen Aquarium for US \$20 each, for a total of US \$400. \$20 is just one-seventh of the price of the lorises sent to Poznan. It is surprising to IPPL that a Swedish zoo would obtain animals from such a disreputable source as Pimjai, since Sweden is generally a conservation-minded country.

Air waybill No. 3468-3552, Thai Airways International, dated 16 December 1986. This air waybill is issued to the "Phoudou Zoo" for a shipment of unidentified "Live Animals" going to the Skansen Aquarium, Director, Jonas Wahlstrom, Stockholm, Sweden. Clearly this air waybill was for the 20 lorises. Under the rules of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), air waybills must specify the species of animals being shipped: merely saying "Live Animals" is not enough. IPPL has been drawing IATA's attention to the use of the term "Live Animals" on air waybills for over a decade, but nothing is ever done. Use of vague terms helps smugglers carry out their filthy trade.

Air waybill no. 01554 from Lao Aviation, dated 27 December 1986. This waybill lists 5 crates of live animals for shipment to the Poznan Zoo, Poland, and is also marked "c/o Mr. Preecha, Bangkok." The animals were the 2 Malayan tapirs, the 2 Douc Langurs, and the 20 lorises. The trips undertaken by these hapless animals must have been gruelling: from Bangkok probably by road and across the Mekong River to Vientiane, then back by Lao Aviation's morning flight to Bangkok, where the animals would have to wait for around 12 hours to get the Thai International

flight to Europe, with a transit stop and connection to Warsaw, which is 180 miles from Poznan. It is no wonder that so many animals arrive in Poland dead or dying.

Thus, the animals all reached Poland and Sweden in December 1986, in the dead of Poland's bitter winter. At this point, a dispute arose between Pimjai Birds, Zoo-Forss, and Poznan Zoo. It is only when crooks quarrel that animal protection groups are likely to learn about "dirty dealings." The correspondence provided to IPPL provides a fascinating insight into the crooked world of the animal smuggler.

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Zoo-Forss, dated 10 March 1987. Preecha tells Forss that, although the shipments arrived three months ago, he has not been paid, and that he is owed \$16,400. Preecha says that he has tried to phone Forss repeatedly and asks Forss to:

Kindly let us know also about the purchase of 6 baby elephants as we have been contacted by other sources that they are interested to purchase baby elephants from us.

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Zoo-Forss, dated 31 March 1987. Pimjai again asks to be paid for the shipments to Poland and Sweden.

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Wincenty Falkowski, Director of the Poznan Zoo, dated 16 May 1987. In this letter, Preecha tells Zoo Director Falkowski that he has been unable to contact Forss at either his Danish or Swedish address. Preecha asks whether Poznan Zoo has paid Forss. He also tells Falkowski that, "We have Douc Langurs ready for shipment, as well as 6 elephants." He asks that the three parties to the dispute (Preecha, Forss, and Falkowski) meet in person to discuss the situation.

Letter from Wincenty Falkowski, Director of the Poznan Zoo, to Pimjai Birds, dated 23 May 1987. In this letter, Falkowski states that:

The greater part of the animals are feeling well . . . Mr. Forss has promised to supply us with another shipment of 1-2 Douc Langurs . . . We are of course prepared for the shipment of 6 Indian elephants.

Letter from Wincenty Falkowski to Pimjai Birds, dated 29 May 1987. Falkowski states his surprise that Pimjai has not been paid. He goes on to explain how "The Polish Connection" works, and describes the problems with the December 1986 shipment.

According to our agreement with Mr. Forss, it was fixed that the animals have been sent as part settlement of the amount due us and partly in quarantine to be further shipped . . . [as to] the animals kept in quarantine: one female Malayan tapir arrived here in a very bad state - the crate was too small - [the tapir] was famished, chilled, died. The same concerned the male too, but thanks to our great efforts, he was saved . . . During the quarantine, one smaller specimen of Douc and 6 lorises died.

Falkowski notes that, under Poznan Zoo's agreement with Forss, the zoo will retain the surviving tapir, the surviving Douc, and 4 of the lorises. He goes on to propose to Preecha that Forss be eliminated from future transactions, and that Poznan Zoo should work directly with Pimjai. He invites Pimjai to visit Poznan Zoo:

To discuss the matter of our further cooperation . . . we can offer you a good basis as quarantine for a large range of animals . . . we are not sure it will be possible to induce Mr. Forss to come because for some time he is avoiding a personal communication.

Falkowski also tells Preecha about "our interest in acquiring, absolute necessary in summer, 1-1 Douc langurs, 0-1 Malayan tapir [presumably to replace the poor female tapir that died] . . . We are also ready to quarantine for you 1-1 Indian elephant.

Letter from Zoo-Forss to Wincenty Falkowski and Mr. R. Ratajszczak of Poznan Zoo, dated 1 June 1987. In this extraordinary letter, Forss announces:

Very surprised and rather shocked we were informed you still not fulfilled our barter deal.

He goes on to explain how the "barter deal" works.

For your information this barter deal works as the following: I deliver you animals - You deliver your animals to us - we pay our supplier.

Forss notes that, "The shipment to you came from Bangkok. This is a somewhat surprising comment, since the shipment supposedly came from Laos, but it shows clearly that Thai dealers are in fact, using Laos as a base of operations.

Forss reminds Falkowski and Ratajszczak that:

One of the shipping instructions that I gave you was 5 heads of lesser lemurs [endangered species from Madagascar] to my supplier in Bangkok [Preecha], and the second was one pair of South American tapirs and the male Malayan tapir to Japan. What about the certificate of autopsy of the female Malayan tapir!!!!??? [Punctuation as in original]. **However, for the payment of the shipment to Japan and as a part of the payment to my supplier in Bangkok, you should send the monkeys to Bangkok.**

The cruelty of shipping a baby tapir all the way from Bangkok to Poland, and then back from Poland to Japan, is appalling. In fact, Japan is only about 6 flying hours from Bangkok.

Forss orders Falkowski and Ratajszczak to arrange the shipments immediately. In order to increase the pressure on Poznan he states:

We even sent this letter to Warsaw [Ministry of Forest Development] and Lodz [Zoo] for their information.

Forss had also obtained a Tarpan horse from Poznan Zoo. He complains about the animal:

The Tarpan horse which we got from you is only [fit] for slaughter as he has laminates [inflammation around hooves] which it is impossible to cure. What about my daughter? This horse was for her. What I understood is you are a horseman so I do not understand how you can give us such a horse - but you can get it back if you want and use it for meat for your Tiggers.

These comments reveal the callousness and cruelty of this animal dealer.

Letter from Zoo Forss to Pimjai Birds, dated 1 June 1987. Forss sent a copy of his letter to Falkowski and Ratajszczak to Pimjai Birds, and explains to Preecha the workings of "The Polish Connection."

You see, in Poland they do not have any money to buy which mean that every business have to be on an exchange basis in which they keep about 30% of the animals and then we can take the rest for other customers, and, as you can see in the letter, it was good business for them, also the only problem is that they until now have not been doing what they should . . . I also had a big loss of money in Wroclaw Zoo but Poznan told me that they were not like Wroclaw Zoo.

Forss advised Pimjai, "If you want to lose both money and animals, send them to Poland!"

Forss also complains that Pimjai and Mr. Kampang (another notorious Thai wildlife smuggler who operates the Bangkok Wildlife Company and has a branch in Laos) have been circulating pricelists to European zoos:

Only 4 weeks after we arrived from Bangkok, you and Mr. Kampang sent out pricelists to many zoos in Europe including Skansen but you must understand that it is nearly impossible for me to make any business with them who have your pricelist in their hands. You even sent an invoice to Poznan Zoo!!!!!! [punctuation as in original]. **I told you NOT to do that.**

Forss adds:

We now have another zoo in East Europe where they are willing to keep quarantine and to change the papers later on but we can discuss that when I am in Bangkok next time.

Presumably, "changing the papers" means obtaining Polish export documents which describe the wild-caught animals as "captive-born." Under Article VII(4) of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, Appendix I animals (i.e. those requiring both export and import permits to be traded) count as Appendix II species (export permit only required) if "bred in captivity." This loophole has greatly hindered the Convention's effectiveness: it invites fraud.

Forss brags to Preecha that, "I know that I have some of the best contacts in the world so please do not spoil the market by sending pricelists."

In regard to the dead animals, Forss comments:

About one week after arrival, the female Malayan tapir died. Two lorises in Poznan and two lorises in Stockholm also died immediately after arrival. Of course the lorises are not any problem but what about the tapirs? They told me in Poznan that it could not urinate but I haven't got the certificate of the autopsy yet.

Forss then turns the subject to "new business," asking, "How many tapirs, fishing cats, Marble cats and Douc langurs do you have in stock?"

Of course the reason that the deaths of the lorises are "not any big problem," while the tapir's death is, is that tapirs are commercially valuable animals, while lorises are not. For animal dealers like Forss and Preecha, animals have no intrinsic value as precious individuals sharing the world with us, they are just commodities.

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Zoo Forss, dated 14 June 1987. Preecha again complains about not being paid for the December 1986 shipment, reminding Forss that:

You told us that you will settle the accounts by paying us with CASH [capitals as in original] within 4-5 days after shipment of Poland arrive [sic] Zoo Poznan, and that you would fly to Bangkok yourself.

It is not clear why cash payment was preferred, sometimes cash deals are made to avoid tax payments. Some animal dealers like to be paid into secret bank accounts outside their own country.

Oddly, Preecha (hardly a gentleman) asks Forss (also hardly a gentleman):

Is this your gentleman's agreement that you told us? It might be interesting to know that we had tried for more than 50 times in order to make the phone calls to Copenhagen as well as to Sweden. These calls cost lots of money and the result we had was always negatives. We also telexed to you once and also two registered letters but we received your only one manner [sic] that is, absences and no reply . . . You told us many times that you would visit Bangkok and would settle the pending accounts. You never came and that is like you are a liar, because you never show yourself in Bangkok during this period.

Ever eager to do business, Preecha adds:

We now have many kinds of animals for exports, such as tapirs, baby elephants, Douc langurs, etc., and we had supplied to many clients all around. Please do come and see by yourself, dear Mr. Forss.

Letter from Zoo Forss to Pimjai Birds, dated 22 June 1987. Forss tells Preecha that Poznan Zoo has no money to pay him, and that Preecha should cable Poznan Zoo confirming that he (Forss) is handling the transaction.

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Zoo Forss, dated 23 October 1987. Again, Preecha demands payment for the December 1986 shipment. He encloses photostats of documents showing that, "We forwarded animals as requested by you [Forss] to other parties and that you will be responsible to settle all the payments to us."

Preecha threatens to "bring up this case to your higher authorities" if he is not paid within a month.

Letter from Zoo Forss to Pimjai Birds, dated 1 November 1987. Forss tells Pimjai that, "We have tried to contact you by phone but every time you have been out."

The reason that Preecha may well have "been out" is that he was arrested in Laos around October 1987 while buying wild animals at an abandoned military camp! Preecha was charged with falsifying export documents for export of wildlife. He was given 3 years in jail and a \$150,000 fine by the Supreme Court of Laos. Unfortunately, Preecha was released from jail, reportedly after the Thai Government intervened on his behalf. Preecha has always appeared to enjoy high-level "protection." It is hard to explain in any other way his ability to continue smuggling endangered animals from Thailand for over 16 years, with total impunity.

In this letter, Forss tells Preecha:

If you want to get any money from us, it is only by informing Poland-Poznan Zoo that the animals which came from you are going to be handled by us. It means that Poznan have to deliver us the animals which we should have in this exchange-business and then we get paid by our customer and then we can pay you. This is the way our business works and always has. Our supplier delivers the animals our customer needs, he supplies them to some other customers, and when they pay us, we pay the suppliers. It works good if the supplier does not interfere. This means that, if you do not inform Poznan Zoo that they can [proceed] in supplying the animals to us, the chance for you to get paid is ZERO [capitals as in original].

Forss also expresses his willingness to continue to serve as Pimjai's "agent." He complains that:

Poznan does not do their business proper but we have other zoos in Europe where they work a little faster. Even there they have quarantines. So don't send more animals to Poznan before you have asked us.

Forss also adds that "Jonas Wahlstrom [the Director of the Skansen Aquarium, Sweden] and perhaps me are coming to Bangkok in the middle of November." It is not clear why the Director of a respected zoo would travel with an animal dealer.

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Wincenty Falkowski, Director of Poznan Zoo, dated 20 November 1987. Preecha instructs Falkowski to "let Mr. Forss have the full ownership of the animals." Apparently, Preecha thought this might help get him the "blood-money" for the December shipment.

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Zoo Forss, dated 8 January 1988. Preecha complains that he has still not been paid for the December 1986 shipment and threatens to "raise the case to the Danish authorities concerned to bring the case for further step [sic]."

Letter from Pimjai Birds to Zoo Forss, dated 12 February 1988. Preecha again complains of receiving "no news" from Forss (i.e. no payment).

IPPL does not have further documents, so we cannot tell you the outcome of this dispute. **Frankly, we feel that the only ones with the right to feel cheated are the lovely animals placed into shipping crates and sent around the world to line animal dealers' pockets and supply unethical users with animals.**

IPPL is outraged at this appalling traffic in endangered species of wildlife, which makes a mockery of international efforts to protect the world's vanishing species, and inflicts gross pain and suffering on innocent animals in the hands of guilty men. We have informed the wildlife authorities of Thailand, Denmark, Sweden and Poland, as part of our campaign to bring "The Polish Connection" to an end.

