

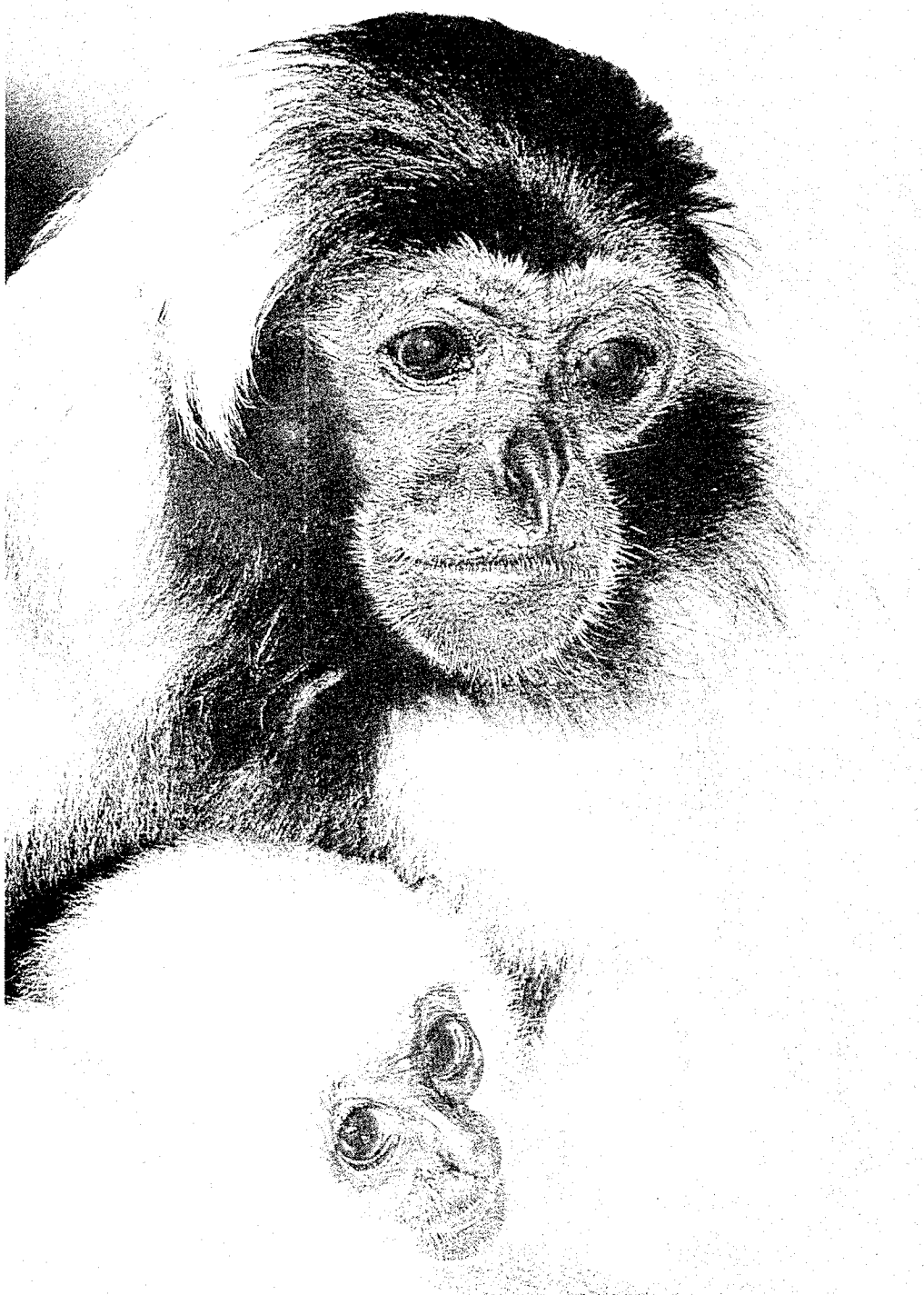
NEWSLETTER



INTERNATIONAL
PRIMATE
PROTECTION
LEAGUE

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INSIDE:

BBC

EXPOSES

APE TRADE

—

JAKARTA'S

BIRD MARKET

—

**(as bad as it
sounds)**

**Pileated Gibbons
Photo: Twycross Zoo**



A MESSAGE FROM IPPL'S CHAIRWOMAN

August 1991

Dear IPPL Member,

In the middle of 1990, IPPL was contacted by the BBC. After reading about the confiscation of six baby orangutans on Bangkok Airport, the investigators of BBC's "Inside Story" team decided to make a one-hour program about the traffic in wild animals, concentrating on orangutans, to start the program's 1991 series.

The BBC wanted IPPL's help!

Working with the BBC was an incredible experience. When the BBC takes on a project, it really does it properly. The team must have contacted hundreds of people in many countries.

The BBC was able to secure the help of Kurt Schafer, the German animal smuggler who had carried the six baby orangutans for the smuggling gang. Schafer, who normally traffics in birds, and who is banned from going into several countries, cooperated, he said, because the whole orangutan shipment had totally disgusted him.

The BBC crew travelled on three continents collecting vast quantities of material and filming inside smugglers' dens using hidden cameras.

Many IPPL officers and friends were interviewed on the program, including Peter Van de Bunt, Leonie Vejjajiva, Birute Galdikas, Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic, and myself. The BBC team dedicated the program to all of us! They felt that our front-line work fighting the animal smuggling racket was wonderful!

We hope that you agree with the BBC! You will also see in this newsletter how much IPPL gives to help overseas projects. We want to help these and other projects more and more.

US readers will find a reply envelope in this Newsletter and we hope that you can send us a generous donation to help us continue and expand our efforts.

Yours sincerely,

Shirley McGreal

Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman, IPPL

P.S. I'd like to welcome all our new members, including all our new British members.



SWEAT-SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE FROM IPPL

You can help IPPL and the primates by wearing IPPL's new sweat-shirts and giving them as gifts to your friends.

The long-sleeved high-quality sweat-shirts (modelled by IPPL office assistant Amy Brown) have a silverback gorilla design on the front and a mother and baby gorilla on the back.

They come in four sizes: **Extra-large, Large, Medium and Small.**

IPPL sweat-shirts come in just one color: sea-green.

The sweat-shirts cost \$20 each, plus \$2 per shirt for postage and packing.

Orders should be mailed to **IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484.**



BBC EXPOSES ORANGUTAN SMUGGLING RACKET

On 10 April, the 1991 season of the British Broadcasting Corporation's series "Inside Story" started with a close-up look at the illegal trade in wild-caught orangutans. The program was viewed by 14.5 million Britishers and was a "smash hit." The BBC had to hire extra staff just to respond to the hundreds of phone-calls and letters that followed the program.

The BBC team spent an entire year on careful research for the program and had travelled on three continents. The team was even attacked by an Austrian animal dealer and had the police called on them by a US animal dealer they tried to interview!

The report started by showing how orangutans are brought into captivity by the shooting of mothers carrying babies and then it moved to the return to Indonesia of 10 young orangutans confiscated by Taiwanese authorities.

The animals had a highly-publicized send-off from Taipei in which Birute Galdikas and Marcus Phipps of the Orangutan Foundation participated. Uniformed Taiwanese schoolchildren sang a farewell to the orangutans as they were loaded into shipping crates!

The BBC estimated that there are currently between 700 and 1000 orangutans in Taiwan and noted that the "craze" for pet orangutans was started off by a TV series. The BBC noted that the density of orangutans in Taipei is greater than that on the island of Borneo and that Taipei has become known as "Mad Monkey City!"

The program next turned its attention to the "Bangkok Six" orangutan shipment. In February 1990, six baby orangutans were loaded on a Bangkok-bound plane in crates labelled "Birds." The animals were checked in as the "personal baggage" of German animal dealer Kurt Schafer. They were confiscated in Bangkok while awaiting transfer to a plane bound for Yugoslavia.

Khun Boonlert Angsirijinda of the Thai Wildlife Department, the official who ordered the confiscation of the orangutans, told the BBC that there was little chance that any of the baby orangutans could have survived the trip to Yugoslavia (from where they were to be shipped to the Soviet Union) because they were packed tight into tiny inadequately ventilated crates and were desperately sick.

The six baby orangutans were sent by Thai wildlife officials to Leonie Vejajiva's sanctuary for care. The sanctuary is a project of the Wildlife Fund of Thailand and receives financial assistance from IPPL, the Summerlee Foundation, and other sources. Leonie movingly described for the BBC the terrible condition of the orangutans when she received them. Two of them were grayish in color rather than the normal reddish orangutan color.

Shirley McGreal and Peter Van de Bunt of IPPL were interviewed, as was Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic, a former volunteer at Belgrade Zoo. On learning about Belgrade Zoo's role in the failed "Bangkok Six" shipment, Milka had contacted IPPL about the September 1989 arrival of two baby orangutans of dubious origin at the zoo, which is directed by Vukosav Bojovic. Milka told how the two orangutans had been kept hidden at the zoo.

The BBC interviewed Kurt Schafer, the German smuggler who had carried the orangutans. Schafer expressed regret at his role in the shipment and identified the Indonesian and Singaporean animal dealers allegedly involved. Schafer refused to confirm or deny on camera the alleged role of a US animal dealer in the scheme.

The BBC team visited Jakarta's notorious Pramuka Bird Market, (see "The Animal Market of Jakarta - As Bad as it Sounds," this issue) where macaques and a pathetic siamang with its teeth pulled out were offered for sale. The siamang, a totally protected animal in Indonesia, at least "on paper," was clearly terrified. The BBC had no trouble purchasing a baby orangutan on the market, and they immediately took her to Mrs. Van Mengden's sanctuary at Jakarta Zoo for urgent life-saving care. She was named "Bibi."

The team contacted Indonesian authorities immediately, but no action was taken. The team also got into the premises of an Indonesian animal dealer suspected to deal in orangutans, but they did not find any animals on hand and the smiling dealer denied trading in orangutans. However, the conditions for all the animals at the facility, which included monkeys and birds, were horrible, with two dead birds stuck on a wire fence.

The BBC also examined the "Cambodian Connection" in

Continued overleaf...



David Perrin of BBC with Shirley McGreal

Smuggling Expose Continued

great detail. Posing as potential buyers, the team was able to get hidden cameras into the premises of the notorious Thai dealer Kampang Ploentham, who sells animals which he claims are "born in captivity" at a Cambodian zoo. This sounds impressive - until you know that this zoo doesn't exist, although Kampang had fancy zoo stationery printed up! Kampang told the BBC team members, who were posing as buyers, that he would be able to supply them with orangutans!

The BBC traced one Kampang shipment of "Cambodian-born" orangutans to Czechoslovakia, where they had been imported to make a movie comedy for the Czechoslovak Film Board. A segment of this utterly fatuous movie was shown. The role of the German animal dealer Marlies Slotta's firm in "Cambodian Connection" trading in orangutans and gibbons was exposed.

"The Ape Trade" has been shown in Australia, Germany, and Austria, and will be shown in more countries later this year.

Chris Terrill, producer, David Perrin, researcher, and the entire BBC crew did an incredibly good job in difficult and sometimes dangerous conditions. Thanks to them, millions of people around the world know more about the illegal traffic in precious wild animals by the unsavory "merchants of extinction."

BBC Wildlife Articles Available:

The April 1991 issue of *BBC Wildlife* carried an 8-page article called "The Case of the Bartered Babies," telling about the "Bangkok Six." Please contact Headquarters if you would like a copy of the article.

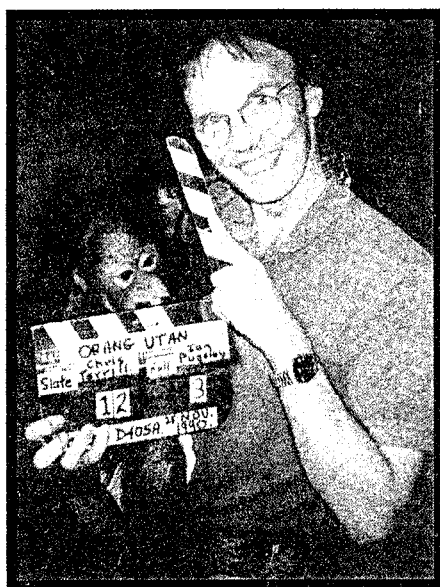


Photo: BBC

Chris Terrill with "Bibi"

IMMUNO SETS FREE SPEECH PRECEDENT!