We hope that you will bring the power of your pen to this protest by writing the letters requested in the "What You Can Do" block.

HOW YOU CAN HELP END "THE POLISH CONNECTION"

1) Please send a letter to the Prime Minister of Poland expressing your concern at Poland allowing the importation and re-exportation of smuggled wildlife. Refer to some of the facts in this article, and ask that Poland become a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Address:

**Mr. Mieczyslaw Rakowski
Prime Minister's Office
Wiajska 468
Warsaw 00902
Poland**

2) Please write to the Prime Minister of Thailand requesting that Thailand make a serious effort to enforce international wildlife protection laws by a) barring import of foreign endangered species, b) enforcing the laws against export of Thai wildlife whether directly from Thailand or via Laos, Cambodia, or other countries, c) treating animal smuggling as a serious crime and punishing all dealers who violate Thai laws and any government officials tolerating the illegal animal trade. Refer to Pimjai Birds' activities.

Address:

**Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan
Prime Minister's Office
124 Soi Rachakroo
Phaholyothin Road
Bangkok, Thailand**

3) Please write to the Senior Vice-President of Thai Airways International asking that the airline not accept wildlife shipments from Laos because Thai dealers are using Laos as a base for smuggling wildlife from Southeast Asia around the world. Ask that Thai Airways check carefully the documents accompanying any wildlife shipment offered for export whether from Laos or Thailand, and report any suspicious circumstances to Thai authorities.

Address:

**Mr. Neils Lumholdt
Senior Vice-President
Thai Airways International
89 Wipa Wadee Rangsit Road
Don Muang
Bangkhen, Bangkok 10900
Thailand**

4. Please write a letter to the Head of State of Vietnam (in French if you can) asking that export of Douc Langurs be strictly prohibited. Let him know that you know of Pimjai Birds' activities in Vietnam and ask that Mr. Preecha Varavaishit of Bangkok, Thailand, be denied entry to the country. Please request that Vietnam join the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Address:

**General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh
Hanoi, Vietnam**

5) Please write a letter to the Acting President of Laos (in French if you can) asking that Laos not permit Thai animal dealers, including Preecha Varavaishit of Pimjai Birds, who runs the "Phoudou Zoo" and Kampang Ploentham, who runs the "Vientiane zoo", to enter Laos or conduct animal trafficking activities using Laos as a base. Ask that Lao Aviation be ordered not to accept shipments of live animals for export. Ask that Laos become a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Address:

**Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit
Vientiane, Laos**

IPPL Headquarters staff have put in a massive effort to end "The Polish Connection." We have spent hundreds of hours on the issue. Roger Wheeler, Director of the International Union of Zoo Directors (IUZD) has told us that he has been flooded with mail from zoos which have received IPPL's Zoo Alert on Poland's dirty dealings. Direct approaches have been made to the Polish zoos concerned by IUZD. In addition, on 16 February 1989 the Polish newspaper **Nowy Dziennik** ran a full-page article on Page 3, detailing the "dirty dealings" of Poland's zoos. What is needed now is for the countries involved to know that people know what is going on and that they care. You have a real opportunity to help the animals by your letters. Please write and consider preparing your own petitions for you and your friends to circulate and sign. Overseas airmail from the U.S. costs 45 cents per half-ounce.

PRINCE PHILIP EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER "THE POLISH CONNECTION"

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, President of the World Wildlife Fund, has sent IPPL a letter thanking us for sending him the "Polish Connection" papers. He comments, "What an incredible story! There is no doubt in my mind that poaching and the illegal trade are probably more damaging to wildlife than any other factors." The Prince went on to encourage IPPL to "Keep up the Good Work!"

A LETTER FROM POLAND

The International Primate Protection League recently received an envelope bearing Polish stamps. The letter inside made depressing reading. It was from a person familiar with the operation of "The Polish Connection."

I am writing you because I am interested in animal conservation in the wild and in captivity. I was virtually shocked with the last shipment of smuggled animals which arrived from Thailand to Wroclaw Zoo. Our Directors have been involved in animals, mostly primate, smuggling for years but the last shipment was simply shocking.

There were 12 gibbons, mostly White-handed gibbons. Nine were dead on arrival, or died within the first few days. They were all tiny babies less than one year old cramped into tiny cages and severely over-chilled on the way.

Further, there were two young orang-utans, also tiny babies, very shy and in extremely poor condition. They came from Cambodia, but they were property of Pimjai Birds from Thailand. They came as so-called quarantine animals. The real business will go as follows: the animals were smuggled from Asia to Thailand then smuggled to Cambodia, then sent without a legal CITES [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species] to Poland. Poland is not a CITES member and no import permit is necessary. Then they will be supplied with a CITES export permit stating that they were bred in Wroclaw Zoo. This is very easy in Poland, you could even send a giant panda with such a permit because nobody in the Ministry cares about that – they are just issuing permits on request without checking anything.

The whole matter is very easy to prove. Mr. and Mrs. Gucwinski have a weekly TV show entitled "With a Camera among the Animals." On 19 November 1988, they showed these animals on TV telling that the gibbons arrived from a friendly zoo in Thailand because there is now a mysterious sickness attacking only female gibbons. They are becoming very weak and dropping babies, which are collected by local people. I think I know this illness – this is lead pellets in the body from a local poacher. Then they told that the baby orang-utans were born in a ZOO in Cambodia. There are no zoos in that country at all. The mother didn't care for them properly so they were sent to Wroclaw because the zoo director's wife is very famous in rearing baby Apes. She really is. They lost not less than 12 gorillas and 7 orang-utans during that successful rearing. They were also involved in smuggling primates from Guyana. Out of 6 *Pithecia pithecia*,

[Sakiwinkis] only one survived. Some people say that in that transport were also *Chiropotes satanas satanas* [Black-bearded sakis] but they died immediately after transport.

I am asking you to help in stopping that trade which is likely to increase in the near future with all detrimental factors to wild populations . . . Thank you in advance for all your cooperation and help.

The International Primate Protection League has contacted the Director of Wroclaw Zoo requesting further information about these reported events.

As readers of the article "The Polish Connection" in this Newsletter will know, the Thai smuggler Pimjai was jailed in Laos for forging export permits for wildlife. It may be that he has now turned his attention to Cambodia as a "front" for his dubious animal dealings.



Orang-utan

ANIMALS STARVE AT TEHERAN ZOO

According to Reuter's News Service, the animals at Teheran Zoo are starving.

In mid-1988, the Mostazafan Foundation (Foundation for the Oppressed) bought out the zoo's other stockholders, and made plans to transfer the unfortunate animals to a park outside Teheran.

Animals involved include chimpanzees, monkeys and bears.

In July 1988, Teheran Zoo was ordered closed to the public by Iran's Environmental Protection Agency. Zoo workers told the Iranian newspaper *Ettelaat* that they had not been paid since the zoo

closed, that there was no heat for the animals, and that there was no food on hand. Bears were reported to have eaten a weaker bear in their desperate hunger.

Members wishing to see conditions improved for all the animals at Teheran Zoo should write courteous letters to:

**The Director
Department of the Environment
P.O. Box 4565
Teheran, Iran**

FORSS MOVES TO MALAYSIA

On learning of Ingemar Forss' animal dealings, (see "The Polish Connection," this issue), IPPL at once contacted Danish authorities since Forss' stationery bore the address "Rosengarden 12-A, DK-1174, Copenhagen-K, Denmark."

We were appalled to learn from Danish wildlife chief Birgith Sloth that Forss had left Denmark and returned to Sweden, from where he had moved to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This is especially alarming since Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia (which consists of Sarawak and Sabah), have an incredibly rich fauna, including orang-utans, Proboscis monkeys, and several gibbon and langur species.

IPPL immediately contacted foreign zoos to find out whether Forss had started up in the animal business in Malaysia. Several zoos sent us copies of a letter received from Forss announcing his move to Malaysia, which, he said, took place "because we have been requested to help the Zoological Gardens in Asia supplying them different kinds of animals and birds." He also announced plans to export the zoos' "surplus," and announced that he was looking for 3 gorillas, and a variety of other animals. On 5 January

1989, Forss sent out his offer of animals for sale (reproduced on this page). It includes many highly endangered primates, including 14 orang-utans, 15 siamangs, 6 gibbons, and 4 Proboscis monkeys.

IPPL does not know why Forss chose to live in Malaysia, which, unlike Thailand, makes a serious effort to enforce its wildlife laws. Usually, Asian countries do not permit foreigners to enter their countries to engage in any business, let alone a business as potentially devastating to the host country as wildlife trafficking.

Please, therefore, write a courteous letter to the Ambassador of Malaysia, requesting that Mr. Forss' activities be carefully monitored and that he not be permitted to engage in animal exportation. Letters from US members should be addressed to:

His Excellency The Ambassador of Malaysia
Embassy of Malaysia
2401 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, DC 20008

Overseas members should contact the Ambassador of Malaysia in their country of residence.



(International)

ZOO-FORSS®

BROKERS FOR ZOO'S AROUND THE WORLD

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 CABLE: ZOOFORSS MALAYSIA
 TELEX: MA 30487 FABMER
 TELEFAX: 03-2426917
 KUALA LUMPUR 5.1.1989.

Dear Sirs,

First of all please accept our best wishes for the New Year hoping that we will have a good co-operation even during 1989.
 We herewith have the pleasure of offering You the following :

- 5,10 Bruijn's Pademelon (Wallaby) (Thylogale bruijni)
- 6,8 Sandy Wallaby (Macropus agilis)
- 1,2 Lesser Mouse Lemur (Microcebus loquerli)
- 2,2 Slow Loris (Nycticebus coucang)
- 2,2 Lesser Slow Loris (Nycticebus pygmaea)
- 1,2 Celebes Macaque (Macaca nigra)
- 1,2 Moore Macaque (Macaca nigra maura)
- 2,2 Mandrill (Mandrillus sphinx)
- 2,2 Proboscis Monkeys (Nasalis larvatus)
- 3,3 Silver Langurs (Presbytis cristata)
- 2,2 Spectacled Leaf Monkeys (Presbytis obscura)
- 2,4 Dark-handed Gibbons
- 5,10 Siamang (Hylobates syndactylus)
- 3,9 Borneo Orang-utan (Pongo p. pygmaeus)
- 1,1 Sumatra Orang-utan (Pongo p. abeli)
- 5,5 Sun Bears (Helarctos malayanus)
- 5,0 Small-clawed Otter (Amblonyx cinerea)
- 6,6 Binturong (Arctictis binturong)
- 1,1 Black Panther (Panthera pardus)
- 2,2 Malayan Tapirs (Tapirus indicus)
- 6,6 Babirusa (Babyrousa babyrussa)
- 5,15 Bawean Deer (Axis kuhli)
- 1,1 Lowland Anoa (Anoa depressicoenis)
- 1,1 Mountain Anoa (Anoa quarlesi)
- 1,1 Serow (Capricornis sumatraensis)
- 1,1 Komodo Dragon (Varanus komodoensis)
- 12 West African Crocodiles

We also have : 7 heads of two Wattled Cassowary (Common cormorent),
 1,1 Shoe Billed Storks, Electus Parrots, Greater Palm Cockatoo, Lorius
 Lory, different kinds of Cockatoo's , 25 green Peacocks etc.

We are interested in the following : Giraffes, Zebras, all kinds of Antelope
 Deers, Chimpanzees, Gorillas, South American Monkeys, Hippo, even Pygmy,
 Rhinos etc. but please send us Your survivalist.
 With our best regards
 INTERNATIONAL ZOO-FORSS

Ingemar Forss

IMMUNO'S NEW YORK LAWSUIT DISMISSED

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York has dismissed the libel suite **Immuno A.G. versus Moor-Jankowski**, with the costs to be borne by Immuno. Several earlier defendants, including Dr. Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of the International Primate Protection League, were no longer defendants when the decision was announced on 17 January 1989. Each defendant had been sued for US \$4 million.

The grounds for the Appellate Division's decision were that none of the complained-of statements were actionable, since they were either opinion, protected by law, or true non-defamatory facts. Immuno had been unable to bear the burden of proving the falsity of any statement it had challenged.

The decision was prepared by Francis T. Murphy, Presiding Judge of the Appellate Division, and the 5-judge panel unanimously decided to throw out the Immuno lawsuit. The decision was strongly critical of Judge Beatrice Shainswit, the lower court judge who had handled the case.

The subject of the lawsuit was a Letter to the Editor of the **Journal of Medical Primatology** written by Shirley McGreal. Dr. Moor-Jankowski was, and is, Editor of the **Journal**. The disputed letter described Immuno's plans to set up a chimpanzee laboratory in Sierra Leone in which wild-caught chimpanzees would be used for scientific purposes.

Extracts from the Appellate Division's decision follow.

This libel action was commenced in December 1984 against numerous defendants, only one of whom, the appellant Dr. Jan Moor-Jankowski, managed to remain in the action to seek a determination on its merits . . . The claim has been pursued with great vigor, and, by the time of the present motion by the defendant for summary judgment [early dismissal of a lawsuit without legal merit] was submitted, the record had grown to over 4,000 pages. [The letter was about 650 words long but generated a mountain of paper – the 4000 pages used were a small percentage of the total case papers].

The Appellate Division stated that it had conducted a "thorough review of this lengthy record" and concluded that the Letter to the Editor was "not actionable." New York courts are grossly overloaded and it is to the credit of the busy judges that they managed to wade through thousands of papers and prepare a brilliantly-written 44-page decision which was a ringing endorsement of First Amendment values. (The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of expression).

For its first year, the Immuno lawsuit was not assigned to an individual judge. Various motions were handled by a variety of judges. The most significant motion fell to Judge Beatrice Shainswit, who was asked by Immuno to grant a secrecy order (protective order) on documents pertaining to its business strategies in Sierra Leone, which a company official admitted were "embarrassing" in a supporting affidavit. Judge Shainswit granted the requested secrecy order.

In January 1986, New York changed to individual judge assignments and naturally the defendants hoped that Judge Beatrice Shainswit would not get the case. It was only a 1 in 30+ chance. However, Shainswit did get the case. She immediately started to exert heavy pressure on the surviving defendants (McGreal and Moor-Jankowski) to make settlements in Immuno's favor, threatening to deny pre-trial dismissal and even threatening not to consider a dismissal motion, if submitted. This would, of course, have forced the defendants into literally hundreds of thousands of dollars of expenses in trial preparation. Shainswit also encouraged taking of testimony overseas, which would add immensely to the costs for the defendants. Soon IPPL's insurer paid Immuno \$100,000 to drop its case. A copy of the insurance company's letter explaining its action follows this article.

Thus, only Dr. Moor-Jankowski was left in the case. He resisted Immuno's, and Shainswit's, pressures to settle the case, and

applied for summary judgment (early dismissal) in September 1986. It was not till 6 August 1987 that Judge Shainswit issued her decision, in favor of Immuno, stating that, **"The statements complained of by Plaintiff [Immuno] are, if false, actionable defamations."** She did not address the question of truth or falsity at all, saying that this should be "reserved for trial."

The Appellate Division really took Judge Shainswit to task for her decision.

We think that [Shainswit's] analysis was flawed in several respects . . . the factual assertions upon which the McGreal letter were based were evidently true . . . Contrary to the assumption which seemed to inform [Shainswit's] opinion, the truth or falsity of the assertions made in the McGreal letter was not a matter necessarily to be reserved for trial. The extensive record before [Shainswit] indicated quite clearly that plaintiff [Immuno] would not be able to sustain the claim necessary to the proof of its case that the McGreal letter's factual content was false.

The Appellate Judges also felt that, in raising the issue of Immuno's chimpanzee project, Dr. McGreal was raising an issue of public concern:

The plans of a party to undertake a course of activity which would possibly frustrate efforts of the international community to safeguard an endangered species are of public concern.

The Appellate Judges emphasized the importance of early dismissal in questionable libel suits:

Libel actions are notoriously expensive to defend and, indeed, "The threat of being put to the defense of a lawsuit . . . may be as chilling to the exercise of First Amendment freedoms as the outcome of the lawsuit itself."

Again, the Appellate Judges criticized Judge Shainswit.

To unnecessarily delay the disposition of a libel action is not only to countenance waste and inefficiency but to enhance the value of such actions as instruments of harassment and coercion inimical to the exercise of First Amendment rights . . . That [Shainswit] was evidently reluctant to apply the ordinary summary judgment criteria, and apparently indicated [her] indisposition even to entertain a summary judgment motion is regrettable. It is disturbing that [Immuno] had, by threatening legal action, managed to delay publication of the McGreal letter for almost a year, and that it succeeded in coercing what [Shainswit] referred to in [her] decision as "substantial settlements" from all but one of the original defendants for the obvious reason that the costs of continuing to defend the action were prohibitive. [Emphasis added].

The defendants no longer in the case were Alan Liss, the publisher of the **Journal of Medical Primatology**, who did not have libel insurance for his small scientific publishing business. Liss paid Immuno an unknown sum, sent out a retraction and apology to Immuno (for having published what was, according to the Appellate Division, totally true), and later did an affidavit for Immuno against the surviving defendant, Dr. Moor-Jankowski. IPC Publications, which published the **New Scientist** magazine, which was sued for an article on the same subject, also paid Immuno an unknown sum and published a retraction and apology. As mentioned earlier, IPPL's insurer had paid Immuno \$100,000 to drop its case, with no retraction from Shirley McGreal, who opposed and fought hard against our insurer's capitulation. Dr. McGreal went on to help Dr. Moor-Jankowski's lawyers in their successful defense of the case.

The Appellate Judges went on to discuss the text of the McGreal letter in detail.

They noted that Austria was indeed a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and that Klaus Bieber, the Austrian Honorary Consul in Sierra Leone, had represented Immuno in its negotiations with the Government of Sierra Leone, bringing the attention of "highly placed Sierra Leone government officials" to the proposed project.

Apparently sensitive to issues of protocol, Bieber notes in his affidavit that he advised Immuno that once the project was approved and underway it would be appropriate to give the Sierra Leone President a "nice gift": he thought a chandelier would do.

The next point addressed was Shirley McGreal's claim that the Immuno plan to set up a chimpanzee laboratory in Sierra Leone could be viewed as a way to bypass the restrictions on chimpanzee trafficking imposed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, of which Austria is a member. After reviewing Immuno company documents relevant to the question, the Appellate Judges concluded that McGreal's opinion could have been stated as a point of fact:

It may be observed that, had Dr. McGreal known at the time she composed her letter all that has been disclosed in the discovery phase of this litigation, she might confidently have charged, AS A FACT [Emphasis added] that Immuno wished to avoid the CITES Treaty in order to obtain relatively cheap wild-caught chimpanzees. These motives have, of course, been frankly confirmed in the aforementioned statements of Immuno officials.

Immuno had also objected to Dr. McGreal's publication of its original plans submitted to the Sierra Leone Government, claiming that it had modified its plans later.

Obviously, McGreal's true report of Immuno's initial proposal, the source and date of which were scrupulously identified by her, cannot support a recovery for defamation. IT MUST BE STRESSED THAT THIS WAS IMMUNO'S OWN PROPOSAL [Emphasis added]. Surely Immuno does not suggest that its very own plan, one which it apparently would have been happy to pursue, was so ill-conceived and so obviously pernicious in its methods and probable consequences that its accurate disclosure caused Immuno reputational injury. If the plan was so clearly misguided the wound which its disclosure is alleged to have caused is self-inflicted and cannot be redressed through the law of libel.

The judges discussed Immuno's refusal to respond to Dr. McGreal's letter when offered space in the *Journal of Medical Primatology*, stating that:

Doubts about Immuno's ultimate intentions were also warranted by Immuno's failure publicly to renounce the earlier plans.

Immuno had refused to respond to the McGreal letter unless it obtained copies of her source documents. The Appellate Judges did not accept this argument, instead asserting:

As can be seen, though afforded what must be regarded as a generous opportunity to clarify its plans, Immuno never did so . . . It is well to recall that, "The first remedy of any victim of defamation is self-help - using available opportunities to contradict the lie or correct the error and thereby to minimize its adverse effect on reputation" . . . Having entirely failed to pursue this first remedy, which was made so extraordinarily available to it, Immuno is not now in a position to complain . . . We note that Immuno's excuse for failing to avail itself of the opportunity to respond, namely that it could not frame a proper response without access to McGreal's source material, is nonsensical. No one knew better about Immuno's plans than Immuno itself . . . The fact which an honest reply from Immuno would have been powerless to alter was that, as the McGreal letter reported, Immuno had en-

tertained and actively promoted a most problematic plan.

The judges reviewed other points, stating that it had never been "seriously disputed" that chimpanzee babies are normally caught by the killing of their mothers, as the McGreal letter asserted. McGreal had also expressed concern that chimpanzee veterans of hepatitis research might infect wild chimpanzees if released as part of Immuno's proposed rehabilitation program.

It is quite clear that Dr. McGreal was correct in her observation that there is no way of definitely determining whether an animal is a non-A non-B carrier.

Noting the testimony of Dr. Alfred Prince, discoverer of the hepatitis non-A non-B virus, that 75-100% of chimpanzees used in hepatitis non-A non-B research remain carriers, the Appellate Judges concluded:

There is then no real issue as to the accuracy of the factual premise underlying McGreal's concern that undetected non-A non-B carriers might be released.

Immuno had also disputed Dr. McGreal's statement that the proposed Immuno project would be in violation of the World Health Organization's policy that, "Endangered, vulnerable, and rare species be considered for use in biomedical research only if they are obtained from existing, self-sustaining captive breeding colonies." The Appellate Judges concluded:

McGreal's assertion was quite simply true.

In regard to McGreal's statement that there were already over 1,000 chimpanzees in research laboratories, and that these should be sufficient for legitimate research needs, the judges stated that even Dr. Eibl, head of Immuno, had agreed that the number 1,000 was accurate, and that the rest of the paragraph was "hard to view as anything but opinion."

Thus, in regard to the Letter to the Editor viewed as a whole, the Appellate Judges concluded:

As can be seen from the foregoing, of the many statements cited by [Immuno] in this ill-focused libel suit, there was not one which was actionable. Without exception, the statements at issue were either opinion absolutely protected under the First Amendment, or statements which [Immuno] utterly failed to show susceptible of being proved false. Indeed, most of the factual statements claimed by [Immuno] to be defamatory were, on the record before us, demonstrably true! [Exclamation mark as in original].

Throughout the lawsuit, vitriolic personal attacks were launched by Immuno and its lawyers on both Shirley McGreal and Dr. Moor-Jankowski. The case record is filled with Immuno allegations of Shirley McGreal's alleged "craziness," and "total unreliability." During a 4-day long oral interrogation of Shirley McGreal, she was even asked by Immuno's lawyers whether she performed "sexual acts" with wildlife chiefs at conferences, to get their votes. Dr. Moor-Jankowski's World War II record was mocked by the Austrian firm's lawyers. Surprisingly for a woman judge, Beatrice Shainswit had joined Immuno in poking fun at the defendants, referring to Shirley McGreal as a "silly woman" at one court hearing. The Appellate Judges were not impressed, and stated that all this was irrelevant to the issues in the case.

Regardless of what the defendant's motives may have been, what was said was not actionable, and the law of libel was not properly used for its suppression.

Therefore, they dismissed Immuno's lawsuit by unanimous decision and ordered Immuno to pay costs.

The verdict was featured as "Verdict of the Day" in the *New York Law Journal* on 30 January 1989.

Immuno's New York lawsuit was written up in a 23 May 1988 feature story in *US News and World Report* entitled "A Chilling Flurry of Lawsuits: Companies and Public Officials Have a New Way to Answer Criticism, Sue"

Readers wishing to obtain a free copy of the Appellate Division's full decision should contact IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summer-ville, SC 29484.

IPPL THANKS FRIENDS OF THE COURT

In the United States, non-parties to a lawsuit may volunteer or be invited to give advice on a matter being considered by a court. Such individuals or organizations are called **amicus curiae** or **amici curiae** (Friend or Friends of the Court).

Several organizations participated in the Immuno lawsuit as Friends of the Court.

Laura Mattera prepared a brief for the Sierra Club, the Humane Society of the United States, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Animal Protection Institute of

America, the Animal Welfare Institute, United Action for Animals, Friends of Animals, the International Wildlife Coalition, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Michael Zachary prepared a brief for the New York Civil Liberties Union.

Henry Kaufman submitted a brief on behalf of the World Wildlife Fund.

The International Primate Protection League thanks all these organizations for their support.

WHY IPPL'S INSURER CAPITULATED

The Interstate Insurance group was, at the time it paid Immuno \$100,000 to drop its lawsuit against Shirley McGreal, "one of the Fireman's Fund Insurance Companies, Subsidiaries of American Express," according to its letterhead. It was clearly a very wealthy company. Immuno is a wealthy multinational pharmaceutical company specializing in the production of blood products.

In a letter to Dr. Shirley McGreal dated 17 June 1986, Ms. Margaret Foley of Interstate explained Interstate's action.

In connection with Interstate's recent disposition of the libel action by Immuno against you, I felt it would be important to make clear the following about that settlement. The case was settled by Interstate over your strong objection. As you know, Interstate did so not because they viewed the case against you as having merit, but solely because the cost of settling the action for its "economic" value was lower than continuing with the expense of litigation.

As you are also aware, at two conferences, Justice Beatrice Shainswit put the defendants under extreme pressure to settle the litigation. In connection with pressing for such a settlement, she refused to consider the issues in the case and threatened not to take seriously a summary judgment motion at all, which would have forced defendants to the massive expense of a potentially lengthy trial. This unpleasant reality further added to the "economic value" of the litigation.

Finally, it is absolutely clear, in connection with the settlement, that you have in no way admitted wrong-doing or confessed error. As noted, the settlement was based solely upon a payment of money and was not in any manner based upon any admission of wrong-doing or error. It should be understood that the settlement was negotiated solely by Interstate, the payment was made solely by Interstate and no release of any claims by you or the International Primate Protection League was offered or made.

Interstate's action runs contrary to recommendations made by Judge Lois Forer in her excellent book entitled *A Chilling Effect* and sub-titled *The Mounting Threat of Libel and Invasion of Privacy Actions to the First Amendment*. Speaking of libel suits in general, Judge Forer writes:

Some judges think that every case should be settled. I do not. A small percent of civil cases involve constitutional rights that should not be compromised. Others involve significant legal issues that should be decided so that others with similar problems can know what the law is and conform their conduct accordingly . . . A small number of cases are simply strike suits. The plaintiff sues only for the purpose of obtaining a settlement not because he or she really has a good cause of action. In my opinion none of these cases should be settled even though it might be cheaper and easier for the parties.

SLAMA ACQUITTED

Daniel Slama of the World Wildlife Fund, Austria, has sent the following message to all TRAFFIC offices, World Wildlife Fund International, Dr. Jane Goodall and Dr. Shirley McGreal:

We are glad to inform you about another victory in the chimpanzee controversy with the pharmaceutical company Immuno AG.