On 3 June 1991, the United States Supreme Court refused to reconsider the Austrian multinational corporation Immuno A.G.'s multi-million dollar lawsuit filed in 1984 against various parties including:

- **Dr. Shirley McGreal**, Chairwoman of the International Primate Protection League, who had written a letter to the Editor of the *Journal of Medical Primatology* raising questions about Immuno's plan to set up a chimpanzee laboratory in Sierra Leone,

IMMUNO Continued

West Africa, using wild-caught chimpanzees, an endangered species,

- **Dr. Jan Moor-Jankowski**, Editor of the *Journal of Medical Primatology*, which published the letter,
- **Alan Liss**, publisher of the *Journal*,
- **IPS Publications** of Great Britain, publisher of *New Scientist*, a British magazine which had published a critical article about Immuno's chimp lab proposal.

Because the New York Court of Appeals unanimous decision throwing Immuno's case out was upheld by the US Supreme Court, it now is a major precedent in favor of free speech. Lawyers defending writers from spurious libel claims will be citing Immuno versus Moor-Jankowski for decades to come!

The Immuno case has received considerable media coverage. Pulitzer prize-winning columnist Anthony Lewis even wrote a column about it for the *New York Times*, describing the case as "a top candidate for the outrageous litigation prize." Lewis commented:

American law offers numerous examples of vexatious litigation - abusive, inflated, meritless lawsuits. But my candidate for the prize in outrageousness is a libel suit...called Immuno A.G. versus Moor-Jankowski.

Immuno's lawyer, Raymond S. Fersko, questioned the defendants at extensive depositions. He questioned Dr. McGreal about international conferences on endangered species and asked "Did you ever perform any sexual acts at any of these conferences to try to persuade delegates to vote a certain way?" Dr. McGreal's lawyer, Henry R. Kaufman, moved to strike the question and said to Mr. Fersko, "They must really be paying you a lot for this one"...

In January [1991] the Court of Appeals again decided for Dr. Moor-Jankowski. Judge Judith Kaye found nothing libelous in Dr. McGreal's letter by federal standards. She went on to hold that in any event the letter was independently protected by the New York State Constitution's ringing promise that, "Every citizen may freely speak, write and publish...sentiments on all subjects"...

The US Supreme Court has no power to review decisions based independently on state law. Nonetheless, Immuno's lawyers have now filed another petition to the Court, 190 pages long, asking it to hear the case. The petition struggles feebly - preposterously - to avoid the reality that New York law has disposed of this libel suit [This appeal was the one turned down on June 3 1991].

Rule 42.2 of the Supreme Court allows the Court to award damages against a party or its lawyer for a "frivolous" petition. This would be an appropriate case to apply that award...

Somehow our law must make clear to giant foreign companies among others - that in this country we honor and cherish free speech.

IPPL extends congratulations to Dr. Moor-Jankowski and his brilliant attorney, Philip Byler, on winning this "David and Goliath" struggle!

BBC PREMIERE

IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal, accompanied by Dianne Taylor-Snow, visited England in April 1991 for the 10 April premiere of the BBC program "The Ape Trade" which opened the 1991 season of "Inside Story." In February 1990 Ms. Taylor-Snow had been sent to Bangkok by IPPL and the Orangutan Foundation to help take care of the "Bangkok Six" orangutans and to accompany them back to Indonesia.

The program was well-publicized and Shirley and Dianne were interviewed about the illegal trade in primates by several newspapers and magazines as well as by the BBC World Service and BBC-I radio.

The highlight of their trip was viewing "The Ape Trade" with producer Chris Terrill, researcher David Perrin, their families, friends and colleagues, and Peter Van de Bunt, IPPL's German Representative who flew in to see the program of which he was a star.

Shirley and Dianne were kept extremely busy every day of their brief stay during which they were guests of Cyril and Gina Rosen of IPPL-UK. Among the highlights was a visit with delightful IPPL member and "otter-junkie" Roger Parker in Cornwall which included a visit to Daphne de Maurier's home.

Another highlight was a visit to the office of BBC Wildlife magazine in Bristol and dinner with editor Rosamund Kidman Cox, assistant editor Cathy Wright, Ian Redmond, David Helton, Tess Lemmon and Jerry Solomons. They also had meetings with IPPL Adviser Vernon Reynolds and his daughter Janie Reynolds, and Mayvene Bell and Elizabeth Walker of the Board of IPPL (UK).

They also visited Jim Cronin's "Monkey World" sanctuary in Dorset, England. By using amazing ingenuity,

Jim has built the equivalent of multimillion dollar enclosures for rescued beach and laboratory chimpanzees and other primates at around one-tenth of what zoos pay for similar enclosures.

Cyril and Gina Rosen of IPPL-UK took Shirley and Dianne to Twycross Zoo. It was wonderful to see Molly Badham and Natalie Evans' geriatric gibbons swinging around their units. Many are close to 40 years old. Molly and Natalie are dedicated to the animals in their zoo and believe in letting older animals live out their lives at Twycross.

Shirley and Dianne thank everyone who gave them such a wonderful time!



Chimp Rescuer Jim Cronin with Shirley McGreal

BBC I's AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARY SERIES RETURNS

INSIDE
STORY

APE TRADE

Orang-ut'an, n. Large long-armed arboreal anthropoid ape of Borneo and Sumatra. Red Coat. (Name means "people of the forest"). **Highly endangered...**

FILM EDITOR
CAROL MACGILLIVRAY

ASSISTANT PRODUCER
DAVID PERRIN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
PAUL HAMANN

PRODUCER
CHRISTOPHER TERRILL

The orangutan is a prize trophy in a criminal trade which kills mothers to sell babies for up to £20,000 each. 'INSIDE STORY' takes hidden cameras into the shadowy world of the ape traffickers: it unravels a plot to smuggle these protected animals to the USSR and exposes a racket which sells wild-caught babies through a bogus zoo.

WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL AT 9.30PM BBC I

"Ape Trade" program card

NIH CHIMP WORKING GROUP REPORT

An NIH Working Group on Chimpanzees in Biomedical Research was convened by Dr. William Raub, former Acting Director of the US National Institutes of Health.

According to a draft report, the Working Group addressed itself to the problem of **"older animals [which] are occupying housing needed to maintain the chimpanzees that are being produced by the breeding program."**

There are 5 institutions participating in the National Chimpanzee Breeding and Research Program, which was established in 1986 and funded with AIDS appropriations. Half the offspring born in this program are reserved for future breeding and the other half go into research, with AIDS research being considered the top priority area. Since September 1986, 227 total births were recorded at these five facilities. Studies in embryo freezing, embryo transfer technology and production of multiple births are under way.

As of 30 June 1989, US biomedical research facilities owned 1,478 chimpanzees.

The Working Group decided that around 100-150 chimpanzees per year would be needed for research and suggested that **"a degree of reduction in production is now appropriate."**

The Group noted that **"The very limited 1-2 year research period of utility for the chimpanzee compared to its long-term care requirements is a serious consideration."** They recommended that retirement fund plans for chimpanzees similar to the one at the Southwest Research Foundation in Texas be set up at all chimp laboratories. It was suggested that holding in semi-free ranging corrals would be the most economical way to provide long-term care for chimpanzees, and that older animals could be used in "aging" research.

The Group discussed the question of what it called "euthanasia" of surplus chimpanzees. The Committee also expressed support for terminal experimentation on chimpanzees when this is **"the sole means for obtaining the requisite information for a study."**

It reported that inoculation of chimpanzees with the AIDS virus set a precedent for using chimpanzees in fatal experiments, although chimpanzees have not yet become sick or died as a result of the virus.

Currently, use of chimpanzees in organ transplantation experimentation such as heart and liver transplants is not allowed under NIH policy. Obviously, such usage could wipe out the entire captive population within weeks.

The Group also suggested that surplus chimpanzees be exported **"in order to meet the perceived needs of biomedical research in the international community."**

AMA SMEARS ANIMAL PROTECTION MOVEMENT

The American Medical Association (AMA) held a press conference in Washington DC on 4 October 1990. The purpose of the press conference was to attack what the AMA called "animal rights activists." The AMA announced that it was starting a "counter-campaign" and reported that experimenters have re-

AMA Continued

ported receiving "threatening" phone calls, which they attributed to animal activists.

Unfortunately it is hard to verify claims of "threatening" phone calls, because one assumes that most would be local calls and hence untraceable. Thus, an experimental extremist wanting to win public sympathy and discredit his/her critics could falsely claim to be receiving harassing phone-calls, which most people in the animal protection movement, who are caring and compassionate people, would have no inclination to do.

If this sounds far-fetched, consider this! In England, anti-animal extremist John Newberry-Street, founder of the British Hunting Exhibition, actually confessed to making hoax bomb threats in the name of animal protection groups! He even admitted to placing a home-made bomb beneath his own car to make the animal activists he hated look bad! This incident raises questions about who may have been responsible for other incidents, such as two car bombings in England in 1990 which were initially attributed to an "Animal Liberation Front," but for which nobody was ever arrested.

This also raises the question of whether the more mentally disturbed and fanatical anti-animal extremists could stage such incidents in the United States, or have already staged such incidents, **just to make their opponents look bad.**

When you take an actual "body count," you'll find that it is **animal protectors** who get killed: wonderful people like Dian Fossey, Chico Mendez, George Adamson and park rangers and game wardens all over the world who are trying to protect gorillas, rhinos, elephants and other species from poachers, animal dealers and smugglers.

ARE YOU TRAVELLING?

There are plenty of opportunities for travelling animal-lovers to help animals.

Taking part in eco-tourism can help protect animals but don't get close to animals such as gorillas and chimpanzees if you're not feeling 100% fit. Primates can catch human diseases.

There are many animal markets such as the Pramuka Bird Market in Jakarta, Indonesia; Chatujak Park in Bangkok, Thailand; the Bird Market in Manila, Republic of the Philippines; the meat and fetish markets of the Congo Republic, and the meat markets of Zaire. Do try to visit these markets and take pictures, trying to get the animal dealer into them. Note carefully the date, time and place.

Never buy animals on these markets, however sorry you feel for them: that's what keeps the trade going. Try to locate a local SPCA, conservation organization or government agency if you have the time. If you protest on the spot, do so as tactfully as possible! It's usually better to gather the information and bring it home.

Some hotels maintain menageries where the animals are often kept in poor conditions. Get as much information as you can and take pictures which you can send to us when you get home.

Look at the local zoos and send us your evaluations.

Please contact IPPL **before** you leave for exotic destinations as there may be problem situations we'd like you to look into.

THE ANIMAL MARKET OF JAKARTA ...AS BAD AS IT SOUNDS

by Sally Walker

(Sally works with the Zoo Outreach Organization of India (Z.O.O.)

Readers who know about the animal markets of Patna, India and Bangkok, Thailand might think they have heard the worst. Not so. The animal market of Jakarta, Indonesia might be the biggest and worst animal market I have ever visited.

Jakarta is a surprisingly modern city. It is enjoying a new prosperity and is full of Japanese cars and other symbols of wealth. There is a large expatriate community in Jakarta, all doing some business or other as Indonesia seems to welcome foreign interaction of all kinds.

Indonesia, itself, of which Jakarta is the capital, is a most unusual and intriguing country. If one wanted to wax metaphoric one might say that, when God made the earth, he stood one day under a walnut tree painting in the continents and countries, and a walnut fell on to the green paint on his pallet and splashed the canvas with a myriad small splashes where Indonesia was to be.

The small green splashes are thousands of islands in an ecologically complex and diverse archipelago filled to the brim with wildlife both plant and animal. Much of this wildlife, both plant and animal, is being consumed by Indonesia's new prosperity, which does not come cheap. Development is rampaging through the archipelago and while politicians and bureaucrats focus on its various aspects, Indonesia's diverse wildlife is not only being replaced by loss of habitat and disturbance, but also being sold for a song.

The bird market of Jakarta sells only birds, they say. They are wrong. Even if it did sell "only birds," they are selling off scores of protected birds from the thousands of islands. It is difficult to patrol hundreds of islands and thousands of small boats and their occupants which go back and forth on legitimate and illegitimate business every day. Animals - birds, mammals and reptiles, are

carried in these small boats from these small islands and kept in animal dealers' homes awaiting the right buyer.

Some of these are taken to the City Bird Market where, if one is persistent, one can see quite a number of interesting species.

Your writer is more than persistent: some may say devious even. It is amazing how naive sophisticated animal dealers can be when confronted with a fancy business card with "Zoo" written on it. They become greedy and lose their intuition.

When I first suggested to my Jakarta hosts that I wanted to visit the Bird Market, they were puzzled - or horrified - I haven't

figured out which.

The zoo official in charge of me looked kind of upset but, when I seemed absolutely determined, he provided a zoo vehicle for me and also a curator to serve as my "bodyguard."

The curator collected me in the morning in an unmarked van and stopped at a nearby shop to buy a t-shirt. I thought that was a little odd as he could have gone shopping anytime in his life: why now? The explanation was

that he was wearing a uniform and he was afraid he would be taken for an officer of some sort!

The outside of the bird market looks like any Asian pet shops. It is just full of bamboo cages and small singing birds and common varieties. An inquiry or two on a "really nice bird" usually produces an ambitious young man who will lead you deep into the bowels of the market where you can see treasures. On the way, you see a hell of a lot of dead small birds littering the bottoms of transport cages where their stronger and sturdier relatives survive. Apparently these birds are so cheap that losing a few hundred doesn't matter at all. These brightly colored dead songsters look like cast-off jewels, rejected by a spoiled princess, and spilled

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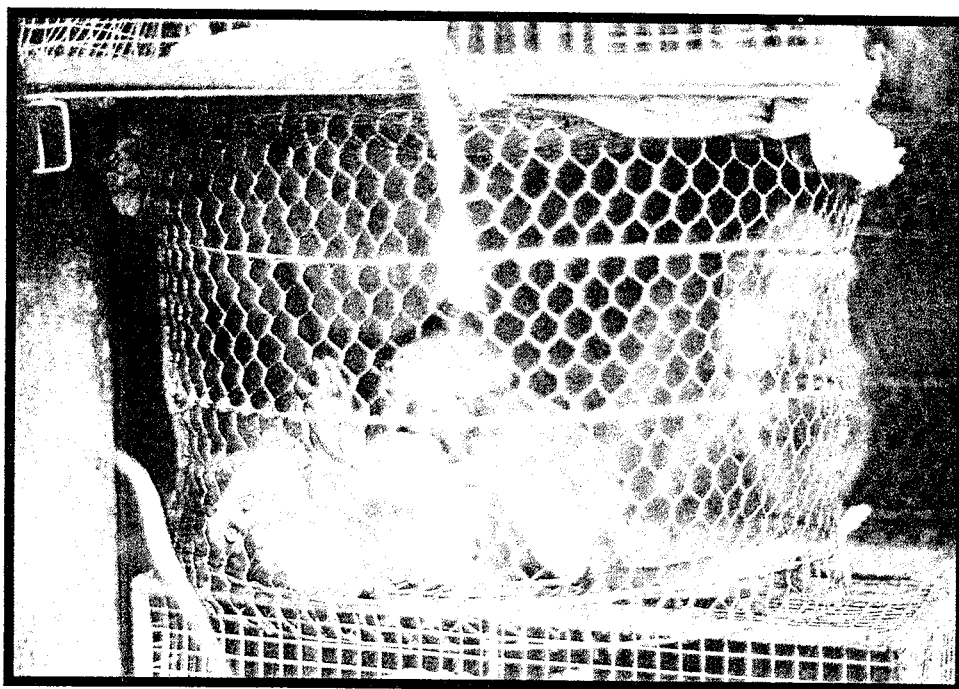


Photo: Peter Van de Bunt

Monkeys on the Pramuka Market

Jakarta Market Continued

carelessly on the floor.

I didn't look too long before a young hustler appeared with the inevitable cockatoo. He might have been chosen by some of the others to deal with foreigners because he spoke and understood English quite well. In Indonesia English is not spoken so much and it is rare to see a "man on the street" who is fluent. He was asking a fortune for the white cockatoo, an unprotected bird.

I kind of sneered at it and said I was looking for a really large colorful bird to keep at home. He capitulated immediately and took me to the back. It was just too easy. "The back" is not particularly special: it is just not right on the street. I could have wandered there myself, and probably would have eventually.

But in "the back" is where they keep the rare and more questionable birds, mammals, reptiles and sometimes really very valuable and endangered species.

In the back, the "good stuff" starts to come out. First comes the wildlife that is not seriously "protected." It **must** be protected in some way, but the animal merchants don't seem to mind showing them. They look only slightly nervous when you pull out your camera, but are easy enough to reassure if you keep up your patter or bargaining for some cockatoo or other. A leopard cat costs around \$250. This was the "first price": he would come down in time.

Other unprotected animals were Tringolins, an Indonesian version of the scaly anteater. There were three of the gentle harmless creatures rolled up in their protective posture and sewed into a wire carrying cage. They could not have unrolled as there was no room. The owner when taking them out of the container pulled roughly, catching the animals' scales in the wire. This is probably something like having your fingernails pulled out.

I made a great fuss over this which made the animal merchants laugh, but it had the effect of convincing them I was in the trade when I opened the cage myself and removed the scaly anteaters respectfully and properly.

Then the secrets began pouring out, and I hadn't even shown my business card. Usually, if nothing else works, my zoo card with its giant Z.O.O. and the cheetahs striding across convince animal dealers I might be legit... I mean illegit! Well, you know, a person

looking for animals - legal or illegal - to buy.

A beautiful pair of red leaf monkeys were for sale. They were also probably not on the "danger" list as there was no problem getting a photo. They were the same price as the leopard cat.

By this time confidence in your writer was building. A pair of rhinoceros hornbills was uncovered. **This time** there were angry protests when I raised my camera! Eventually they were quelled with a payment of a thousand rupiah! Another seller came out with a siamang, a lovely small black ape. This also is protected but no one bothered when I took a photo. Perhaps they are easy to "explain" to authorities.

Finally, the ultimate: a serious-looking salesman invited me back to his residence to see his stock. This is big stuff: my act or my card must be pretty good. Back through the alleys of the market. My bodyguard, the curator, has disappeared! This is probably pretty smart, but one doesn't like to look foolish, so I went on alone.

A black cockatoo is for sale. It is a young but well-grown bird in perfect condition and truly beautiful. The black cockatoo is so dramatic and so lovely that one wonders how it can be real. It looks like a fantasy bird with its dark grey-blue feathers and red trim. Its beak is so large and strong it can cut through bone. It comes from Maloco near Papua.

The owner does **not** want this bird photographed. We tell him the "big boss" with the money won't come to places like this. We have to show him: I had to promise "No

trouble" a dozen times before he would allow me to photograph it, even swearing on the heads of his children that I would not report him to anyone or show the photo to anyone but my boss.

Which only goes to show that you can't trust anyone these days, I guess, including middle-aged, overweight foreign ladies who swear on the heads of children!

We get the photo. This man can get us anything, he says. "Call me tomorrow," he says, "and I'll bring a pair of crowned pigeons, orangutans, king lorikeets, as many siamangs as you want." They apparently are being kept somewhere a little outside town where it's safer. In fact, he could get me "anything in Indonesia!"

We have his name, address and phone number. We have a photo of him with the goods. We can set him up tomorrow with



Photo: Chris Terrill/BBC

Pramuka Market

a dozen animals. Why not do it? Let's get him!

My bodyguard from the zoo laughs at me. "Do you really think it would go to court?" he asks contemptuously.

The zoo director was only a little more encouraging. "Well, it might get to court but the penalties are not very severe." The Indonesian wildlife laws are in need of updating, it seems, and even the lists of scheduled animals. It depends on the judge - how he interprets this act of taking an animal from the wild.

There is a new environmental law in Indonesia that could be brought into play. If a judge wants, he can interpret trafficking in wildlife as disturbing the environment and slap a huge fine and three year sentence on the offender. But it is his discretion... and often discretion is for sale, just like the animals.

There will be an article or a Letter to the Editor of the **Jakarta Post** but it probably won't do much but stir the air. How to **STOP** it, how?

The zoos of Indonesia do not appear to be deeply involved with the animal trade. The zoos, in fact, are literally overflowing with animals which authorities have confiscated or which the large expatriate community has purchased as pets when they were small babies. It is officially illegal to keep such pets.

How can one stop this animal trade? It seems an impossible task. Indonesia is extremely rich in bird life with 1400 species that cannot be found anywhere else. It seemed to me that the trade was flourishing - out of control. Even if the laws were up-to-date, it would take hundreds, maybe thousands, of wildlife inspectors to police the hundreds of islands which form the archipelago of Indonesia. These beautiful tropical countries are being attacked in every way possible - from without by big western companies who destroy their natural resources in the guise of upgrading their standard of living - and from within by their own people who make a poor living by selling their countries' jewels for pennies.



Siamang for Sale on the Pramuka Market

PRIMATES SUFFER ON PRAMUKA MARKET

A courageous and knowledgeable observer made several visits to the ghastly Jakarta "Bird Market" (Pramuka) over a four-month period in 1990, and found that primates were regularly offered for sale. Indonesia has more primate species than any other Asian country and many of the species found there are found nowhere else. Some of the leaf-monkey species are not well-known and correct identification is sometimes a problem. Here is a list of the primates found by the observer:

7 August 1990

- 1 Mueller's gibbon
- 3 Ebony leaf monkeys
- 10 Crab-eating macaques
- 2 Slow lorises

14 August 1990

- 2 siamangs
- 2 Mueller's gibbons
- 2 Ebony leaf monkeys
- 25 Pig-tailed macaques
- 4 Crab-eating macaques
- 2 Western Tarsiers

1 September 1990

- 2 siamangs
- 2 Agile gibbons
- 5 Ebony leaf monkeys
- 6 Mitred leaf monkeys (two sub-species)
- 15 Pig-tailed macaques

1 September 1990 (cont)

- 3 Crab-eating macaques
- 2 Western Tarsiers

20 September 1990

- 6 siamangs
- 1 Agile gibbon
- 4 red Ebony leaf monkeys
- 3 black Ebony leaf monkeys
- 16 Mitred leaf monkeys
- 30 Pig-tailed macaques
- 3 Crab-eating macaques
- 4 Slow lorises

23 September 1990

- 4 juvenile siamangs
- 2 baby Mueller's gibbons
- 1 red Ebony leaf-monkey
- 5 black Ebony leaf monkeys
- 13 Mitred leaf monkeys (two sub-species)
- 2 Western Tarsiers

9 October 1990

- 8 Mitred leaf monkeys (two sub-species)
- 2 Silver leaf monkeys

14 October 1990

- 1 siamang
- 10 Ebony leaf monkeys
- 13 Mitred leaf monkeys (two sub-species)
- 1 unidentified leaf-monkey, possibly Grizzled leaf-monkey
- 30 Pig-tailed macaques

21 October 1990

- 4 siamangs
- 3 Agile gibbons
- 3 Ebony leaf monkeys
- 8 Mitred leaf monkeys (two sub-species)
- 15 Pig-tailed macaques
- 2 Crab-eating macaques

Continued overleaf...

Suffering Primates Continued

1 November 1990

- 2 siamangs
- 1 Mueller's gibbon
- 2 Ebony leaf monkeys
- 8 Mitred leaf monkeys
(two sub-species)
- 9 Pig-tailed macaques
- 5 Crab-eating macaques
- 4 Slow lorises

11 November 1990

- 1 Mueller's gibbon
- 1 red Ebony monkey (juvenile)

11 November (cont)

- 6 Mitred leaf monkeys
- 6 Pig-tailed macaques
- 3 Crab-eating macaques
- 3 Slow lorises

2 December 1990

- 2 baby siamangs
- 1 red Ebony leaf-monkey
- 5 Mitred leaf monkeys
- 6 Pig-tailed macaques
- 15 Crab-eating macaques

The numbers reported are likely to be a low count as the market area is large and many of the rarer animals such as orangutans are hidden off-display: enquirers are taken to see them.

It appears that there is considerable turnover in primates on Pramuka Market, but what is not clear is who is buying them. Leaf monkeys are very fragile and many may die before or shortly after being sold. Macaques, gibbons, and siamangs may be rounded up by exporters and there is some local use as pets. There is relatively little consumption of monkeys for meat in Indonesia, as monkey meat is unacceptable to Muslims who constitute the majority of Indonesia's population. Some parts of some leaf-monkey species are used medicinally in parts of Asia.

Some of the species sold on Pramuka do not live on the island of Java where Jakarta is located (e.g. siamangs live on the island of Sumatra and Mueller's gibbons on the island of Borneo). By the time they reach Jakarta, primates from outer islands are likely to have undergone long trips by road and boat, with suffering and mortality all along the way. The conditions on Pramuka Market are grossly inhumane for mammals and birds alike: heat, noise, humidity, inadequate and inappropriate food, and rough handling.

LETTER FROM INDONESIA

Mr. Sutisna Wartaputra, Director-General of the Indonesian Forest Protection and Nature Conservation Department of the Government of Indonesia, has sent a letter thanking IPPL and the Orangutan Foundation for their help in returning six confiscated orangutans (the "Bangkok Six") to Indonesia in May 1990.

The Government of Indonesia, through the Indonesian Ambassador to Thailand and the Government of Thailand, negotiated the orangutans' return to Indonesia and paid for their return trip. The animals were sent via Jakarta to the Tanjung Puting Orangutan Rehabilitation Center on Kalimantan in Indonesian Borneo.

Unfortunately two of the orangutans subsequently died and one disappeared. Even if they recover from the initial shock and trauma of capture and trade, baby orangutans frequently sicken and die several months later.