On Monday 21 November, [1988] the Supreme Court of the Municipality of Vienna acquitted me in

another libel suit engaged by this company against me as a private person.

I had described their chimpanzee facilities, where the surface of 24 of the 29 cages was smaller than 90 cm. x 90 cm. [about 46 by 46 inches] as extremely cruel and scandalous and their experiments under such extreme conditions as scientifically doubtful.

Note: cage sizes may well have been increased by now.

THANKS FROM THE DIGIT FUND

Thanks to the efforts of IPPL West Coast representatives Evelyn Gallardo and David Root, IPPL was able to provide the Digit Fund with over \$7,000 to help provide doubled-up anti-poaching patrols in Rwanda over the holiday season, which is a busy time for poachers.

Mrs. Ruth Keesling, President of the Digit Fund, wishes to extend her thanks to everyone who donated funds for the beefed-up patrols, and writes that, "We can report that happily no gorillas were poached or caught in traps during that critical period."

BELIZEANS CONSERVE THEIR HOWLER MONKEYS

*The nation of Belize is on the East Coast of Central America and borders on Guatemala and Mexico.
It was formerly known as British Honduras.*

The establishment of the Community Baboon* Sanctuary in 1985 began an alternative method of conservation in Belize (*baboon is the Creole word for howler monkey). The community sanctuary idea was initiated by Dr. Robert Horwich with the cooperation of 12 landowners and the village of Bermudian Landing. Since then, with the help of Jon Lyon, a botanical ecologist, the sanctuary has expanded to include 75 landowners and 8 villages to encompass 18 square miles of riverine forest along the Belize River and approximately 900 black howler monkeys *Alouatta pigra*.

These landowners have voluntarily pledged to abide by a plan to manage their lands in accord with the needs of the howlers and other wildlife. This includes leaving forest strips along the riverbanks, between property boundaries, and across large cleared areas. Landowners have also agreed to leave specific food trees for the monkeys. Most of the landowners are subsistence farmers who depend on their lands for their livelihood, and should be commended for their pledges.

In 1987 Dr. Horwich set up an operational plan for the sanctuary in which a local man, Fallet Young, was hired as the first Sanctuary Manager. The Sanctuary Manager and his assistant work under the auspices of the Belize Audubon Society. The Society's Executive Director, Walter Craig, has administered the project along with other Belizean wildlife sanctuaries for the Belize Audubon Society.

The Community Baboon Sanctuary has 4 main goals of conservation, education, research, and tourism. Although the main emphasis of the sanctuary has been conservation of the howler monkeys, its goals have broadened to include the general flora and fauna of the riverine forest. A study of the endemic, endangered Central American river turtle *Dermatemys mawii* has begun, and plans are being made to replant some of the deforested riverbanks and to reintroduce hardwood tree species.

The education program includes lectures on flora and fauna conservation and natural history to school classes and tourist groups. Most groups are given tours along a labelled trail which coincides with sign texts of the guidebook. This 110-page, illustrated guidebook includes a mixture of general information about the tropical rainforest with specific information about the local flora and fauna (copies are available for \$5 US postpaid from Dr. R. Horwich, Box 96, Gays Mills, WI 54631, U.S.A.).

The most recent addition is a small rural museum which will exhibit aspects of the local flora, fauna, and Creole culture. The museum grounds are currently being planted with local plants. The museum opening is planned for mid 1989.

Research projects are currently being carried out on howler monkey ecology and reproductive biology of the Central American river turtle, as well as the ecology and regeneration of the river



Black Howler Monkey.

forest following slash-and-burn agriculture. Finally, in order to encourage local residents in their community conservation, the Sanctuary Manager is working with local residents to establish a small tourist industry.

The innovative approach of the Community Baboon Sanctuary has earned it an honorable mention for the 1987 Rolex Spirit of Enterprise Award and the James Waight Conservation Award from the Belize Audubon Society. Mr. Young has also received a conservation award from the American Society of Primatologists for his work with the howler monkeys. The initiation phase for the sanctuary was supported by World Wildlife Fund-US. Maintenance money for the continuance of the sanctuary is now being granted by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County. Additional funding for museum exhibits and the river turtle study has come from the Lincoln Park Zoological Society.

The innovative approach of community conservation is rapidly gathering support in other areas. Dr. Horwich has been approached by conservationists in Belize, Guatemala, and the United States to help initiate other similar community based projects. Presently, work has begun with a Wisconsin conservation group to help develop a protected winter roosting area for bald eagles along the Wisconsin River. Community conservation of private lands is helping local people to preserve their wildlife and natural areas while still utilizing the lands for their needs.

Stop Press: Walter Craig, Executive Director of the Belize Audubon Society, has informed IPPL that:

Perhaps we may have another monkey sanctuary soon. A young adult male howler has taken up residence in Guanacaste Park, a 5-acre reserve on the outskirts of Belize's capital, Belmopan. So far there is no sign of a troop or other monkey and we suspect "Hank Solo" was banished from a troop after an unsuccessful effort to take control. Park Personnel are very excited and are closely monitoring developments. The park is about 40 miles upriver from the northwestern boundary of the Community Baboon Sanctuary.



**Fallet Young showing school children around sanctuary.
Photo Robert Horwich**

DETROIT ZOO PLANS CHIMPANZEE IMPORTATION

The Detroit Zoo, Michigan, USA, has a large new chimpanzee exhibit which it plans to open in Spring 1989.

When Steve Graham assumed the Directorship of Detroit Zoo in January 1982 following the dismissal of his predecessor Gunter Voss, he was not satisfied with the apes' housing, and sent all the apes to other places. Three of the Detroit Zoo chimpanzees were sent to the Primate Foundation of Arizona, a facility that breeds and leases out chimpanzees for experimentation.

Graham's tenure at Detroit Zoo has been marked by controversy. He killed several of the zoo's unwanted tigers and reportedly sent the zoo's bison to a slaughterhouse. Twenty-nine crab-eating macaques were sent to Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, to be used in fatal atherosclerosis research. A group of about 30 baboons was shipped to the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research.

In 1987, Graham upset Detroit animal-lovers by announcing the availability of 5 unwanted Japanese macaques (snow monkeys) in a publication circulated to users of laboratory primates. Following protests by Detroit animal-lovers, the monkeys were sent to a zoo.

Zoo Director Graham has found an ally in the publisher of the Detroit **Free Press**, the city's only large newspaper. The **Free Press** writes sneering articles aimed at Graham's critics. David Lawrence, publisher of the **Free Press**, has been involved in fundraising for the zoo's new 7 million dollar chimpanzee exhibit. In one case, David Lawrence even sent a copy of a letter his newspaper had received from an animal activist directly to Graham.

In August 1988, Detroit Zoo applied to the US Office of Management Authority for a permit to import 4 chimpanzees from Taronga Zoo, near Sydney, Australia, and another to import one chimpanzee supposedly born at the San Juan de Aragon Zoo in Mexico City.

It was surprising that Taronga Zoo would consider sending more chimpanzees to the United States after its disastrous dealings with Jackson Zoo, Mississippi. In 1987, Taronga Zoo had sent a pair of chimpanzees along with their baby to Jackson Zoo on a permit issued for conservation-related activities. Instead, Jackson Zoo removed the baby from his mother and sold him to a Hollywood animal trainer with a reputation for cruelty to animals. The young chimpanzee is still in Hollywood, an IPPL campaign to have him reunited with his mother having failed, and in spite of Taronga Zoo's protests.

The Taronga Zoo shipment would be handled by F. J. Zeehandelaer, an animal dealer based in New Rochelle, New York. Zeehandelaer had been involved in the scandal involving Graham's predecessor, Gunter Voss. He allegedly paid Voss kickbacks on animals purchased at inflated prices by Detroit Zoo. Zeehandelaer was suspended by the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria for unethical conduct in this affair, to which he pled guilty, but his membership was later reinstated and he continues supplying animals to zoos. Although this dealer may well have undergone a sincere change of attitude, it still surprises IPPL that the once-bitten City of Detroit would wish to deal with him again.

The Mexican importation was to be handled by "Sr. Jose Adolfo Caram Caram of Tijuana, Mexico."

In his application to import the 4 Taronga Zoo chimpanzees, Graham does **not** guarantee the chimpanzees a permanent home,

instead stating that they will remain at the Detroit Zoo "**for the foreseeable future,**" and, if moved to "**another facility**" (Graham does not say "to another zoo"), "**all applicable laws will be followed.**" It is, of course, not illegal to sell or lend zoo chimpanzees to laboratories. However, IPPL considers it unethical.

Graham's "expertise" is summarized in his application and he describes himself as "a member of the Chimpanzee Breeding and Research Program Advisory Committee of the National Institutes of Health" and "on the Advisory Board of the Primate Foundation of Arizona for the past 10 years." The National Institutes of Health fund most chimpanzee experimentation in the United States, and the Primate Foundation of Arizona is a registered research facility.

Graham also notes in the application that he has "several chimpanzees on breeding loan to other facilities," which he does not identify. However, IPPL knows that 3 Detroit Zoo chimpanzees then aged 4 years old were sent to the Primate Foundation of Arizona soon after Graham took over the zoo.

Clearly, the 3 young chimpanzees at the Primate Foundation of Arizona should have a priority claim on space in Detroit Zoo's new chimpanzee exhibit. However, Mr. Graham has told IPPL that he does not want the animals back. IPPL has requested an explanation from Graham. It seems unfortunate that Detroit Zoo should be importing chimpanzees from Australia while some of the zoo's own chimpanzees are in a research laboratory.

Australian animal activists have been protesting the planned export of the Taronga chimps. However, Dr. J. D. Kelly, Director of Taronga Zoo, appears sympathetic to Steve Graham's "management" philosophy, stating in a letter to the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria:

All zoos that have successful breeding programs may have surplus animals from time to time. If these cannot be placed in other zoos, euthanasia may be necessary. Likewise, use in ethical research programs must be done thoughtfully and with regard to public feeling [emphasis added]. Hopefully, this is simply a case of concerned (and certainly necessary) "watchdogs" getting emotionally carried away and ignoring the practical and scientific realities of animal management.

Clearly, disposal of surplus animals is viewed by the patronizing Dr. Kelly as a Public Relations problem rather than an ethical question.

On 7 December 1988, the Office of Management Authority granted Detroit Zoo both its requested permits.

IPPL is concerned at zoos killing surplus primates and other animals, or sending them to research facilities. Zoo animals delight the public and the public is in their debt, as are the people who earn salaries as zoo employees. Surplus animals should be provided with comfortable accommodations and allowed to live out their lives in dignity. Zoos should prevent births of animals who are likely to become "surplus."

IPPL also feels that Detroit Zoo's plan to spend millions of dollars on a chimpanzee exhibit is over-lavish. What is being spent on the exhibit is more money than many of the world's beleaguered wildlife departments' entire annual budgets. Perfectly acceptable facilities could be built for far less money, with the surplus going to help assure the survival of wild chimpanzees.

SURPLUS MONKEYS AT JAPANESE PRIMATE CENTER

According to the 4 December 1988 issue of Japan's **Mainichi News**, a third of the 2560 monkeys at the Tsukuba Primate Center operated by the Japanese National Institutes of Health are too old or sick for research, but cost the state 176.23 million yen (US \$1.4 million) to care for in 1987; according to a survey by Japan's Board of Audit.

The Board of Audit urged the Primate Center "to find some way of disposing of sick and aging animals," who are "unfit for experi-

mental or breeding purposes."

Shigeo Honjo, Vice-President of the Primate Center, stated that the animals should not be destroyed, because they offered "valuable research opportunities."

IPPL finds the Board of Audit's attitude totally appalling. It is common not only in the research community. Many zoos kill their surplus primates or send them off for research.

HONG KONG MONKEYS FACE PROBLEMS

An IPPL member provided the following report after a visit to Hong Kong.

On a recent visit to Hong Kong, I toured the country parks about which I had heard so much. I visited several of the outlying parks: **Tai Po Kau** and **Shing Mun** in particular, and the more popular **Lion's Rock** and **Kam Shan** parks.

The former two are beautiful beyond description. They are well tended, and the Management Center at **Shing Mun** presents an informative and most attractive exhibit about the park and its natural history. There is an outdoor recording display at **Tai Po Kau** of the local birds, which is excellent, and the wardens are courteous and seem to attend to the visitors, especially with reference to enforcing the ordinances and standards of conduct.

To my dismay, however, my impression in the other two areas, **Lion's Rock** and **Kam Shan**, was vastly different. While there are ample signs requesting people not to feed the monkeys that abound there, of course the people do. Much of what is fed is sweets – I would reckon about one third – the remainder is certainly appropriate: fruits and vegetables predominating. The problem of the feeding, however, is two-fold:

- 1) the garbage that is strewn about everywhere,
- 2) people's conduct towards the animals.

In addition, there are problems about the conservation of this important resource.

1) Litter

Part of the litter problem is that monkeys will take out of open garbage containers anything that they remotely associate with food. I believe that in North America a device has been made to prevent bears getting into garbage containers. Something like that is needed in Hong Kong.

The more serious problem is that people simply drop their bags and empty parcels without bothering to place them in the garbage containers. Education and surveillance by Park Wardens could solve this problem.

2) Human Conduct Towards the Monkeys

Most human mistreatment of the animals is not deliberate. Certainly, the desire to share food with another is a positive feeling. The need/desire to assert dominion over animals is sometimes shown by the food-givers. One man does not give food to the monkeys unless they kow-tow to him! Another wants a young monkey to get his food before an adult. This shows a complete lack of understanding of monkey behavior and the resulting fracas is inevitable. Various food donors insist on other routines.

With dozens of people coming to feed the monkeys on a daily basis, the number of "routines" the animals must learn is heavy work indeed. It is actually amazing that more people are not hurt, since the animals cannot really understand that what pleases one human may not please another.

I also observed deliberate cruelty. Two boys with fishing rods tried to entice a monkey down from a nearby tree. When the monkey approached, one of the boys tried to hit him with a fishing rod. There was certainly no reason for the boys to do this since the monkey had not provoked them.

I also saw a man throw stones at monkeys – especially a brick – because he apparently didn't like them being near him. I also saw a man shaking and pulling on a tree limb in order to dislodge the monkey resting on it. This was apparently considered funny by the man's friend who encouraged the performance.

My visits to this area left me with mixed feelings. I was delighted to see the monkeys but appalled to see how they are treated. On several occasions, I saw monkeys lying peacefully, combing through each other's fur, eating or playing. Then a human would approach, often calling to them. The monkeys would scramble madly into position for the "hand-out" and then fights would break out. I saw several bites result. The group of monkeys which is most frequently visited has many animals with slashed faces and broken limbs. Whether these are the result of fights or weapons thrust at them, I don't know.

I believe that there are some solutions to this problem.

Firstly, the monkeys at **Lion's Rock** and **Kam Shan** could be translocated to the less-frequented **Tai Po Kau** and **Shing Mun** parks.

Secondly, children should be educated about wildlife. Posters, newspaper articles, school projects, and "television spots" would be really helpful. Hong Kong launched one of the world's most successful campaigns to keep its streets clean – so teaching young people and adults to respect wildlife would be "do-able."

Thirdly, more monitoring of visitors is needed. Even during the Chinese New Year, when there were more people than ever in the parks, there was inadequate surveillance. A volunteer brigade was in evidence, but its members have no authority and I noticed that they do not challenge people who are mistreating the animals.

In some places, monkeys must cross roads and some get killed. I suggest that aerial pathways be constructed to allow monkeys to move from one area to another without descending to the ground.

I have travelled extensively throughout the world and always make a point of observing primates. I have found other instances of mistreatment of monkeys, e.g. on Gibraltar, but there was always an official, governmental attempt to regulate the relationship between monkeys and their **human** visitors. There was therefore some official recourse and sanction which could be levied. Yet the amount of misbehavior was less than what I witnessed in Hong Kong.

Please bring the international authority of the International Primate Protection League to bear on this situation.

NOTE: Members wishing to contact Hong Kong authorities calling for better treatment of the island's monkeys may write to:

The Director
Agriculture and Fisheries Department
Canton Road Government Office
393 Canton Road, 12th Floor
Kowloon
Hong Kong

IPPL ADVISOR'S UNIQUE SANCTUARY

IPPL Advisor Anna Merz now operates the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary at Lewa Downs near Isiolo, Kenya. Kenyan rhinos living in unprotected habitats or isolated from other rhinos are translocated to the sanctuary. As many readers will know, the rhinos of Africa are facing extinction because of the poaching of animals for their horns, which are considered to have medicinal or aphrodisiac value in some parts of the world, and which are also used to make dagger handles in Yemen.

As of October 1988, Anna had 13 rhino charges, including 6

calves born at the sanctuary. One of these calves, Samia, was abandoned by her mother at birth, and hand-reared by Anna, which she found a remarkable experience. She reports:

I learn a lot about both social behavior and methods of communication of black rhino and am constantly astounded by their intelligence and their very complex methods of communication.

Anna may be contacted at the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary, c/o Lewa Downs, Private Post Bag, Isiolo, Kenya.

CHIMPS TO BE HALF-UPGRADED?

The US Fish and Wildlife Service is about to announce its proposal to upgrade the **wild** chimpanzee from "Threatened" to "Endangered" on the United States Endangered Species List.

When the Fish and Wildlife Service announced the possibility that chimpanzees might be an appropriate species for upgrading, after the Service had evaluated the petition submitted by the Jane Goodall Institute and other organizations, public comment was invited.

No less than 55,000 letters and postcards flooded the offices of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Only 6 letters of opposition came in: from James Wyngaarden, Director of the National Institutes of Health; Fred King, Director of the Yerkes Primate Center; Brent Swensen, a Yerkes veterinarian; an official of the Merck Sharp and Dohme pharmaceutical company; an official of Immuno-USA and the Ringling Brothers/Barnum and Bailey Circus.

Initially, the Fish and Wildlife Service was inclined to propose the upgrading of the chimpanzee as a species. However, the National Institutes of Health adopted a 2-pronged strategy by proposing that upgrading be delayed pending the completion of a lengthy, NIH-sponsored chimpanzee census in Africa, and by working to exempt the captive population from upgrading to "Endangered."

Removal of captive chimpanzees from the proposal would mean that laboratories and other chimpanzee-owning facilities could carry on with "business as usual." No permits would be required to harm or kill chimpanzees, and no permits to sell them in interstate commerce.

There are over 1500 captive chimpanzees in the United States, most in research facilities, and many in zoos, menageries, circuses, animal trainers' facilities, and private hands (as pets). All these would be exempted from regulation, even though NIH's main interest would be in the laboratory chimpanzees.

NIH's pressure and interventions were so heavy that the Fish and Wildlife Service decided to exempt captive chimpanzees from the upgrading. There is a danger that the proposal could exempt captive chimpanzees outside the United States. Unfortunately, a

free chimpanzee can become a captive within a few hours, and claims of captive-birth are hard to refute on a case-by-case basis.

IPPL strongly supports the upgrading of the chimpanzee as a species because it is scientific nonsense to split wild and captive chimpanzees. In fact, the captive chimpanzee population is endangered, maybe more so than the wild chimpanzee population. Only by monitoring what is done to chimpanzees, and to how many, can any proper evaluation of the captive population be made. NIH has a strong vested interest in chimpanzee exploitation and certainly should not be trusted with managing almost the whole captive population.

In recent years, captive chimpanzees in the United States have been used in painful and destructive studies of **The Biomechanics of Traumatic Unconsciousness**, a study which involved bashing chimpanzees in the head till they died. They have also been used in a study of adolescence which involved mutilating 12 chimpanzees (6 adult males and 6 young males) by removing their pituitary glands and castrating them. No less than 125 chimpanzees were infected with the disease kuru, an illness that annually affects a handful of practitioners of cannibalism in New Guinea. All this was NIH-sponsored research.

IPPL strongly supports the upgrading of the chimpanzee as a species because of its low numbers (estimated to be no more than 100,000 in the world). With over 5 billion humans on our planet, it is sheer arrogance of the human race to exploit chimpanzees at all. The relationship between the human race and chimpanzees has historically been one of abuse, misuse, and neglect. Chimpanzee mothers and other adults have been slaughtered for decades to acquire their offspring for human use in laboratories, zoos, and menageries and as circus attractions, human toys ("pets"), etc. Yet humans have the audacity to think that chimpanzees owe us something; their lives and sanity. In fact, we should be looking for ways to help chimpanzees — not the other way around.

The public will have another chance to express its opinion when the final proposal appears.

SILVER SPRING MONKEYS REPRIEVED

On receiving a tip-off that the Delta Primate Center, Covington, Louisiana, was planning to kill three of the Silver Spring monkeys, three animal protection organizations, the International Primate Protection League (IPPL), People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and Louisianans in Support of Animals (LISA), filed suit in Louisiana State Court to block the killings. The defendants were the National Institutes of Health, Tulane University (Delta is part of Tulane) and the Institute of Behavioral Research (the laboratory where Edward Taub did his experiments on the monkeys).

The monkeys involved in the lawsuit are 3 of the survivors of Edward Taub's nerve-severing experiments. Taub was convicted of cruelty to animals, but his conviction was later overturned on a technicality. The surviving monkeys were transferred to NIH's primate facilities, and later moved to the Delta Primate Center. PETA persistently tried to secure the release of the monkeys to the Primarily Primates Sanctuary, San Antonio, Texas, and over 300 members of the US Congress signed resolutions calling for the monkeys' release. NIH resisted all efforts to have the monkeys moved.

The IPPL/PETA/LISA lawsuit was transferred to the Federal Court at NIH's request. However, Louisiana District Judge Revis Ortique issued a temporary restraining order barring Delta from killing the 3 monkeys.

At the hearing held on 1 February 1989, NIH's lawyer Ruth

Force argued for the killing of the monkeys and attorney Peggy Woodward argued against.

The highlight of the hearing came when Judge Veronica Wicker asked Ms. Force:

I know the matter isn't before the court today, but what I don't understand is why NIH doesn't just release the animals? I mean, you have these people who want to take them off your hands.

Judge Wicker denied NIH's motion to dismiss the animal groups' case, and she extended the temporary restraining order against the killings indefinitely.

It is clear that the Silver Spring monkeys are caught up in NIH's pride and politicking. NIH simply cannot stand the thought of the Silver Spring monkeys, so brutally abused in NIH-funded research, being released and living out their lives in dignity, with loving caretakers.

NIH is now spending large amounts of taxpayers' dollars on litigating to prevent the monkeys enjoying some years of happiness before they die.

Please write your Representative, House Office Building, Washington DC 20515 and Senators, Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510, requesting that they intervene to save the Silver Spring monkeys by persuading NIH to release the monkeys to Primarily Primates or another qualified sanctuary.

FAY BRISK DIES

Long-time IPPL supporter Fay Brisk died on 13 January 1989 at the George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C. Fay was ageless.

Fay was an indefatigable animal activist long before animal rights became a popular issue. Her work tracing dogs stolen for research was partly responsible for the introduction and passage of the U.S. Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966. In 1972, Fay established an all-volunteer Animal Port at Washington's National Airport to monitor the conditions of animals being shipped around the country. Congressmen were invited to visit the project where they observed the frequently appalling conditions under which wild and domestic animals were shipped. Fay led a national crusade to improve the condition of animals being transported around the nation and world. In 1976, she received the Animal Welfare Institute's prestigious Albert Schweitzer medal.

Fay told Shirley McGreal that, while working at the airport, she had been touched by the bewildered, terrified expressions on the faces of the monkeys she saw. She regularly provided IPPL with information and tip-offs about inhumane primate shipments. She testified for IPPL and other animal protection groups before congressional committees studying animal welfare issues.

Fay had wonderful "inside" contacts in US government agen-

cies. She took a great interest in the recently dismissed Immuno lawsuit against Shirley McGreal and others. One day she phoned Headquarters. One of her contacts had told her that Benjamin Blood, former Executive Director of the NIH-run Interagency Primate Steering Committee, whose international primate procurement efforts IPPL had repeatedly foiled, was a "consultant" to Immuno. Dr. Blood later admitted this.

The Appellate Division verdict totally vindicating Shirley McGreal was issued on 17 January 1989, just four days after her death. We know she would have enjoyed reading the decision.

US lawsuits drag on for years and years, the Immuno affair has been going on for over 4 years. Among our other members who followed the affair from the start and did not live to see the outcome were:

Fay King
Dian Fossey
Paulette Nenner
The Maharaja of Baroda
Victoria Selmier
Patricia Hayman-Chaffey
Frederick Hayman-Chaffey

MARTHA MACAQUE KILLED

Martha, an 18-year old macaque monkey, is dead. The unfortunate animal was no longer needed for experiments at the University of Oregon, and the Primarily Primates Sanctuary in San Antonio, Texas, was willing to give her a home. Animal activists from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and local Oregon activists campaigned for Martha's release.

Instead, according to a 27 September 1988 press release issued by the University of Oregon news bureau, Martha was transferred to the University of Washington's Regional Primate Center, which is directed by Dr. Douglas Bowden.

According to the University of Oregon press release, the Washington Primate Center "has agreed to use the animal for non-invasive research only."

If true, this would have been good news for Martha because the Washington Regional Primate Center has the biggest experimental mortality of any of the seven Regional Primate Centers funded by the US Government. In 1987, no less than 324 monkeys died in the Center's experiments and 237 monkeys died natural deaths, for a total of 561 deaths.

Unfortunately, within hours of arrival at the Washington Primate Center, Martha was killed, supposedly to collect tissues for distribution. With so many animals being killed annually at the Washington Primate Center, moving in an animal just to kill it appears like a suspect excuse to IPPL. One more dead monkey body would hardly appear to be urgently needed.

Martha never lived to enjoy the retirement offered to her by Primarily Primates. Her long years of service to her human masters won her no appreciation, no right to any decent living as a reward.

Clearly, the animal activists working for Martha's release were misled, if not lied to. From IPPL's perspective, sticking a needle full of killing-fluid into a primate is indeed "invasive." In fact, IPPL receives the distinct impression that Martha was killed in order to rob the animal activists working on her behalf of a moral victory. That Martha had to pay the ultimate price is a tragedy.

Oddly, Dr. Douglas Bowden, Director of the less-than-careless Washington Primate Center, did an affidavit for Immuno in its recently dismissed New York lawsuit. Dr. Bowden called Shirley McGreal a liar!

MONKEYS DIE AT TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

On 5 July 1988, the breakdown of an air-conditioning system at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA, led to the deaths of 4 squirrel monkeys. The animals were part of a group of 10 animals that reached the Institute on 21 June 1988.

On that day, a staff member of the Division of Comparative Medicine noted a temperature of 83° in a room adjacent to the room in which the squirrel monkeys were living. As repairs were being made to the over-heated room, something happened that sent the temperature in the quarantine room, where the squirrel monkeys were living, soaring to over 100° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade). Four of the monkeys died.