Indonesia is not in a position to enforce orangutan protection laws adequately because it is impossible to station guards around the coast-lines of the huge islands of Borneo and Sumatra where orangutans live.

It is therefore very important to try to cut down the demand for these animals, which comes principally from unethical zoos, which include many in Eastern Europe, South America, and the Arab world. Orangutans are also in demand as pets and by the entertainment industry.

Another priority is for anyone caught trafficking orangutans, inside or outside of Indonesia, to receive a long jail sentence, not a trivial fine.

EMERGENCY HOT LINE

Members willing to write letters in primate emergency situations that happen between newsletters are requested to send their names to Headquarters so that we can get in touch with them quickly. Please let us know your phone number too.

HOW YOU CAN HELP CLOSE PRAMUKA MARKET!

IPPL would like to see Pramuka Market closed down. We see no way to clean it up and make it an acceptable place, although licensing, regulation and regular inspection of vendors would be desirable. Even if the market were cleaner, the hot muggy Jakarta weather cannot be changed and the animals belong in the wild and should stay there.

Please send letters requesting:

- 1) that the Pramuka Market in Jakarta be closed down as soon as possible,
- 2) that the sale of all species of primates should be banned immediately, with all vendors to be immediately notified that they may not sell primates,
- 3) that after the warning, the market should be regularly inspected by uniformed and non-uniformed law enforcement officers with strict penalties administered to those offering orangutans, siamangs, leaf monkeys and other primates for sale, with the primates to be confiscated.

Letters should be addressed to:

Letcol. Tony Sumardjo
Director for Forest Protection, PHPA
Jl. Ir. H. Juanda 100
Bogor, Indonesia

Please send a copy of your letter to Mr. Sumardjo to the Ambassador of Indonesia, 2020 Massachusetts Av. N.W., Washington DC 20008, USA or the Ambassador of Indonesia, 38 Grosvenor Square, London W1X 9LL, England.

We wish everyone would write! We especially urge our Asian members and friends to send letters to the Indonesian Embassy in the capital city of their country of residence.

Overseas air mail from the United States to Indonesia costs 50 cents per ounce and 95 cents per half-ounce. The cost from the UK is 37p. for each 10 grams.

IPPL REPRESENTATIVE GIVEN JAIL SENTENCE FOR CRITICIZING ZOO DIRECTOR ...HOW YOU CAN HELP

IPPL's Yugoslav Representative, Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic, is the innocent victim of an outrageous legal travesty in the Yugoslav "justice system." Milka courageously exposed the Belgrade Zoo's dirty wildlife dealings. Yet it is Milka **not the unsavory Belgrade Zoo director who participated in the traffic in wild-caught orangutans**, who is being punished.

In February 1990, six baby orangutans and two siamangs were confiscated on Bangkok Airport. The unfortunate animals had been stuffed in crates labelled "Birds" and loaded on to a Thai Airways flight leaving Singapore Airport. The animals were to be transferred at Bangkok to a flight bound for Belgrade. However, they were confiscated on Bangkok Airport, without the knowledge of Kurt Schafer, the German animal trafficker who was carrying them. Schafer flew on to Belgrade not knowing that his "luggage" - the animals - had not been loaded on the plane with him.

The six orangutans were to go to Belgrade Zoo, which would be the staging post for shipping them to the Soviet Union, a notorious participant in filthy wildlife trafficking. The role of Yugoslavia in the illegal wildlife trade has increased since "The Polish Connection" was closed in 1990 as a result of IPPL's campaign. The two siamangs would remain in Belgrade to "reward" the zoo for its help in this sordid deal.

Shortly after the confiscation of the animals, Khun Boonlert Angsirijinda, of the Royal Thai Forestry Department, received a letter in English dated 28 February 1990, one week after the confiscation occurred, from Vukoslav Bojovic, Director of the Belgrade Zoo, asking that the "monkeys" confiscated from "Mr. Schafer" be released to him "immediately."

On receiving a copy of this letter from Thai authorities, IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal wrote Mr. Bojovic a letter dated 4 March 1990, expressing IPPL's concern and asking for further information about the shipment.

In his reply to IPPL, Bojovic pretended he had never heard of Mr. Schafer, stating, "All about K. Schafer we became to know

from your letters. We have no further information."

In May 1990, IPPL received a letter from Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic, a Belgrade Zoo volunteer, who had translated IPPL's incoming letter to Bojovic and Bojovic's reply. Milka stated:

In September last year [1989] Mr. Bojovic acquired two female orangutans: one, according to my opinion, one year old, and the other, slightly older. Both animals did not, according to my knowledge, possess any documents and the staff of the Belgrade Zoo was ordered to maintain their arrival in complete secrecy. The whole deal was not carried

out here in Belgrade, but possibly in one of the cities in the vicinity (probably Osijek). The older baby orangutan remained in the director's office and I was entrusted to take care of the younger one in my home.

Having translated your letter to the Belgrade Zoo dated 4 March, at the request of Mr. Bojovic, I put two and two together and

realized what it was all about, that is to say illegal trade, because you mentioned a certain character called Schafer in it and the name was familiar to me. I was shocked by this fact. I informed Mr. Bojovic that I was shocked by his action. He reacted most unpleasantly...

Unfortunately, as you know, Yugoslavia is not one of the signatories of any international conventions of the illegal trade in endangered species, so officially Vuk Bojovic's actions were not contrary to the law. But, it would be a great shock for many of his admirers that he has broken many moral codes and norms.

The two baby orangutans, Sanja and Vanja, are still in the Belgrade Zoo but in the ambulance, kept away from the eyes of the public. The Indonesian Government has been unaware of Bojovic's doings, and promised to present two

Continued overleaf...



Milka with baby orangutan

IPPL Representative Continued

orangutans to the Belgrade Zoo, Now the arrival of this shipment is expected, among others, so as to "legalize" the existence of the two smuggled orangutans (Sanja and Vanja) in a way unknown to me. [IPPL Comment; captive-born orangutans can be legally traded as if they were on Appendix II of CITES so it is possible that an unsuspecting Western zoo could purchase the two babies believing or pretending to believe them to have been captive-born at the Belgrade Zoo, especially if older animals could be reported to be their parents].

I believe that trade in other species, and not only in orangutans, has taken place (specially in birds) and that the Belgrade Zoo does not possess any documentation or authorization for these animals.

Milka courageously told the world about Bojovic's dubious orangutan dealings on the BBC Inside Story program, "The Ape Trade."

One would like to think that Bojovic would now be in trouble, and that Milka's courage in speaking up would be applauded.

The absolute opposite has happened.

Bojovic sued Milka and a friendly judge barred the BBC program about the orangutan traffic and Bojovic's role in it from being entered as testimony, and he also banned two witnesses friendly to Milka. The judge decided that the zoo had done nothing at all wrong and, incredibly, sentenced Milka to 3 months in jail, which was commuted to three years on probation. Milka's lawyer stated that her case was "without precedent" in his career. The controlled Yugoslav press continues to give Bojovic and the Belgrade Zoo friendly coverage.

A LETTER TO MILKA

On hearing of the legal action against Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic, IPPL member Patricia Reber of Georgia, USA sent her a letter of support and encouragement. Her letter certainly speaks for all our members.

I am a member of the International Primate Protection League and I have learned of your trial and sentence. I am astonished at your courage and I am deeply sorry you suffered "rough justice."

You asked Shirley McGreal, "Who will believe me now?" and I must answer that I believe you. What would you win by criticizing Vukosav Bojovic? And what does he lose if he becomes known as a zoo director who is involved with wildlife smugglers? When a person has a title, and the respect of others, he fights hard to stay where he is and to protect himself from losing his fine title. There is no reason for you not to tell the truth, but there is every reason for him to try to silence you and others who might be encouraged to protect his actions.

Of course, we believe you! Anyone who has tried to defend animals from unscrupulous people does believe you. We thank you for speaking up to help innocent animals.

Dear Milka, I am furious at the judge in your case.

Letter to Milka Continued

Although we all know what justice is, the law often seems not to recognize it. There seems to be so little justice here on earth, one wonders if there is some final judging after this life. Will those who have caused such pain and suffering be forced to see, know and feel the pain they have caused? I hope so. I am not a religious person, but I hope for a balancing of the scales, and at least a very harsh lecture from the Creator for those who have acted in this life with arrogance, malice, selfishness and greed. In my angrier moments, I hope that they, too, will receive rough justice.

All around the world, Milka, your friends admire you and wish we could be as brave as you have been. To quote from the philosopher Montaigne, "The strangest, most generous, and proudest of all virtues is true courage."

HOW YOU CAN HELP MILKA AND THE ORANGUTANS

Milka plans to appeal, and she needs our help! Here's what IPPL members can do:

- 1) Write to the Ambassador of Yugoslavia in your country.

The US address is...

**His Excellency the Ambassador of Yugoslavia
Embassy of Yugoslavia
2410 California St. NW
Washington DC 20008, USA**

The British address is...

**His Excellency the Ambassador of Yugoslavia
Embassy of Yugoslavia
5 Lexham Gardens
London W8 5JU, England**

For other countries, the Embassy of Yugoslavia in your capital city should be a sufficient address. Please request that Yugoslavia join the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and stop importing orangutans and other smuggled animals. State that you are concerned at the unjust treatment accorded to Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic who courageously raised valid questions about the Belgrade Zoo's participation in the illegal wildlife trade.

- 2) To cheer Milka up, please send her a friendly greeting card or letter: her address is Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic, Zadarska 10, Beograd 11000, Yugoslavia. Air mail postage from the US to Yugoslavia is 50 cents per half-ounce, 95 cents per ounce, from the UK the cost is 26p. per 20 grams.

- 3) Ask your friends and other organizations to help organize letter-writing campaigns to help Milka.

- 4) Please send a donation to IPPL to help with the costs of Milka's upcoming appeal. Be sure to put Milka's name on the bottom left of your check.

THAILAND EMBARGOED BY CITES

Thailand has been a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) since 1983.

Unfortunately, this has not helped the world's, or Thailand's, wildlife at all. The wildlife of Thailand and its neighboring countries has been decimated for decades by a few notorious Thai smugglers, all operating outside the law and with apparent total impunity, and many with close links to major European smugglers.

Thailand has also served as a re-distribution center for massive quantities of live wildlife imported to Thailand from other countries, such as orangutans, Australian and South American birds, as well as wildlife products such as ivory, rhinoceros horn, turtle shell, and reptile skins including caiman crocodile skins smuggled to Thailand in the millions from South America.

Notorious non-Thai smugglers, including several Europeans, have, with approval of immigration authorities, set up residence and business in Thailand in order to carry on their disgraceful careers with impunity. In Thailand these dealers recruit people ("couriers") to fly down to Australia and New Zealand to smuggle out these countries' protected birds.

The International Primate Protection League has been campaigning against Thailand's wild animal dealers for close to two decades now. In April 1991, the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) announced that it would organize a tourist boycott of Thailand. Simon Lyster of WWF called Thailand "probably the worst country in the world for the illegal trade in endangered wildlife."

At the 23rd meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, a detailed report was presented by the CITES Secretariat on Thailand's role in the illegal wildlife trade. The Secretariat recommended that the Standing Committee support a trade ban with Thailand until the country makes a serious effort to implement CITES. The Standing Committee endorsed the Secretariat's proposal, and an announcement of a ban on trade with Thailand was sent to all the 110+ CITES member nations on 22 April 1991 with a request that they implement it. (The United States announced implementation of the ban on 17 July 1991).

Thailand reacted to the ban with some raids on several animal dealers including Kampang Ploentham's and Suchino's premises, and a ghastly facility collecting bears, leopards, and other wild animals for sale to Korean restaurants in Thailand. Some animals were confiscated - and some of the hauls could have been greater except that it appears that a crooked policeman may have tipped some of the dealers off about the impending raids.

Over the past few years, several attempts have been made to strengthen Thailand's wildlife laws, but they were always sabotaged by the animal dealer lobby, which is well-connected to high-level military personnel and politicians.

TRANSLATORS NEEDED

IPPL occasionally needs help with translation of letters and articles written in foreign languages. Please let us know if you know any foreign languages and are willing to help with translating. Help with Portuguese, German, Russian, other Eastern European languages, and any Asian languages would be especially appreciated.

A "NICE WORD" FOR A VERY NASTY OCCUPATION

Among the dirty tricks played by wildlife smugglers are carrying marmosets in hand-baggage, stuffing drugged birds in hair-rollers stitched in their clothing, and wrapping parrots in stockings and sneaking them across international borders in "spare tires." They carry baby orangutans in unventilated crates labelled "Birds" as their "personal baggage." They cause pain, suffering, and death to individual animals, and contribute to the extinction of species.

They are very pleased with themselves, enjoying their untaxed millions, fancy cars and jet-set life-style while thumbing their noses at law enforcement officials.

The human criminals who participate in such disgusting activities actually call themselves "couriers" as if they are diplomats! They can't face what they really are, which is **slime**.

A new trend among animal smugglers is to avoid being photographed or appearing in public, their pious explanation sometimes being that they are afraid of what they call "animal rights terrorists!" Of course the smugglers themselves are the real "terrorists" with the innocent animals their victims.

A more plausible explanation for this "reticence" is that the names of many wildlife smugglers become known to law enforcement officials, and they get banned from entering various countries! However, they still manage to get in and out - using false passports. They may not want their current photographs in circulation, as they don't want immigration and wildlife authorities to know what they look like!

HOW YOU CAN HELP THAILAND'S WILDLIFE

With new legislation again under consideration in Thailand, all IPPL members should make their voices heard. Let's get letters in to Thailand from South and Central America, Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand!

Letters should be addressed to:

Khun Anand Panyarachun, Prime Minister
Prime Minister's Office
Nakhon Phanom Road
Bangkok, Thailand

Tell him how concerned you are at Thailand's role as the world's wildlife supermarket and ask that strong laws to ban trade in native and non-native wildlife be instituted and enforced.

The cost of air mail letters to Thailand from the United States is 50 cents per half-ounce, 95 cents per ounce; postage from the United Kingdom is 37p. for 10 grams.

1989 PRIMATE IMPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES

**Data assembled by IPPL student intern
Dottie McFalls**

Over the course of 1989, 18,562 primates, over 99% wild-caught, were imported to the United States. The primates belonged to 39 different species, but by far the largest number were crab-eating macaques, most of them from Indonesia. Zoos import very few primates and importation of primates for the pet trade is banned, although it is suspected that some imported primates are being leaked into the pet market. Almost all the imported primates went to medical research facilities. Very few of the imported primates belonged to endangered species.

The biggest importer was the long-established Charles River Research Primates (over 60%). Other dealers importing over 1,000 animals were Worldwide Primates, Hazelton Research Products, and Primate Products.

IPPL obtained copies of the 1989 Form 3-177 import declarations for primates using the Freedom of Information Act. It is possible that 3-177 forms were not filed for all shipments, or that some forms got mislaid, so numbers may be on the low side. Species whose imported numbers exceed 50 are listed below:

Species	Number	Principal Countries of Origin
Asian Primates		
Crab-eating macaque	13,866	Indonesia, Philippines, Mauritius
Rhesus macaque	883	China
Pigtail macaque	164	Indonesia

Total: 14913

African Primates		
Olive baboon	528	Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania
Patas monkey	225	Senegal, Dakar
African green monkey	780	St. Kitts, Barbados, Kenya, Tanzania

Total: 1533

South American Primates		
White-lipped tamarin	100	Peru
Squirrel monkey	871	Peru, Guyana
Owl monkey	82	Peru
Spider monkey	63	Honduras
Red-handed (Midas) tamarin	54	Guyana
Common marmoset	452	Brazil, UK
Capuchin monkey	309	Honduras

Total: 1931

Other imported primates: 185

Total primates declared in 1989: 18,562

Primate Imports Continued

The 3-177 forms include the percentage of each shipment physically inspected by US Fish and Wildlife Service port agents. Twelve percent of primate shipments were not inspected at all, and 21% of the shipments had less than 50% of the animals inspected.

In 1989, the principal ports through which primates reached the United States were New York and Miami.

Because of a simian hemorrhagic fever outbreak that occurred in early 1989, several hundred monkeys died (some imported animals and others long-term captives) on a Florida animal dealer's premises and at a New Mexico research facility which had received newly-imported monkeys. Unfortunately 3-177 forms do not indicate how many primates arrive in the United States dead, and no data on quarantine deaths of monkeys is made available to the public.

A copy of the Centers for Disease Control's lengthy report on the simian hemorrhagic fever epidemic, which illustrates the suffering caused by the primate trade, is available free from IPPL.

CHARLES RIVER MOVES TO TEXAS

Charles River Research Primates (formerly Primate Imports) has moved from its former base in Port Washington, Long Island, New York, to Houston, Texas. According to the Spring 1991 issues of *Charles River Labs Update*, the move was made in part, "in response to New York State import requirements." The *Update* noted that:

The state is tougher than most other states - even tougher than the Centers for Disease Control...for example, New York requires various tests on animals before they leave the source country, as well as tests on their arrival in the United States. This doubles the testing and puts unnecessary [emphasis added] pressure on source country personnel.

The *Update* reports that Charles River has hired a staff veterinarian to travel to source countries to:

Complement local efforts to enhance animal health and quality. Such efforts have humanitarian value and also ensure the best product [emphasis added] for our customers.

THANKS TO OUR PRESS-WATCHERS!

Thanks to all IPPL members around the world who send us newspaper and magazine articles about primates. We really appreciate them. Please keep sending them!

Please be sure to mark all clippings with the name and date of the publication.

IPPL EXPOSE OF DE SOUZA PRODUCES QUICK RESULTS

The April 1991 issue of the IPPL Newsletter told how the Singapore-based animal dealer Oscar De Souza was offering hoolock and white-handed gibbons from Burma for sale, as well as a variety of owl species.

IPPL at once drew the attention of Singapore wildlife authorities to this letter, and they took speedy action. Officials of the Primary Production Department, which is charged with controlling Singapore's wildlife trade, met with De Souza on 5 June 1991 and sent him a follow-up letter dated 25 June 1991 which is reproduced on this page.

The Primary Production Department sent a copy of this letter to IPPL and, in an accompanying letter to IPPL, Dr. Leong Hon Keong, Head of the Singapore CITES Unit, stated:

We have investigated Oscar De Souza's offer to sell gibbons from Burma to zoos in Europe and the United States. Our investigations showed that no gibbons had been imported into Singapore by De Souza who was acting as a contact between the Burmese and prospective buyers in Europe and the United States.

We interviewed De Souza who informed us that he believed his offer was legitimate as he would be able to obtain permits from Burmese authorities. He made his offer on the strength of this. He stressed that he wrote only to zoos and upon receiving a favorable reply he would only ship animals if officials in the importing country issued an import permit for the shipment. We understand that he has received a reply to purchase the gibbons from the San Diego Zoo.

We have informed De Souza that gibbons are an endangered species which have been listed by CITES in Appendix I. Due to their endangered status, species may not be traded for commercial purposes. We have also informed De Souza that, as a result of the strict requirements to import and re-export Appendix I species, it was very unlikely that he would be able to obtain any CITES permits from our Department for the gibbons. De Souza was also warned of the consequences of illegal trade in endangered species and the penalties which could

be meted out under our Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act.

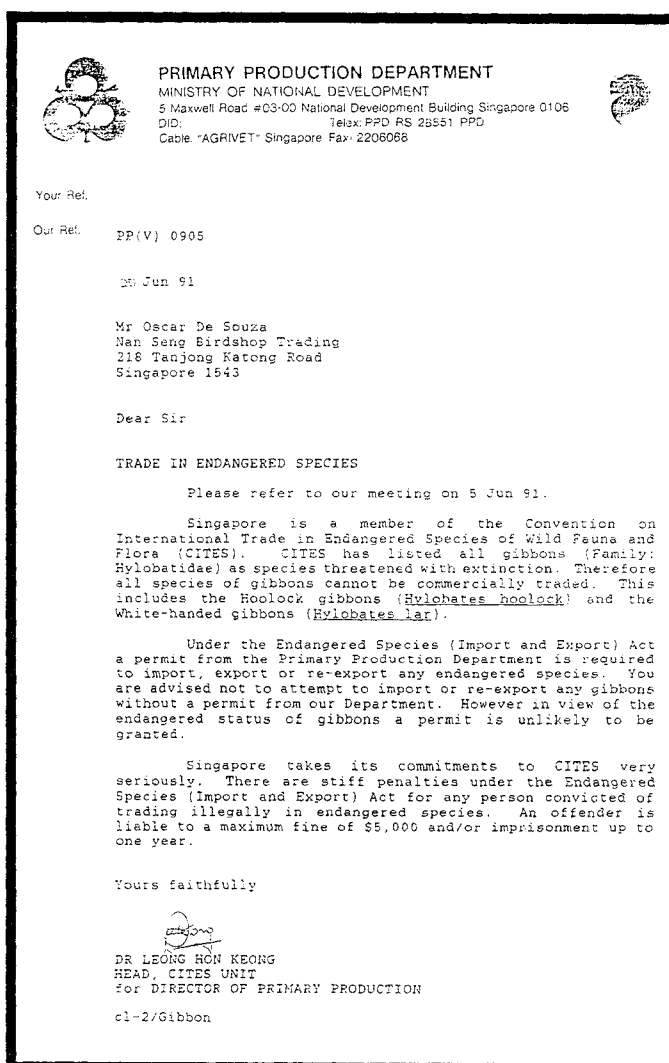
Surprised to see the name of the prestigious San Diego Zoo in Dr. Leong's letter, IPPL contacted the zoo for information.

Carmi Penny, Curator of Mammals at the San Diego Zoo, explained that:

In regards to the Hoolock gibbons, in March we received a "surplus list" from Oscar De Souza, which listed 3.3. Hoolock and 3.3 Lar Gibbons as being available for legal export. One of our staff, out of curiosity, inquired into this "offer" and received the following information. "The two pairs of Hoolock gibbons are already available at our holding place in Myanmar (formerly called Burma). All the above-mentioned gibbons are 3/4 grown size. We are reserving these gibbons for you - pending approval of the legal export license from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Department of Myanmar."

The Zoo staff member making the enquiry never received any evidence of legal export documents or additional information about the animals' status: e.g, wild caught or captive-born; even though this request was made ... The San Diego Zoo has no intention of pursuing acquisition of these animals without confirmable evidence of their legal status as captive-born specimens ... We have not applied for a US import permit, nor intend to. If export documents do appear, I will certainly send you a copy.

To the best of IPPL's knowledge, there are no facilities in Burma breeding Hoolock gibbons in large numbers. It is clear that De Souza interpreted the San Diego Zoo communications (according to an article by Nirmal Ghosh in Singapore's *Business Times*, this consisted of two faxes from Rick Barongi dated 19 and 28 March 1991) as an actual or potential order. A request to the zoo for copies of its misinterpreted enquiries has not yet been answered. One hopes that these misinterpreted enquiries did not result in the shooting of any mother gibbons for their offspring.



RECOMMENDED READING

We're proud to announce that our first reading choice this month is a book written by IPPL member Anne La Bastille. The book is entitled "**Mama Poc**" ("Poc" is the local Guatemalan Indians' nickname for the giant grebe and Anne became known as "Mama Poc"). "**Mama Poc**" is published by W. W. Norton and Company, New York. The book isn't about primates, but there are touching parallels. Dr. La Bastille worked for 24 years to prevent the extinction of a rare species of grebe (locally known as the "poc") found only on Lake Atitlan, Guatemala.

When Anne arrived in Guatemala, there were only about 80 of the giant grebes left. Anne worked hard with local friends and allies to protect and rebuild their reed habitat, get game wardens assigned to the area, develop local interest, and establish a sanctuary. Gradually the species increased in numbers to over 200 birds. Local Indian weavers incorporated the "poc" into their designs. It looked like the "poc" would be saved.

But then multiple disasters struck: the introduced large-mouth bass began to take the place of the smaller fish which were the grebes' main food source, summer cottages began to appear on the lake edge (numbers increased from 28 in 1965 to 449 in 1989), and more and more sewage was dumped into the formerly pure lake. An earthquake lowered the lake level drastically, civil strife hit the area, and the poc's guardian, ranger Edgar Bauer, was murdered. Gradually the "pocs" disappeared, which is why Anne's lovely book is subtitled "**An Ecologist's Account of the Extinction of a Species.**" We strongly recommend this book, which is delightfully written and full of anecdotes about the fascinating giant grebes and the people living around Lake Atitlan.

The Litigation Explosion was written by Walter Olsen and is published by Truman Talley Books, a division of Dutton, New York. The book is subtitled "What Happened when America Unleashed the Lawsuit." Olsen says of the American legal system:

It torments the provably innocent and rewards the palpably irresponsible. It devours hard-won savings and worsens every animosity of a diverse society. It is the special American burden, the one feature hardly anyone admires of a society that is otherwise envied the world around.

Olsen strongly favors reforms such as limiting contingency fees and forcing losing plaintiffs to pay the winning defendants' legal bills. He feels that would be the best way to discourage frivolous lawsuits. With so many environmentalists and animal protectors being victimized by spurious lawsuits these days, we think everyone should read Olsen's book.

IPPL member Dr. Elliott McClure is the author of the book "**Whistling Wings**" which will be of interest to bird-lovers. It describes the habits of the mourning dove through the tale of one bird called "Zee." The mourning dove, a bird which lives with its mate in a monogamous pair relationship, is slaughtered in the millions by US "sport hunters" every year, and this book will help spread appreciation of this lovely bird with the melodious voice.