This disastrous incident was hushed up and only became public when a student phoned in an anonymous tip-off to the MIT student newspaper.

Dr. Gul Agha, director of the Cambridge Committee for Responsible Research, has called for an investigation and disciplinary action against those responsible. However, Dr. John Moses, Chairman of MIT's Animal Care Committee, told Dr. Agha that the deaths were "accidental," and that nobody would be disciplined. The Cambridge Committee is continuing its protest.

Dr. Agha commented:

This confirms the worst of our fears - [Dr. Moses'] letter implies that no one is monitoring the animals and puts the responsibility in the hands of electricians. The monkeys didn't just die in a matter of minutes. They must have suffered a lot and no one is taking any responsibility.

GORILLA AND CHIMPANZEE POACHING IN UGANDA

According to the 31 October 1988 issue of the Ugandan newspaper **New Vision**, a junior warden at the Ngahinga Gorilla Reserve in Uganda has been arrested in connection with the smuggling of a baby mountain gorilla and the shooting of the animal's parents.

The baby gorilla was caught in Uganda and smuggled to Rwanda where he was sold to an unknown party for 2 million Rwandan francs. The animal's current location is unknown and he/she may well be dead.

The warden, Onesmus Niringiye, was arrested in Kabale, a town close to Uganda's borders with Zaire and Rwanda. Niringiye was turned in by the Senior Game Guard of Ngahinga, Mr. Zakaria Ngango. In his complaint to the District Game Warden, Kabale, Ngango stated:

I wish to inform you that poaching of gorillas in our game reserve by one of our staff members has become an unbearable problem. I take this opportunity to inform you that Mr. Onesmus Niringiye himself as a junior game assistant, is proving a nuisance to the game reserve. Around [8 September] he entered the game and forest reserve of Ngahinga near the Zaire border, found 2 parent gorillas with their young one, killed both parents by shooting, and later sold the young one to Rwanda smugglers.

Ngango also copied his hand-written letter to the District Game Warden to the District Forest Office in Kabale.

It was not till 30 October that the District Game Warden went to Ngahinga Gorilla Reserve and learned details of the incident.

New Vision sent a reporter to meet Zakaria Ngango. Ngango told the reporter that when he entered the Reserve on 4 October 1988 he learned that three gorillas were missing. Ngango was able to learn that one of his wardens was involved in the killing and called a meeting of the junior staff. He was able to confirm the reports and asked the staffers to write a report to the District Game Warden. The junior staff were afraid of turning Niringiye in, so on 8 October 1988 Ngango wrote the letter himself on their behalf.

New Vision also talked to David Semucho of Rugina Trading Center, who stated that Niringiye and some associates came to his restaurant carrying the kidnapped baby gorilla in a gunny-sack. Semecho was asked to keep the baby gorilla until the poachers returned from Kisoro to pick him/her up.

Ntakiruta, a teacher at Nkanda Primary School, reported that he had met his Headmaster, Mr. Bavakulu, and two Rwandans, pushing along a bicycle loaded with a box containing a baby gorilla, along the road leading to the Uganda-Rwanda border.

The visitors' book at the Ngahinga Gorilla Reserve contained comments by tourists and some of these pertained to poaching. An Austrian tourist reported finding snares with gorilla hairs. A Western resident of Arua in Northwest Uganda reported finding traps with grey and black tufts of hair which he believed to be gorilla hair.

The Ngahinga Gorilla Reserve is subject to heavy encroachment from agriculturalists, in the form of cattle grazing and cutting down of forests for firewood and building construction. The outlook for the gorillas of Ngahinga is bleak, whereas the prospects for those living in the Impenetrable Forest are improving. The Ngahinga Reserve is also home to bushbuck, buffalo, hyenas, and many monkey species.

The staff of the Impenetrable Forest have initiated a training program for the Game Guards at Ngahinga. Ngahinga guards will be trained in the Impenetrable Forest and Impenetrable Forest guards will help at Ngahinga. The International Primate Protection League would greatly appreciate receiving restricted donations to help stop the slaughter of the Ngahinga gorillas. Please contact IPPL Headquarters, PO Box 766, Summerville, SC, if you would like to help.

New Vision has also told about the smuggling of chimpanzees



Mountain Gorilla: Courtesy Ian Redmond

from Uganda. The destination is Dubai, one of the United Arab Emirates. The United Arab Emirates are noted for their trafficking in rhino horn and ivory, as well as in live animals. In order to protect these disgusting but lucrative rackets, the United Arab Emirates dropped out of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

According to the 17 October 1988 issue of **New Vision**, a baby chimpanzee was seized at Entebbe Airport in early October 1988, and sent to Entebbe Zoo for care. The animal was bound for Dubai. The arrested smuggler was Angelo Masiko, a Ugandan national, who was carrying the chimpanzee in a cardboard box. Masiko told **New Vision** that he had left 4 more chimpanzees behind in Zaire. Masiko was in possession of no export documents for the chimpanzee.

The Chief of the Entebbe Airport Police told **New Vision** that he had received a report that 5 chimpanzees had been smuggled from Entebbe Airport to Dubai on Uganda Airlines Flight QU 756 on 10 September 1988. An off-duty Customs officer had actually seen the baby chimpanzees being unloaded at Dubai: the smuggler's name was said to be Moses Mwesigye.

New Vision reported that certain Customs and security officers at Entebbe Airport were suspected of being in league with the chimpanzee smugglers. A "trap" set for the smugglers by the Airport Police had been foiled when the smugglers were "tipped off" by an inside source.

The paperwork accompanying the seized chimpanzee indicated that the animal had originated in Zaire but did not include a Zairean export permit or the Ugandan re-export permit needed if the animal were to have been legally exported from Uganda. Since the Ugandan re-export permit would have to be based on proof of the animal's legal export from Zaire, no such permit could have been honestly issued since Zaire does not permit exportation of chimpanzees. If the animal had been caught in Uganda, legal export would have required an appropriate CITES certificate to the effect that the animal had been legally obtained and that his/her removal from the wild would not harm the species. Legal issuance of such a document would have been impossible since chimpanzees are legally protected in Uganda, on paper at least.

Mr. James Okua, Chief Game Warden of Entebbe, told **New Vision** that the chimpanzees had probably been captured in the Budongo Forest in Masindi District (where IPPL Advisor Vernon Reynolds did his pioneering study of wild chimpanzees). The Warden stated that the chimpanzees would probably have been ferried across Lake Albert into Zaire, where false documents would be issued for them, and then returned to Uganda by road and on to Entebbe for export.

On 10 January 1989, **New Vision** reported that 5 chimpanzees had been seized at Entebbe Airport. They were bound for Dubai on Uganda Airlines, but ended up at Entebbe Zoo.

Abdul Karim Winyi of Kampala was arrested and released on bond. He claimed that he had acquired the chimpanzees in Zaire.

The chimpanzees had been packed in plywood boxes with air-holes on the sides. Although the air waybill listed 4 chimpanzees, 5 were found when the two boxes were opened. They were seized only after some game officials and members of the Wildlife Clubs of Uganda had tipped off the Customs.

The exporter was in possession of a letter from Mr. James Okua, Chief Game Warden of Entebbe, addressed to Mr. Okanya, Principal Collector of Customs and Excise, which said:

Please handle the export of the four chimpanzees which are going on transit to Dubai as provided for, if all the documents are satisfactory.

A police official at Entebbe Airport noted that:

The problem here is who was supposed to satisfy the documents, the Chief Game Warden, who is by law supposed to authorise the export and transit of game and game trophies or the Principal Collector of Customs.

Mr. Okanya, the Principal Collector of Customs, forwarded Okua's letter to the Director General of Customs, Professor Samwiri Karugire, who endorsed the letter, permitting the release of the chimpanzees for export. Professor Karugire told **New Vision** that he had only approved the export on condition that the other documents were genuine.

Mr. Okua justified his letter by saying he had written it in a vague manner in order to "trap" the exporter, and that the letter was not intended to constitute authorization for the chimpanzees' export.

Various Zairean and Ugandan documents relating to the shipment were suspected to have been forged: one was allegedly signed by one B.S.U. Kidi, from the Office of the Chief Game Warden,

West Nile and Madi Range, on 19 December 1988. In fact Kidi had been transferred to Entebbe in November 1988, a month before he supposedly signed the export permit.

Mr. James Okua also denied being the author of a letter of 28 November 1988, which authorized Mr. Moses Mwesigwa (exporter of the September 1988 shipment of 5 chimpanzees to Dubai) to export 3 chimpanzees to Dubai.

The International Primate Protection League congratulated **New Vision** on its high-quality investigation of these shipments. Every detail is followed up on, its reporters make contacts all over Uganda, and nobody can get away with lying easily because newspaper contacts all parties who might have relevant information.

It is clear that the activities of the Ugandan smugglers and Dubai importers, and the authorities who are assisting them, are highly detrimental to the wildlife of Uganda.

Please write a letter to the President of Uganda asking the Uganda grant total protection to all its wildlife, including gorillas and chimpanzees, and that all persons found guilty of smuggling these animals, and any government officials found guilty of abetting smugglers, receive heavy penalties. Address your letter to:

**President Yoweri Museveni
Office of the President
State House
Entebbe, Uganda**

In addition, please write the Head of State of Dubai, telling him that you are aware that Dubai is importing chimpanzees smuggled from Uganda and that you want Dubai to stop allowing such imports, which are detrimental to the survival of an endangered species and also cruel and inhumane because chimpanzees are normally caught by the killing of their mothers and other protective family members. Address your letter to:

**Sheikh Rashid al Maktoum
The Emiri Palace
Dubai, United Arab Emirates**

Please send a copy of your letter to the Sheikh to the U.S. Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates as he is very interested in wildlife trafficking issue:

**David L. Mack, Ambassador
American Embassy
P.O. Box 4009
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates**

MORE NEWS FROM UGANDA

The Impenetrable Forest Project in Uganda began in mid-1986. It is directed by Dr. Thomas Butynski. IPPL has helped fund this excellent project and we find it a pleasure to work with Dr. Butynski and greatly appreciate his regular updates. He's also an IPPL member and it is a pleasure to support our supporters!

Dr. Butynski recently sent us his end-of-1988 report. He summarizes the accomplishments made in just 2½ years:

- 1) bringing to near-completion the construction of the Impenetrable Forest Conservation and Research Station,
- 2) undertaking the training of Makerere University graduates and Uganda Government counterparts,
- 3) establishing conservation education and agro-forestry projects,
- 4) reducing illegal activities in the Impenetrable Forest and the Ngahinga Forest Gorilla Reserve,
- 5) initiation of a census of the Mountain gorilla,
- 6) conferring regularly with local and central government officials in an effort to upgrade the protection and conservation status of the Impenetrable Forest and Ngahinga Forest,
- 7) expanding all-over conservation activities in Uganda by playing the leading role in the "Development through Conservation in Southwest Uganda" Project.

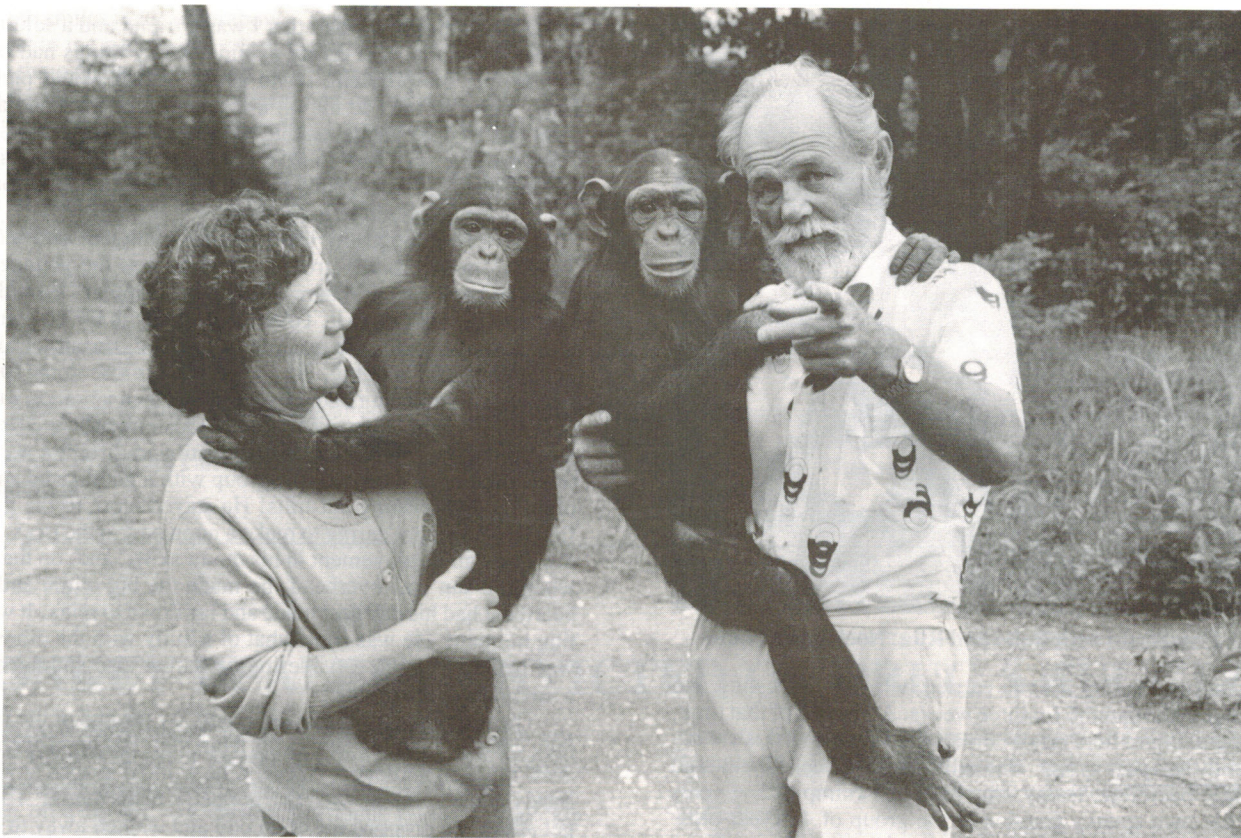
Project officers have confiscated 1366 items since the start of

the project. These include 915 wire snares (which can kill young gorillas and chimpanzees, as happened recently to Jozi Gorilla in Rwanda), 78 spears, 67 machetes, 92 gold pans and 23 cattle. Many people have been arrested and prosecuted for various law violations.