"**Whistling Wings**" is available from the **Boxwood Press**, 183 Ocean View Blvd. Pacific Grove CA 93950, for \$9.95 plus \$1.25 postage.

Animals in Society by Zoe Weil is a new textbook for secondary school students and covers the various issues of animal use in contemporary society. Each chapter includes challenging questions and imaginative projects. Appendices suggest lots of things to do and provide lots of sources of information about animal problems. **Animals in Society** is available for \$5.95 (including postage) from Animalearn/AAVS, 801 Old York Road, Suite 204, Jenkintown PA 19046. Be sure to include your street address since your book will be shipped by United Parcel Service.

The Book of Endangered Species is an educational coloring book published by the National Wildlife Federation. The book is printed on recycled paper with a vegetable-based ink. Endangered Species from all around the world are described on one side of the page and pictures for coloring are opposite. The primates in the book are the aye-aye from Madagascar, the snub-nosed monkey from China, and the brown howler monkey from South America. **The Book of Endangered Species** is available for \$5.95 per copy from Earthbooks, 7000 N. Broadway, Building One, Suite 103, Denver CO 80221. Please include \$1.05 book postage for 1-2 books and \$1.48 postage for 3-4 copies.

The Environmental Hazards of War is the latest book by IPPL Adviser Dr. Arthur Westing. The book is of particular interest in view of the ecological havoc caused to wildlife and habitat by the Iraq War, which was so popular with the American public that the environmental consequences of the war were disregarded. **The Environmental Hazards of War** is available for US \$40 from Sage Publications, 2111 West Hillcrest Drive, Newbury Park CA 91320.

Almost Human: A Journey into the World of Baboons is written by IPPL member Shirley Strum. Shirley Strum went to Kenya to study a group of baboons called "The Pumphouse Gang." She studied them under the hot Kenya sun, sometimes following them on foot for 20 miles or more per day. Shirley has shown that female baboons are the key to the health and existence of their groups rather than the dominant males, as was once thought. Always concerned for her study animals, Shirley helped relocate "The Pumphouse Gang" to a protected ranch when their survival in their habitat was threatened by human over-population. **Almost Human** is published by the W. Norton Company, New York.

Monkey Business, Climbing for Coconuts is the title of an article that appears in the July 1991 issue of **National Geographic World**, a childrens' magazine published by the National Geographic Society. The article tells how pig-tailed macaques help with the coconut harvest in Southeast Asia. Annual subscription rates for this excellent monthly magazine are \$12.95 for US

Continued on Page 18...

IPPL-UK'S BEACH CHIMPANZEE CAMPAIGN

The International Primate Protection League's UK branch directed by Cyril Rosen has kicked off a new campaign to end the beach chimpanzee racket in mainland Spain and the off-shore Balearic and Canary Islands, where photographers hang around beaches and night-clubs with baby chimpanzees. They charge tourists to have their photos taken with the orphaned animals.

The baby chimpanzees cling to the tourists who mistakenly believe that the chimp is showing them "love" and is contented. The truth behind the chimpanzee beach trade is sordid. That is why IPPL (UK) has prepared pamphlets telling tourists planning to visit Spain what is really going on.

The reality is this:

- The baby chimpanzees are imported to Spain from Africa after their mothers are shot by poachers: baby chimpanzees cling desperately to their dead mothers' bodies and are easy to catch once their mothers are dead: it estimated that 10 chimpanzees die for every chimpanzee working the Spanish beaches.

- Most of the baby chimpanzees die before they ever leave Africa as skilled caregivers and veterinarians are not available, especially in the jungle areas where the chimpanzees are caught.

- To keep them docile, the baby chimps are often drugged with tranquilizers or marijuana.

- Many chimps get sick with diseases caught from humans (they could even get AIDS or hepatitis if they bit an infected human), and constant exposure to camera flashes can destroy their eyesight or even blind them.

- To prevent chimpanzees biting, their teeth are yanked out, often with pliers.

- The chimpanzees are often beaten or burned with cigarettes to keep them submissive.

- Once the chimps get too old to work the beaches, usually at 6 years of age, they are killed or sold to laboratories.

- The beach chimp racket is very profitable: a photographer can take over 100 photos in a day at a cost of \$10-20 per photo. Many of the ragged-looking beach photographers drive away in Mercedes cars at the end of the work-day!

Chimpanzees are an endangered species with only about 175,000 left in the wild. Commercial trade in chimpanzees is totally banned under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of which Spain is a member. However, Spain is very lax about implementation of CITES. Although smuggled chimpanzees should be confiscated on arrival in Spain, they are seldom seized.



Beach Chimpanzee

Recently, sightings of 15 beach chimpanzees were reported in the Canary Islands, but only 4 of the animals were confiscated. They are now safe at the Monkey World Sanctuary in Dorset, England. The remaining eleven "went underground" and will reappear on some other beach - or in the same place, when the heat is off.

Ten recent beach chimpanzee sightings reported to the Government of the Spanish province of Catalonia (where Barcelona and several beach resorts are located) led to no confiscations.

Madron Seligman, Co-Chair of the European Parliament's Animal Welfare Intergroup, states, "The police often don't turn up when a sighting is reported, so the practice goes on."

Cyril Rosen of IPPL-UK notes that "The response to legislation by the Spanish authorities has been very patchy."

According to a report on the beach chimp racket prepared by Michele Winstanley of IPPL (UK):

Sometimes when a confiscation is carried out by the municipal police the chimps are ordered to be given back by the mayor... And in one incident a chimp was incarcerated for 4 days instead of his owner! As well as prison cells, confiscated chimps have sometimes been taken to the local dog kennels or shabby municipal zoos before being handed back to the photographers.

There are only 4 major chimpanzee sanctuaries in the world, Chimfunshi in Zambia, the Baboon Island Sanctuary in The Gambia (which has no vacancies), Monkey World in Dorset, England, and the Templers' reception center in Spain.

IPPL-UK has prepared an easy-to-use "Be A Chimp Detective" flier, which has two sections (in English and in Spanish). People visiting Spain are provided with fliers before they leave through travel agencies, zoos or IPPL (UK).

The flier contains a report form: people seeing beach chim-

Continued overleaf...

Chimpanzee Campaign Continued

panzees are requested to hand the Spanish copy to the Guardia Civil for action, and send the English-language copy to IPPL Headquarters.

This sordid trade would die without tourism. We have to show people the cruelty of this trade in the hope that people will not have their photos taken with chimpanzees or any other wild animals.

IPPL has been fighting this sordid trade for 15 years and now has the support of the European Commission, which has requested up-to-date information on the locations of chimpanzees.

The Commission of European Communities (CEC) has recently decided to open infringement proceedings against Spain in regard to Spanish contravention of CITES. Data is still being collected. However, the CEC has very little enforcement power, so the best hope for the chimpanzees is for tourists not to patronize beach photographers.

The renewed campaign against the beach chimp racket will be continued until there are no more chimpanzees on Spain's beaches.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE BEACH CHIMPS

- 1) Never pay to be photographed with a wild animal in Spain or anywhere else.
- 2) If you see a photographer with a primate, please note the exact place, date and time, and try to take a picture showing the photographer clearly.
- 3) If you are going to Spain or know somebody who is going there, please write for a free copy of IPPL's "Be a Chimp Detective" pamphlet. Address: IPPL (UK), 116 Judd Street, London WC1H 9NS, England or IPPL, PO Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA.
- 4) Send a letter protesting the beach chimp trade to:

*Señor Jose Martinez-Aragon
Commission of the European Communities
Directorate-General
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049, Brussels, Belgium*

Applicable postal rates are 45 cents per half-ounce, 95 cents per ounce from the United States and 26p. for 20 grams from the UK.

Thanks to Atlanta IPPL members Craig Westfall and Sue McCrosky for holding three "yard sales" to help IPPL's work. These yard sales raised \$400 to help primates.

Craig suggests that other members consider trying holding yard sales for IPPL. The sales gave Craig and Sue the opportunity to discuss primate protection issues with visitors to the sale.

IPPL does not use professional fund-raisers so we greatly appreciate members' extra efforts to support our work.

Reading Continued from page 16

residents, \$17.95 for Canadian residents, and \$20.75 for residents of other countries. Mail your subscription to **National Geographic World**, POB 2174, Washington DC 20013.

The Monkeys of Arashiyama is published by the State University of New York Press. It tells the story of the Japanese macaques living around Arashiyama, Japan and their cousins now living in Texas. When the monkey population around Arashiyama became too large for its habitat, over a hundred monkeys were moved to Texas, where they have adjusted well to their new and totally different habitat. The genealogies of all the monkeys, both in Japan and Texas, are kept and their behavior in Japan and Texas is studied and compared. **The Monkeys of Arashiyama** is available for \$17.95 from the State University of New York Press, State University Plaza, Albany NY 12246.

REMEMBER THAT, IF THE BOOK YOU WANT IS NOT IN YOUR BOOKSTORE, IT CAN USUALLY BE ORDERED FOR YOU.

RESEARCH FRAUD

United Action for Animals (UAA), an organization based in New York, has studied the question of fraud in federally-funded research in the United States. One of many recent scandals has involved Stanford University, which, according to the **San Francisco Chronicle**, has been accused of ripping US taxpayers off to the tune of up to \$200 million. UAA prepared a list of some of the items charged by Stanford to federal grants. Among them were:

\$184,286	depreciation costs of 72-foot yacht and other boats,
\$185,872	administrative costs for university shopping center,
\$520,000	expenses related to three university homes,
\$45,000	cost of retreat to Lake Tahoe, a gambling center in California, by university board members,
\$10,000	sterling silver for University President's residence,
\$7,000	sheets for University President's bed,
\$6,000	cost of lining closet with cedar,
\$4,000	bills for University President's wedding,
\$3,000	two antique chairs,
\$2,500	repair of grand piano,
\$2,000	every month for flowers for University President's house.

The luxury in which Stanford University's President appears to live is quite a contrast to the way in which laboratory monkeys live in research laboratories around the United States, the standard cage size being 2 x 3 feet, 32 inches high for a typical laboratory monkey. Can you imagine experimenters spending grant money on bringing fresh flowers to their monkey rooms?

Another recent scandal has involved falsification of data by Dr. Thereza Imanishi-Kari. Nobel Laureate David Baltimore was one of several co-authors of her falsified research paper published in the magazine *Cell* in 1986.

CHIMPANZEES UNDER SIEGE

by Tess Lemmon

(Tess Lemmon, an officer of IPPL (UK) is currently writing a book about chimpanzees.)

If you could get a bird's eye view of the world, you'd soon see how busy we are wiping out our closest relatives. And how successful. Chimpanzees used to occupy a piece of the Earth almost the size of the U.S. Now you could scan much of that area and not find a single one. Those still there are under siege: pushed into smaller and smaller islands of wilderness surrounded by a sea of farms and buildings.

You would also - as you scanned the globe - discover chimps in the most unlikely places. These inhabitants of the forests and savannas of Africa end up being forced to pose for photographs in the arms of tourists in Spanish nightclubs, or are locked away on their own in tiny cages in the laboratories of so-called "civilized" countries.

It's a grim picture - but your eye would also be caught by some bright spots.

Tucked away in the corners of southern England, eastern Spain, and northern Zambia - and on some small islands in the River Gambia - are chimps who have been rescued from animal dealers, pet-shop owners, tourist photographers, and laboratory scientists. The sanctuaries where they live have been likened to refugee camps.

The "camps" were never planned. They are not part of any grand project. They have sprung up because individual people have taken emergency action to save the lives of abused chimpanzees. Like human refugees, the chimps are often at death's door: starving, sick, and with their spirits broken. Picking up the pieces is a twenty-four hour job, and involves not only practical care but also restoring the will to live - **and that means giving each chimp a lot of time and understanding.**

If you could drop in on any of these sanctuaries now, you would see chimpanzees at various stages of recovery. Some have made it, and are healthy, well-adjusted individuals. At Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in Zambia, seventeen chimps now live together in seven acres of bushland. They play, argue, and form special friendships like any normal chimps. Similarly, the "refugees" in The Gambia have formed a natural group. They are shining examples of just what can be done by a handful of people struggling on shoestring budgets.

Having located these bright spots it would be easy to turn

away, knowing that chimps these are in safe hands. But the people who run these sanctuaries are the first to admit that they are not the answer. Firstly, they're having to face the problems created by their own success: natural groups of chimps naturally breed, so what does the future hold? Putting them back into the wild isn't feasible: the wild is shrinking before our very eyes, and it's impossible to find suitable protected habitat. (For a full discussion of this problem see the August 1990 issue of the **IPPL Newsletter**).

Secondly, they can't continue taking in new animals forever - especially when resident chimps have established their own groups and may not welcome strangers.

And last but not least, they know they're not getting to the root of the problem: the flow of refugees must be stopped. If chimpanzees are to have a future, what remains of their homeland must be protected, and demand for them - which comes mainly from the rich "first world" countries - must end.

That's easier said than done, and the people who run the sanctuaries don't claim to be tackling such big issues. They don't claim to be doing anything more than patching up the few chimps lucky enough to come their way. But they are doing much more than that.

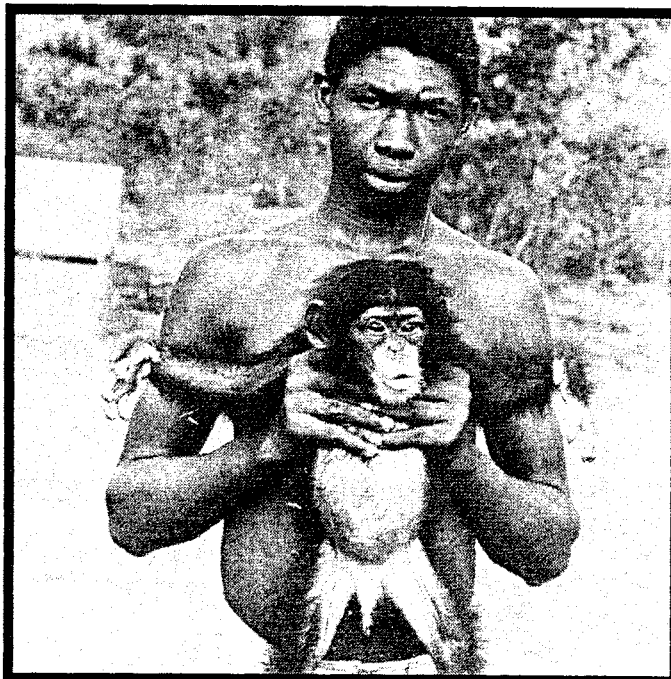
In most African countries it is illegal to kill, capture and sell chimpanzees, but law enforcers have turned many a blind eye,

partly because they haven't known what to do with confiscated animals. Sanctuaries solve this immediate problem, but also help to stop more chimps being hunted down: word spreads amongst the hunters that it's not worth their while collecting any more animals because they're likely to have their booty taken from them, and to face fines or imprisonment.

Nor do the sanctuaries sit back and wait for the chimps to be handed over. In Spain, Simon and Peggy Templer, who have been rescuing chimps illegally used as photographers' dummies for many years, have made themselves persistent thorns in the flesh of policemen and government officials, by constantly reminding them of their duties.

Recently, Jim Cronin, director of Monkey World (the bright

Continued overleaf...



Newly-rescued baby chimpanzee

Under Siege Continued

spot in southern England) went to Spain and helped authorities to confiscate four chimps who will live at Monkey World with others rescued from Spain within the last few years.

And thanks to a network of people established by David and Sheila Siddle of Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, many eyes in Zambia and neighboring countries are on the lookout for smuggled chimpanzees.

Helping to catch criminals is only one way in which these people contribute to the protection of wild chimpanzees. They are also opening people's eyes. If chimpanzees are to be allowed to live in peace alongside us, they need our respect and understanding. In The Gambia, Janis Carter, who has been rehabilitating chimpanzees for many years, also visits local schools and villages to explain her work. Chimfunshi now receives a steady trickle of local visitors, Monkey World is open to the public, and plans are afoot to set up educational programmes at both of these places. The sanctuaries' influence is seeping through; attitudes are slowly changing.

There's still a lot for us all to do, and not much time, but these safe havens dotted around the world are bright spots for humans as well as chimps: they show just how much a few individuals can achieve.

CAMEROUNIAN DEALER OFFERS APES FOR SALE

Simon P. Nwanak of Yaounde, Cameroun, who calls himself a "promoter," and sounds like one, has sent a letter dated October 1990 to zoos around the world offering "apes" for sale. The ape species found in the Cameroun are gorillas and chimpanzees, both banned from trade by the Convention on International Trade of which Cameroun is a member-nation.

Incredibly, the Cameroun Ministry of Tourism still issues a list of "capture taxes" for the country's endangered species, including gorillas, taxed at 600,000 CAF (approximately \$2,000 US); chimpanzees, taxed at 200,000 CAF (\$650), and mandrills and drills, both taxed at 50,000 CAF (\$170).

In his letter, Nwanak told the zoos:

Please let us know your needs, if any, so that we could serve you during the coming hunting season (January 1 to June 30, 1991).

In 1987, three young gorillas were exported from Cameroun by German expatriate animal dealer Walter Sensen who had set up his son in business in Cameroun. Two of the animals died in flight between Douala and Kinshasa, Zaire. The sole survivor reached the Taipei Zoo, Taiwan in appalling condition.

IPPL uncovered the shipment, and the Sensens left Cameroun and moved their disgusting business to Equatorial Guinea. Walter Sensen was later jailed in Germany for this and other crimes against wildlife.

IPPL has alerted Cameroun wildlife officials to Nwanak's offer.

IPPL APPLAUDS ANIMAL-FRIENDLY JOURNALISTS

IPPL would like to applaud those Third World journalists who are working very hard, often in very adverse conditions, to use the media to explain conservation and animal protection problems to the general public. We'd like to introduce you to some of those whose recent articles have been provided to IPPL.

Mrs. Sharadha Balasubramanian writes for the *Gulf News*, which is published in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Mrs. Balasubramanian has written several articles exposing the appalling conditions in which animals are sold on the "souks" of the UAE. She has reported on the "souks" of Sharjah and Abu Dhabi, where wildlife, including primates, is sold in appalling conditions of extreme heat and noise. In an article dated 8 June 1991, Mrs. Balasubramanian advises readers not to buy primates at the "souk."

Think conservation when you're considering the choice of a pet! Many species of primates are endangered and protected by law in their country of origin, with trade only being allowed for reasons of breeding. With other uncommon species too, trade is permitted only with documents to prove that the animals are captive-bred.

As it is a well-documented fact that dealers at the animal souqs flagrantly violate all the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species regulations, ask yourself if you want to be accessory of their heinous crimes against conservation. There is a larger issue involved than your own immediate one when you depart from the more common choice of a pet.

With the health and happiness of both human and animal at stake, it seems both selfish and foolhardy to purchase a primate. Why line the pockets of an unscrupulous dealer, when you could contribute the same amount towards an animal charity? Wild animals like monkeys, orangutans and chimpanzees (to name only a few) belong in the wild, not in a pet shop nor in your home. By refusing to purchase such an animal from the "souk," you make a positive statement in defense of the suffering animals and our planet's wildlife. Don't you agree?

The Bangkok Post is read by the foreign community in Thailand, but it is also read by influential and educated Thais: frequently material from the Post finds its way into the Thai-language press.

A series of four articles published in the Post on 26 August 1990 brought Thailand's role as the world's wildlife "supermarket" to the attention of the Thai public. The series was prepared by Pichai Chuensuksawadi and Supradit Kanwanich. It consisted of four detailed articles.

The first article of the series was entitled "Thailand still Crucial Link in Illegal Wildlife Traffic." It discussed the history of Thailand's wildlife trade and the "blatant loopholes" in Thai law which make it possible.

Another of the articles was "Wildlife Trader Shrugs Off Critics." The Post reporters were able to interview the notorious

Friendly Journalists Continued

animal smuggler Preecha Varavaishit of Pimjai Birds whose arrogance stunned the reporters, as well as the Thai public. Preecha boasted that officials of the corruption-ridden Thai Forestry Department worked as a "team" with him! He bragged that:

Since I entered the animal trading business, not one official from the Forestry Department has come to inspect my farm or questioned me.

He offered to "reveal everything" if the government took legal action against him. Nobody took Preecha up on his offer! In another article, the reporters described how "Loopholes hinder animal protection." They discussed the weaknesses of Thai wildlife protection laws and the absence of enforcement.

The final article "Cambodia Latest Link in Lucrative Indochina Connection" told about IPPL's work uncovering "The Cambodian Connection." It described the fraudulent "Koh Khong Zoo" in Cambodia set up as a front by a Thai animal dealer as well as the fraudulent zoos set up in Laos by Thai dealers.

This major series of articles was an extremely important contribution to conservation-consciousness in Thailand.

The *Nation*, Thailand's other English-language newspaper, published a wonderful special report called "Last Chance for Thailand's Wildlife" in early 1991. The report discusses issues such as Thailand's forests, national parks and sanctuaries, wildlife poaching and trading, and mangrove forests.

On 5 May 1991, the *Nation* carried a wonderful article by Oranuch Anusaksathien entitled "No More Monkey Business." The article discusses the Thai Government's response to international appeals to the nation to stop the destruction of its, and its neighbor countries', and the world's wildlife, concluding that government efforts may be "too little, too late."

Mr. Ndyakira Amooti writes for *New Vision*, a Uganda newspaper. The fearless Mr. Amooti works in very adverse conditions. Uganda has suffered for decades from civil strife, and wildlife protection is not a well-developed concept. Amooti has exposed illegal logging in the Impenetrable (Bwindi) Forest, which is home to gorillas and chimpanzees, among other species. He exposed the role of a "shady" Minister in the illegal export from

Uganda of four young chimpanzees, and he exposed the activities of a US animal dealer trying to set up a business exporting Uganda's wildlife.

Far away from Uganda, Mr. Amooti has an admirer living in Buckingham Palace! Prince Philip sent Amooti a letter in February 1991 applauding him for his courageous front-line battle to protect forests and their animal residents, commenting:

I can well imagine that it takes considerable courage to draw attention to the poaching and smuggling of wildlife, the people involved are not known for their tolerance and self-restraint.

The range of Amooti's work can be seen from just a few of the titles of articles he has written: "Chimp Racket Blown," "Chimps Intercepted at Airport," "Dubai Returns Smuggled Chimps," "Minister linked to Shady Chimp Deal," "Dealer Fakes prices," "Gorilla Racket Unveiled," "Pit Sawyers Invade Bwindi," "Warden was Gorilla Poacher," and "Hippo Teeth Seized."

Investigative reporting is tough even in developed nations: it is just as tough, and can also be dangerous, in many parts of the world, as the recent murder of an environmental reporter in Peru illustrates all too well.

IPPL salutes all these front-line reporters and we'll tell you about their efforts and those of other animal-friendly reporters in future issues of the *Newsletter*. We hope overseas members will send us copies of articles about wildlife, including primates, that appear in their local newspapers.

HOW TO WRITE EFFECTIVE LETTERS

According to the group **Global Response**, a Colorado-based network which organizes letter-writing campaigns on environmental issues, letter-writing plays a major role in fighting environmental degradation, which includes wildlife exploitation.

Global Response provides some tips on writing effective letters:

- 1) For greater impact, it is better to write short letters to many targeted officials than to send a long letter to just one official.
- 2) Aerogram forms, available at your post office, are useful for letters going overseas.
- 3) Divide your letter into four parts: a) introduction, b) identification of issue, c) actions that you want the official to take, and d) a thank you for the official's time and a request for a reply.
- 4) Stick to the facts, as one inaccurate statement can invalidate an otherwise good letter.
- 5) Try to find some positive comment along with your criticism.
- 6) Mail your letters promptly while the issue is current.



Ndyakira Amooti
Uganda's Crusading Reporter

NIH SETS UP NEW OFFICE

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has set up an office called the "Office of Laboratory Animal Research."

The mission of this office is, according to NIH, **"to inform the public, the Congress, educators, and other target groups about the health benefits of animal research."**

In a letter to IPPL dated 19 February 1991, Dr. William Raub, then serving as Acting Head of NIH, stated that another purpose of the Office was to **"work with animal protection groups to maintain a dialogue about the humane care and responsible use of research animals"**.

By stating that the new office would "maintain a dialogue" with animal protection groups, Dr. Raub was acting as if such a dialogue currently exists! We suspect that NIH wants instead to hold a "monologue" with the public, and brainwash people into thinking that laboratory animals don't need the concern of animal protection organizations and the general public - and that the NIH animal research budget, already in the **billions**, should consume ever more billions - at a time when millions of poor Americans don't get even basic health care.

The real purpose of the establishment of the Office of Laboratory Animal Research (OLAR), which is funded by US taxpayers, including by critics of animal experimentation, appears to be to brainwash the public and politicians into believing that the often wasteful, fraudulent, and abusive research paid for with its tax dollars is acceptable.

A public announcement of the formation of the unit notes that the office will **"support and conduct long-range projects to counterbalance the arguments and activities of animal rights activists."** What these long-range projects are, remains to be seen.