The Impenetrable Forest Project has agreed to train the beleaguered Game Guards at the Ngahinga Gorilla Sanctuary. **Gorilla and Chimpanzee Poaching in Uganda**, this issue).

Project staff were able to obtain a copy of a 1978 photograph which shows a Senior Game Guard of the Impenetrable Forest posing with a dead silverback gorilla and an Austrian game hunter they had led to the gorilla. Both guards were arrested and face trial.

The International Primate Protection League is one of many organizations helping this wonderful project. We would like to receive more. Restricted donations for any aspect of this project would be welcome. Is anyone keenly interested in conservation education? Would somebody like to help with the expenses of training and equipping the Ngahinga guards? Please contact IPPL Headquarters if you are interested. A full copy of Dr. Butynski's report is available on request. Checks made out to IPPL and marked "For the Impenetrable Forest Project" will be placed into IPPL's gorilla fund account and the donation transferred in full to the project.



Sheila Siddle with Sandy: Dave Siddle with Rita: Noel Rowe Photo

A VISIT TO CHIMFUNSHI WILDLIFE ORPHANAGE

by Jayne Herman

After reading Geza Teleki's story about the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in the November 1987 **IPPL Newsletter**, I wrote to Sheila and Dave Siddle to tell them about my wonderful experiences at the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation projects in The Gambia, West Africa. I was hoping that I could assist the Siddles' efforts. Three and a half weeks later, a reply arrived saying "Please come." I made my travel plans.

Five planes and three and a half days after leaving the United States, Sheila and I met in Kitwe, Zambia. We chatted during the 2½ hour drive to the Orphanage where I met the 17 chimps. Each chimp had a very distinct personality. Most had a "touch-smell" of me, others a good taste of my fingers and clothing. Some were immediately friendly, a few were shy or cautious, but mostly, they were curious and all were vocal. It was by now evening, time for them to settle down and nest for the night. I, too, was exhausted, and Sheila says I passed out and she couldn't wake me for dinner.

The next thing I knew it was 5:30 a.m. and I felt excited on hearing the food grunt sounds. In the dark, I found my way to the kitchen, where huge pots of milk and mealy-meal were ablaze on the stove. The entire 5-foot table in the middle of the tiny kitchen looked like the preparation site for a Chinese food festival! There are so many mouths to feed. Besides the 17 chimps, there are countless baboons, the mother and baby tortoise, all the spurwings, the four parrots, the four Bull Mastiff guard dogs, the geese, the chickens, the cats, and God know what else!

Sheila was emptying the 20 quarts of milk into pouring containers. Charlie and Lisa (10 and 9 years old) get their milk first. Sheila poured the first cup for Charlie, instructed me to be cautious about Lisa's aggressive fingernails, and went on to the next cage. Charlie

is a massive 120 pounds; he is very affectionate but I had to be careful of Lisa!

Sheila cared for the middle chimp cage and I got to give the juveniles their milk that first morning. Names and faces began to match up and different patterns of friendship developed over the next five weeks. After the humans eat their breakfast, it is time for the real fun of 6 hours in the bush with the nine youngest chimps.

Rita, awkward and on the periphery of group acceptance, has had the hardest time psychologically. She cowers easily and often walks bipedally, holding her hands around the back of her legs. She rocks occasionally now, a dramatic improvement from her beginnings at this new life. She trusted me from the beginning so I was able to shower her with the affection she craved.

Sandy and Tara (both males) are inseparable buddies, although their temperaments are markedly different. Mellow Tara is incredibly handsome and carries himself with stature as if he knows how good-looking he is! He is very friendly, loves to play, and is sheer fun. He, more than any of the others, loves to spin and make himself dizzy! Sandy attached himself to me early and would love to climb on my body for a ride, claiming the place exclusively for himself.

Little Miss Coco amazed me in many ways. The fact that she is still alive is somewhat of a miracle for when Sheila found her, she was barely alive. The nearest doctor examined the tiny limp body and proclaimed her dead. The attending nurse interrupted, saying she felt "something" in Coco's fingers. Sheila refused to believe that all hope was gone, snatched up the precious baby, and drove frantically back to the orphanage. It was a long "touch and go" haul. Coco was severely dehydrated and suffering from severe



Patrick Chambatu with Bobo and Rita: Noel Rowe Photo

diarrhea. During the day, Sheila carried her in a cloth sling and slept with her in the bathtub for three weeks. At the end of that time, she was beginning to hold down some solid foods and was slowly introduced to her peer group. She still slept between Sheila and Dave in their bedroom. Today, this little girl chimp of 2½ years old holds her own spunky position in the group of 4-5 year olds. She will not tolerate being bullied by the others and is well respected by the group. Often, when the Brahman cattle cross the foraging area, Coco will be on the look-out, signalling to the group that all is fine! I observed her being vocal to the cattle while all the others were frozen and motionless. She was affectionate with both me and her peers.

Miss Jane was a fascinating animal, very different in behavior from the rest and the hardest to get to know. She was always the highest up in the trees and, because of the vantage point, she held a leadership position. Her face is black and her body posture more agile than the rest. The density and coarse quality of her hair and her long fingers give her a different appearance. She grooms far less than the others. Her wisdom in the bush suggests that she is older than one would think from her body. While the others tend to remain at ground level at the food station at feeding times, Jane will take 4 or 5 pieces of food and climb to the shelf overhead with her stash and quietly eat in solitude.

Boo Boo has such a pensive expression that his name should perhaps be changed to Aristotle. He always gives the impression of being deep in thought and watching him outwit his peers shows that he probably is! He will approach a heavily laden bush of berries and wait for Jane or Cora to pull it down carefully, watching which way it will fall to get the best position to reap a harvest. He and Tober are the only chimps who will share their food with you. When I was curious about a new food, I would only need to hold out my hand and either Boo Boo or Tober would graciously give me a piece!

Cora, Boo Boo and Donna hung out together a lot in the bush. Back at camp, Cora was always the first to grab food at feeding time. She'd stuff sweet potatoes and leeks up under her leg pockets and have both hands full of fruit and something in her mouth before any one else had one thing in their hands!

There was a reaction from the chimps to my three IPPL T-shirts. Nobody showed any interest in the Gorilla shirt: all, including Charlie, touched the chimp shirt, mainly the eyes, and repeatedly "touch-smelled" the image. The gibbon shirt was the most interesting to all. Each, at one time or another, tried to pick the vegetation from that shirt! Cora was the most fanatical about it, sitting in my lap and licking the leaves and then getting annoyed at their looking better than they tasted!

Donna quickly learned that I was a friend and a solution to a problem – which was crusty eyelids. Many things had been tried to alleviate the problem, to no avail. Donna would pick a quiet time, come sit next to me on a log, and take my hand and place it on one of her eyelids, asking me to groom them. For as long as I was willing to sit and do that, she would lay her body across my lap and have the crust gently picked from her lids. She would then give me with a hug and return to foraging.

Halfway through my stay, Sheila discussed with me moving Tober from the middle group, where he was the youngest, to the group of youngsters. Where would he be happier? Would I be willing to help? I felt up to it. Tober loved being in the bush and searching for the forest foods. He was clumsy at first, unsure of his footing in climbing and hanging. He stayed really close to me for the first few days, often being taken by surprise when a branch would snap under his weight. He would actually look embarrassed on reaching the ground! He would vent his frustration in different ways, sometimes running and beating the group with a good-sized stick, more often by demolishing ant-hills! He stayed close to the ground for the first five days, not daring to make a noon nest in the trees, but eventually I saw an improvement in his motor skills, and, on the sixth day when the sun was overhead, he made the big climb and with a heartbeat had his day nest made and lay down to relax. It was a thrilling moment. He was somewhat of a bully with the others but was understandable considering his larger size and need to make a statement to the group.

The group accepted this well, and, by the end of the first week they were all learning new skills from him. His eight-inch seed pod drew quite an audience. Adeptly, he worked it open at which time Sandy reached for the seed and popped it in his mouth! Tober did not get angry, he dropped the open pod and walked away to get something else to eat. On one occasion, he had his hands clasped around a "treasure" which he dropped at my feet. It was 6 yellow caterpillars! I didn't know what he was going to do, but something told me to reach for my camera! Luckily, I got 3 shots in a row of Tober eating the first caterpillar. Sheila and Dave were surprised to hear of Tober's "feast," since this was the first time any of the Chimpanzee shi chimps had eaten a caterpillar.

My favorite activity was the water gathering lessons, aimed at teaching the chimps to chew up a mouthful of leaves making a "sponge tool," dipping it into a tree hollow laden with rain water and squeezing the contents into the mouth. All the chimps were interested and it was interesting to watch each one develop the skill in a different way.

Sheila and Dave Siddle are astounding people, the very soul of goodness and dedication laced with genuine graciousness and



Jayne grooming Donna's eyelids, Tara in foreground.

ped off with smiles made of rainbows. They opened their home and their hearts to me and treated every visitor (and there were many) to the last thing on the pantry shelf. Their life savings are being used to maintain the project and the gusto and enthusiasm which they give of themselves would be remarkable for people in their 20s. Dave, along with his son Tony, manage the family ranch, the proceeds of which contribute financially to the support of Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage. Along with the ranch work, he has engineered, designed, and built the wall coming up from the Kafue

River around seven acres of forest where all the chimps will ultimately be released. Funds are desperately needed to complete the wall.

I am deeply grateful for having had the privilege of working at Chimfunshi, and the Siddles, their family, and the chimps have enriched my life.

I hope that this article will reach some people who care. The Siddles are remarkable people and working under difficult conditions. They need some help, some financial support, and, if nothing else, a thank you from mankind on behalf of a threatened species . . . the closest link to man.

Readers wishing to make donations to the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage may send checks made out to IPPL, earmarked "For Chimfunshi" in the lower left hand corner. It is very important that the wall be completed as soon as possible so that the 3 groups of chimps can be released into a natural environment. This is especially important now that some chimps are reaching adulthood.

MONKEY DEALER CONVICTED OF DRUG SMUGGLING

The August 1988 issue of the **IPPL Newsletter** told how animal dealer Mike Tsalickis of Tarpon Springs, Florida, had been arrested on charges of drug smuggling. He was later convicted.

Acting on a tip-off, US Customs officials raided a Tsalickis warehouse and seized 9229 pounds (4195 kilograms) of cocaine. It was the second largest drug seizure in US history.

The cocaine had reached the United States hidden in hollowed-out cedar boards. The logs had been carried in a Tsalickis-owned freighter from Brazil to the Bayboro Harbor in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Tsalickis had taken up residence in Colombia in the mid-1950s, in order to start an animal export business. Tsalickis specialised in the exportation of monkeys for research. He had cleverly chosen as his base the small town of Leticia on the Amazon, which was

close to Colombia's borders with Peru and Brazil. His trappers scoured the jungles of 3 nations and shipped monkeys by the plane-load to the United States. He was a merchant of monkey death and misery.

Now it is time for Mr. Tsalickis to experience life behind bars. . .

Stop Press: On 16 February 1989, Mike Tsalickis was sentenced to 27 years in jail for cocaine smuggling. During the sentencing hearing, he wept and begged to be set free to enjoy his "golden years" with his family. But there were no "golden years" for the thousands of monkeys Tsalickis exported from South America. Most were sentenced to life imprisonment in laboratories or to painful deaths. IPPL hopes Tsalickis will meditate on this point in his jail cell.

GERMAN PRESS PICKS UP SENSEN STORY

The December 1988 issue of the **IPPL Newsletter** told how the West German animal dealer Walter Sensen, who had smuggled 3 gorillas out of the Cameroun in January 1987, had announced that he had a 5-year contract with the nation of Equatorial Guinea for exportation of gorillas and chimpanzees.

The International Primate Protection League informed the West German press about Sensen's activities, and wide coverage resulted.

Following an Emergency Alert issued by IPPL in October 1988, thousands of postcards reached the President of West Ger-

many asking that Sensen's gorilla trafficking activities be brought to a halt. Several members have provided to Headquarters the President's reply, which notes that Sensen is being prosecuted on two counts.

Let's hope that Walter Sensen will soon be behind bars for his crimes against the world's wildlife. It is frightening that one rotten person can do so much harm to the world's dwindling gorilla population. That is why many countries have now enacted laws providing for the death penalty for wildlife poachers and smugglers. Nothing less seems to deter them.

LORIS SKINS FOR SALE

An IPPL member visiting Northern Thailand saw skins of protected animals for sale at a drug-store in Fang. He took a snapshot which showed a golden cat skin and several loris skins, both species supposedly totally protected under Thai law.

Our member was able to obtain a visiting card for the store: it is the Meta Dispensary, 49/1 Near Post Office, Fang, Chiangmai, Thailand.

Protests, which should include the name and address of the store, may be addressed to:

**His Excellency the Ambassador of Thailand
Royal Thai Embassy
2300 Kalorama Road N.W.
Washington, DC 20008**

or the Embassy of Thailand in their country of residence.

IPPL – TEN AND FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

IPPL was founded in 1973, when our Founder Dr. Shirley McGreal was living in Bangkok, Thailand. When Dr. McGreal went to pick up her air freight, she saw a crate of baby monkeys awaiting export and was touched by their bewildered sadness.

She also came into contact with the pet primates which are found all over Bangkok, and became fascinated by these wonderful animals.

The newly-founded group sent a short letter to interested Thais and foreign residents in 1973, but the first **Newsletter** was published in May 1974. It told why the group had been organized:

Because many species of primates throughout the world are approaching extinction and others are being severely reduced in numbers, it is felt that a group is needed with the exclusive goal of promoting primate welfare. Therefore, the International Primate Protection League is founded with the following goals:

a) to assemble data on all species of primates and identify threats to their well-being:

b) to preserve the natural habitat of primates:

c) to prevent illicit trade in primates:

d) to promote the well-being of primates in zoos, research laboratories, and other captive environments:

e) to improve shipping conditions for primates, whether by air, sea or over land:

f) to work with other groups sharing our goals.

IPPL announced formation of "Project Lab Watch" to "collect, verify, and evaluate reports of misuse and abuse of primates."

At that time (1974), we had Field Representatives in India (Vijay Bhatia, S. T. Baskaran, and K. K. Gogoi, all still with us), Taiwan (Charles Shuttleworth, still with us), Canada and Nepal.

By 1979, five years later and one decade ago, Ardith Eudey and Shirley McGreal were serving as Co-Chairwomen of IPPL. Dr. Eudey brought her professional expertise to IPPL, and an excellent skill at uncovering smuggling incidents and obtaining documents pertaining to illegal shipments. This ability has served, and continues to serve, IPPL well. By 1979, we had Field Representatives in India, Singapore, Tanzania, Thailand, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Canada, Kenya, Peru, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Taiwan, South Africa, Japan, Spain, and Ghana as well as local contacts in Vietnam and Hong Kong. We had an Advisory Board consisting of 15 members, including Dr. James Alcock, Dr. Frances Burton, Dr. William George, Dr. Jane Goodall, Dr. Colin Groves, Dr. Barbara Harrisson, Dr. Arthur Westing, Dr. William McGrew, Dr. Vernon Reynolds, and Dr. Geza Teleki (all still with us).

Our April 1979 **IPPL Newsletter** told how Bangladesh had, following an IPPL campaign, banned all exportation of monkeys, cancelling plans to export 71,500 animals over a 10-year period. Bangladesh was upset on learning the results of an IPPL investigation into what had happened to the first monkeys exported to the United States. A group of 30 monkeys had been shipped to a military laboratory performing extremely cruel neutron radiation experiments on Rhesus macaques. IPPL's exposé of the cruel experiments at this laboratory had caused India to ban primate exports as of 1 April 1978.

The **Newsletter** also told how officials of the trigger-happy Safari Club International had applied to the US Federal Wildlife

Permit Office to import 1125 hunting trophies from endangered species annually for an indefinite period. Among primates on the Club's "hit list" were 5 gorillas, 5 orang-utans, and 18 Black and 3 Red Colobus monkeys, as well as 10 cheetahs, 40 jaguars, 1 leopards, 5 clouded leopards, 10 white rhino, and 25 tigers. IPPL and many other wildlife organizations successfully opposed the application. Later, Richard Parsons, for some time Director of the Federal Wildlife Permit Office, became a lobbyist for the Safari Club and a consultant for Immuno in its lawsuit against Shirley McGreal (he claimed that Ms. McGreal was so untruthful that he made sure that any comments submitted by IPPL to the Permit Office were not given credence!)

The **Newsletter** also reported on the confiscation of 10 chimpanzees shipped by Dr. Franz Sitter, an animal dealer of Australia, extraction who operated out of Sierra Leone, to the Netherlands. Eight of the chimpanzees were destined for a circus in Spain and two to the Danish dealer Zoo-Forss (whose ongoing wildlife depredations are the subject of the article **The Polish Connection** in the **Newsletter**). Netherlands authorities confiscated all the chimpanzees: two died and the 8 survivors (known as the "Schiphol babies" after the airport where they were confiscated) joined the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Program in The Gambia, West Africa. Several of the "Schiphol babies" themselves had babies in 1988. The **Newsletter** asked readers to contact then-President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone asking that the country ban all exportation of chimpanzees. This was the first of several such requests. Unfortunately, Sitter was allowed to continue his business, shipping 20 chimpanzees to Immuno as late as June 1986.

The **Newsletter** also reported on developments in the controversial "Malaysian Primate Research Program." This program was funded by the National Cancer Institute, and the Project Officer was Benjamin Blood, Executive Director of the Interagency Primate Steering Committee. The Principal Investigator was Dr. David Chivers of Cambridge University (who did an affidavit denouncing Shirley McGreal for Immuno and told IPPL that he donated his fee to a conservation group). Blood had tried to persuade both Thailand and Indonesia to set up gibbon laboratories, but partly due to IPPL's work, the plans were foiled. The Malaysian Primate Program included both field and laboratory work. The **Newsletter** noted that the Monitor Conservation Consortium had asked the National Cancer Institute to delete the clause of the contract calling for capture of gibbons. In the end, the project was modified and the National Cancer Institute, which then had a longstanding interest in obtaining gibbons for research, ended up funding principally field research.

On 5 November 1978, an article by Shirley McGreal appeared in the **Illustrated Weekly of India** describing the cruel abuses to which Rhesus monkeys exported from mainly Hindu India were subjected in U.S. laboratories. IPPL's address was included in the article, and Headquarters was deluged with mail from friendly Indians. We ran extracts from their wonderful letters in the April 1979 **Newsletter**. Three of the people who contacted us, Mrs. Smita Bhattacharya of Calcutta, Mr. M. K. Narayanaswamy of Bangalore, and Captain Shakti Banerjee of Delhi have remained faithful supporters of IPPL and are now "Ten Year Members." We have also stayed in touch with the Bhagwan Mahaveer Ahimsa Prachar Sangh, a Madras-based organization dedicated to the promotion of non-violence.

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.

NEWS IN BRIEF

RECOMMENDED READING

The Netherlands branch of the International Primate Protection League has, in conjunction with TRAFFIC (Netherlands), published an excellent report on "Nonhuman Primates in the Netherlands, a Survey of Import and Export, Ownership and Use." The report, which is in English, is available to members for US \$10.00. Because of the high cost of changing money, IPPL Headquarters will collect the orders and forward them to Ignaas Spruit for processing. Please send your check for \$10 to IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, stating that it is for the IPPL (Netherlands) report.

A new book about the Mountain gorillas has just been published. It is entitled "Gorilla, Struggle for Survival in the Virungas." The text is by George Schaller and the splendid photographs are by Michael Nichols. Besides the wonderful photos of gorillas, the book has many photographs of the fascinating people of Rwanda. This book is available in most bookstores.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SAHABAT ALAM MALAYSIA

For several years, IPPL has worked closely with the dynamic conservation group, Sahabat Alam Malaysia. We have made annual donations to this fine organization, which also directs the Asian Pacific People's Environment Network.

We are pleased to learn that Sahabat Alam Malaysia is a co-recipient of the 1988 Right Livelihood Award given by the Swedish Parliament. These awards are considered "alternative Nobel prizes."

The citation refers especially to SAM's work protecting the rain-forests of Southeast Asia, and in particular to the courageous efforts of Mr. Harrison Ngau, a 28-year old Kayan, who has led human blockades of logging roads in Sarawak. Ngau is now under house arrest for his activities.

Sharing the award was Jose Lutzenberger of Brazil, a leader of the campaign to save Brazil's rain forests.

"SAM" AND "MOSHA" DOING WELL

The December 1988 issue of the **IPPL Newsletter** informed readers that "Sam," the baby gibbon, and "Mosha," the blind baby Rhesus, acquired by Malcolm Forbes on his trip to Bangkok, and left behind in Thailand, had found shelter at a small wildlife sanctuary in Thailand. Forbes had bought the baby primates for his travel companion, Elizabeth Taylor. However, he had to leave them behind in Thailand as primate export is illegal.

As reported by IPPL, Forbes gave the Wildlife Fund of Thailand \$1,000 for the primates. IPPL contended that, for a man of Forbes' enormous wealth, such a gift was trivial. Elizabeth Taylor, who reportedly adored the gibbon, is not known to have provided a cent for his care.

We are pleased to let readers know that an IPPL member living in Australia generously matched multimillionaire Malcolm Forbes' donation by providing \$1,000 for the care of Sam and Mosha. She doesn't want her name mentioned but we at IPPL really appreciate this wonderful Aussie member!

NOT JUST PRIMATES

Thailand is not just a center for the smuggling of primates – it has become a center for the smuggling of everything that moves – and even for dead animals.

A recent investigation by TRAFFIC – Japan has shown that, between January and July 1988, Japan imported 46 tons of caiman skins, representing the skins of 120,000 of these South American crocodiles.

Brazil's Pantanal is the principal source of caiman skins entering the world trade, even though Brazil bans all export of wildlife.

The caiman skins reached Thailand by round-about itineraries. Stolen export documents, or documents provided by crooked government officials, were obtained in Thailand, and the skins ended up in Japan.

TRAFFIC even learned that telex enquiries between the Japanese and Thai governments regarding the legality of the caiman transactions were intercepted and responded to in the name of the Thai Government by Thai participants in the crooked dealings!

In Miami, Florida, 4 of 5 defendants charged with illegally importing 243 endangered birds to the United States from Cuba were found guilty and convicted; the fifth was acquitted but remained in custody on an unrelated cocaine smuggling charge. Among the 243 birds were scarlet macaws, Cuban Amazon parrots, melodious finches, and moustached parakeets. It seems that the war on wildlife smugglers is being lost along with the war on drug smugglers, in part because many of the wildlife smugglers are also dealing in drugs.

SAN FRANCISCO ZOO DIRECTOR QUILTS

San Francisco Zoo Director Saul Kitchener's recent years at the San Francisco Zoo have been marked by controversy over excessive mortality of animals (including Colobus monkeys), an incident of elephant beating, and, most recently, the separation of Josephine and Denny, a pair of orang-utans who had lived together for 20 years and produced a daughter, but who were separated because they belonged to different species.

On 6 January 1989, Kitchener announced that he was quitting his job for "health and personal reasons." He told the press that he planned to look for employment in the wine industry.

Denying that the activities of animal activists had caused him to leave his position, he stated:

I'm not saying there hasn't been criticism, but it wasn't that big a thing. Let's face it, zoos all over the country are going to be facing a lot of problems from these animal rights people, and I don't see the situation improving. I could see when all my time would be taken up with all kinds of criticisms, and I've had it.

Of course the best way for zoos to avoid criticism from animal activists is for them to take good care of their animals and respect their right to live and die with dignity.

RETIREMENT PLAN FOR AIDS CHIMPS

The Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, San Antonio, Texas, has infected 81 chimpanzees with the human AIDS virus. However, not one animal has developed clinical signs of AIDS – yet.

Many of the AIDS-inoculated chimpanzees have long lives ahead of them. Therefore, the Southwest Foundation has decided to set aside US \$1.77 million in "chimpanzee retirement accounts."

According to John Speck, Controller of Southwest:

We always have had a moral obligation to take care of the animals that we use. We can have the best intentions in the world, but, if we don't have the money, there is little that we can do for them.

Roger Fouts, President of Friends of Washoe, stated that he admired the idea in principle, but felt that more money would be needed to provide a desirable environment for the chimpanzees.

Just a few years ago, officials of the US National Institutes of Health were talking of mass euthanasia of "redundant" research chimpanzees. It is due to the efforts of hundreds of people who cared enough about chimpanzees to make vocal demands on users that some research institutions are starting to plan for lifelong care of research chimpanzees. The New York Blood Center in Liberia has, for several years now, demanded retirement funds from users so that ex-research chimpanzees can be rehabilitated or maintained for their entire lives.

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Complete the form below and mail it with a check payable to the International Primate Protection League, to either IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, S.C. 29484 U.S.A. or IPPL, Regent Arcade House, 19-25 Argyll St., London, W1V2DU, England. Membership fees and contributions are tax deductible in the U.S.A. to the extent allowed by law.

Netherlands dues (minimum, 25 f) should be paid at giro 4704019, IPPL-Nederland, Molensteeg 24-B, 2311 RB Leiden, Netherlands.

Overseas payments should be made in US dollars whenever possible. If payment is made in foreign currency, US \$2.00 should be added to cover the bank's service charge on international transactions. Overseas members wishing to receive their newsletters by Air Mail should add US \$5.00.

I wish to join IPPL as a: ☐ **Patron: \$100.00 or £50**
☐ **Sustaining: \$50.00 or £25**
☐ **Regular: \$20.00 or £10**
☐ **Student/Hardship: \$10.00 or £5**

Name _____

City _____ State _____ Code _____ Country _____

All members receive complimentary copies of the IPPL Newsletter. Individuals or organizations may subscribe to the IPPL Newsletter at an annual fee of \$20.00.

Please suggest names of people who you think would like to receive information about IPPL.

Name _____ Street _____

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