It is clear that NIH does not believe that the acceptability or non-acceptability of animal experimentation in general and specific experiments in particular is an issue that belongs in the "market-place of ideas" that Americans cherish. NIH appears to feel that this is an area where governmental brain-washing of the population is appropriate - so that the public will dutifully pay up and shut up.

The new office will be headed by Dr. Louis Sibal, himself an animal experimenter.

THE DESERT BABOONS OF NAMIBIA

According to an article published in the July-August 1991 issue of **Wildlife Conservation**, Dr. Conrad Brain, of the Desert Ecological Research Unit of Namibia, has studied a troop of 15 chacma baboons living in the arid Namib Desert in southern Africa. This is the driest environment where primates are found.

Dr. Brain observed that the baboons could go as long as 26 days without water. The baboons live along the Kuiseb River, which runs through the desert. The river is dry for eight months of the year. Only one inch of rain falls annually.

The baboons get a little water from a crack in the wall of the canyon and they get a little water from pits dug in the sand by

Desert Baboons Continued

zebras and gemsbok looking for water. There is very little water in these places and only one baboon can drink at a time.

During periods when they have no access to water, the baboons become inactive and sleep for 6-8 hours a day. The youngsters stop playing and the males fight less than they normally would.

The baboons scratch away the hot sand and lay chest-down on the sub-surface sand. Sometimes they lie with their legs in the air to catch the breeze. They look for fruits such as figs and berries with high moisture content.

Brain notes that infant mortality is high in the baboon troop and feels that the high heat and lack of water may cause the whole group to disappear.

Wildlife Conservation is an excellent magazine. Annual subscriptions cost \$13.95 and orders should be sent to Wildlife Conservation Subscriber Services, POB 14267, Dayton, OH 45413-9801. Overseas subscriptions cost \$18.95 and must be paid in US funds.

MONKEYS SMUGGLED FROM SURINAM

Wildlife authorities of the South American nation of Surinam have requested the help of the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to stop the smuggling of protected squirrel monkeys across the border into French Guyana. According to the wildlife department:

We have been informed by very reliable sources that large numbers of animals, including primates (squirrel monkeys) and parrots are being smuggled across the Marowijne River from Surinam to French Guyana.

Because of circumstances, we are not fully able to patrol the eastern part of our country and are therefore unable to attend the problem to the full extent by ourselves, hence we request your cooperation in the subject matter. The main smuggling route is alleged to be via Awarakampoe in Surinam across the river to St. Jean in French Guyana: secondary smuggling routes may exist elsewhere along our mutual border.

The Surinam authorities also complained of poaching of sea turtles and eggs in the Galibi Nature Reserve, and the subsequent smuggling of the products to French Guyana. They could then be shipped to France without permits since French Guyana is a department of France.

The Surinam Wildlife Department asked the CITES Secretariat for help "in requesting the pertinent French agencies to prevent these illegal activities." German orchid and reptile collectors are also active in Surinam, smuggling their "loot" into French Guyana and flying it to Paris with no CITES export permits.

PRIMATE PROTECTION IN INDIA

by Dr. Iqbal Malik

India has 23 species of primates. Conservation of endangered species is an acceptable idea but no one talks about the management of species living in proximity to humans like the Rhesus.

Because of the religious connotations attached to monkeys in India, it is not the common rural Indian that nonhuman primates have to fear. The forces working against primate conservation in India are:

- 1) Trapping done by various municipal authorities to control populations living in proximity to humans,
- 2) Trapping done from deep forests for the purposes of biomedical research,
- 3) constant pressure on the Indian Government by multinational corporations to restart the export of monkeys.

Constant work has to be done in all three areas. In India as in any other source country, the management of urban monkeys has to go hand in hand with conservation measures. We have to make municipal bodies realize that haphazard trapping done by them leads to rapid splintering of the existing groups, increasing the total home range and thus pushing monkeys into new human habitation areas. The way to reduce this problem is relocation of intact social groups of monkeys and also public education so as to stop the vicious cycle of aggression between man and monkeys.

A complete ban on capturing monkeys from deep forests for any sort of experimentation has to be enforced. Monitoring of biomedical research is very essential to stop wasteful and excessive utilization of animals and to stop the repetition of experiments by various institutes in this country.

A strict vigil has to be kept so that no illegal export of primates from the country takes place and it has to be ensured from time to time that the Government of India sticks to its policy of a ban on export of primates.

MEET THE SHUKLAS

The Shukla family of Bhavnagar in the state of Gujarat in Western India have been members and friends of IPPL for 12 years now.

The Shuklas read their IPPL Newsletter from cover to cover and then place it in the library of the Wildlife Conservation Society of Bhavnagar. Bakul and Mrudala Shukla have a son and daughter and the whole family loves animals.

We thought you'd like to read from extracts from this lovely family's letters to IPPL:

In my own town, my family is known as "Shukla Snake Service." Our free service is open round the clock for 365 days a year. If somebody finds that a snake has entered in

his house or compound, he does not kill it but calls us. We go, catch the snake, and soon afterwards release it in a forested place, just near our town...

Once, during our stay in the Gir Forest [home to the last remaining Asiatic lions], we saw that a female langur monkey was drinking water and another was seated a little away with a very small baby on her body. After

drinking, the female went to the one, who was sitting with a baby. At that time we realized that the drinking mother was the real mother, and that an aunt was holding the baby while the mother drank water. Then the baby started to play with the tail of its mother. Quite like lion cubs. To watch monkey babies playing is probably the most enjoyable sight. I am writing this to you because you may feel like coming to India and watch the same. So, if you ever visit India, please be our guest.



Mrs. Shukla with Friends

MAKING YOUR PLANS?

When making your estate plans, please consider helping the International Primate Protection League and the primates, so that your concern for these wonderful animals can be translated into action, even after you are gone.

Please contact our US or UK headquarters for further information.

NEWS FROM ASSAM, INDIA

IPPL member Bibhab Kumar Talukdar lives in Gauhati in the remote province of Assam in the far northeast of India. Recently he wrote us about the primates of Assam:

Assam provides a durable niche to nonhuman primates. Of the 18 nonhuman primates present in India, 11 are found in Assam, in their natural habitat.

Recently I visited Rani Reserved Forest, about 7 miles from Gauhati, and I found Hoolock gibbons, Rhesus monkeys, Assamese macaques, capped langurs, Hanuman langurs and Golden langurs. It may be mentioned that golden langurs were thought to be present only in Manas Tiger Project and Kochugaon Reserved Forest of Assam. But this is the first time I have observed golden langurs in Rani Reserved Forest. The golden langur was also seen in North Gauhati forest in the last year.

At present there is no massive trade of monkeys in Assam. But some people catch monkeys from the forest and they teach them to perform tricks for their livelihood, in some public places. Last year I tried to stop this practice but I was not able to stop it completely. I even took those monkeys away from their masters and locked these monkeys in the police custody for some time. But their masters came to the Police Station and asked the Police Officer to lock them also in the cell along with the monkeys! Since these people are very dependent on the monkeys for their survival, it is very difficult to stop them from doing this illegal practice without providing an alternative livelihood.

RICH DONORS CUT BACK ON CHARITY GIFTS

For years, the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has tried to deny that tax policies affect charitable contributions.

However, the **Wall Street Journal** has now refuted IRS' contention, noting that in 1988 "affluent taxpayers cut their average donations perhaps because the top tax rate dropped to 28% from 38.5%"

The **Journal** noted that "filers listing income of \$500,000 to \$1 million gave an average of \$16,062, down from \$21,095 in 1987." That was a drop of 25% in just one year. According to IRS, this income group donated an average \$47,432 to charity in 1980, when the top tax rate was very high.

It appears that the tax cuts in recent years, which in theory left the super-rich with more money available to donate to charity, in practice produced the opposite effect, possibly because the advantage gained from tax-deductibility of donations lessened. This was what supporters of the non-profit sector had foreseen and was the opposite of what politicians had anticipated or pretended to anticipate. The crass materialism and glorification of greed in the 1980s may also have reduced the value American society placed on generosity, self-sacrifice, and public-spiritedness.

We hope that this article makes clear how valuable small donations are to non-profits. **All our donors, large and small, are greatly appreciated!**

MEMBERS' PROTEST LETTERS SUCCEED IN CLOSING HOTEL MINI-ZOO

Thanks to all those IPPL members who sent letters to the Manager of the Solar Village Hotel in Freetown, Sierra Leone, protesting the appalling conditions in which the hotel was maintaining two chimpanzees at its "Mini-Zoo."

In a letter to IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal dated 14 May 1991, Hotel Managing Director G.K. Whyte reported that, as a result of the "complaints received," the zoo has been closed. In an enclosed letter to the man running the mini-zoo, Whyte said:

In January this year. I drew your attention to a copy of a letter addressed to the Manager of the Solar Village Hotel by the International Primate Protection League, USA, complaining about the conditions in which "two miserable-looking chimpanzees" were observed at the zoo by some tourists. You promised to take care of the problem by sending the animals out. Nothing much has been done...Meanwhile, I have continued to receive several letters (copies enclosed) complaining about these conditions...You are to close down the zoo and remove all animals therein within a week.

IPPL is trying to learn the current location of the chimpanzees. We are pleased nonetheless that the mini-zoo was closed down as it caused suffering to animals, not just chimpanzees, and could have constituted a source of demand for further wild animals. Thanks to everyone who sent letters.

THE GORILLA LIBEL SUIT

When a baby gorilla was born at the Philadelphia Zoo in 1985, the **Philadelphia Daily News** ran what it thought was going to be an entertaining contest and invited the public to submit names.

Amazingly, one of the 8300 submissions provoked a libel suit.

The problem started when a prisoner awaiting trial for murder suggested that the new-born gorilla be named Roger King, after the prosecutor in his case. The entry won a runner-up prize, and the prisoner received a gorilla T-shirt.

Later, a columnist for the **Philadelphia Enquirer** took up the story, noting that the prosecutor may have to live with the nickname "Gorilla."

King, who is black, sued for libel. He cried in court while describing his struggle from his rural origins in Alabama to college and law school. He testified, **"I resent any reference that my father or my mother is a gorilla."**

The reporters testified that they did not know that King was black and did not intend to offend him. Defense lawyers argued that there had been no untrue or denigrating statement.

However, in March 1991, one week into trial, the media defendants agreed to an unknown financial settlement with King.

LETTERS IN SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT NEEDED

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has less than 200 special agents to investigate all wildlife crimes committed by persons subject to US law. At least 10 times as many agents are needed to enforce properly dozens of laws pertaining to international wildlife trafficking, hunting, fishing, trapping, pollution, etc.

The beleaguered special agents are almost helpless, especially when it comes to investigating the international activities of US dealers in live animals and animal products. The dealers like it that way - and so do certain officials of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The total number of personnel in the US Fish and Wildlife Service has increased by 78% since 1979: yet the number of law enforcement special agents has dropped by 8% over the same time period. Some of the 190+ agents are dedicated and first-rate, some however are mediocre at best.

The same special agents who regulate the shooting of the United States' migratory birds by "sport-hunters" are also supposed to handle complex international criminal investigations.

IPPL believes that a special unit within the Division of Law Enforcement is needed to handle international investigations: it should be staffed by top-notch and dedicated agents of unquestioned integrity, including people with foreign language skills from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds. This unit should also have an Intelligence Division which collects information on the world's major wildlife traffickers and the links between them.

There should be close cooperation with Interpol and officials from the US Customs and Drug Enforcement Authority, since people who smuggle animals may be inclined to smuggle other profitable items (one US animal dealer who lived in Leticia, Colombia, and specialized in the primate trade is now in jail for life for cocaine-smuggling).

Such a specialist unit could help law enforcement authorities in impoverished nations which have a great deal of trouble controlling international wildlife trafficking.

OUR WORK AROUND THE WORLD

IPPL has a Small Grants program by which we assist projects in the United States and overseas directly contributing to the protection of primates. From January-June 1991, the following small grants were made.

Digit Fund, for anti-poaching patrols in Rwanda	\$5,000
Haribon Foundation, Philippines, care of rescued gibbons	\$500
Friends of Manu National Park, Peru	\$600
Sociedade de Pesquisas en Vida, Brazil	\$250
Wildlife Fund of Thailand for Vejjajiva Sanctuary	\$500
Sahabat Alam Malaysia, primate and forest protection	\$500
Kibale Forest Project, Uganda, for equipment	\$200
Nsele Wildlife Orphanage, Zaire, for chimpanzee care	\$750
Bonobo chimpanzee medications for IRSAC, Zaire	\$250
Zoo Outreach, India for educational work	\$1,000
IPPL-Germany for Jakarta Zoo, orangutan care	\$500
Wild Animal Retirement Village, Florida, chimp care	\$500
Karen Kennedy: enrichment work, Chimp Farm, Florida	\$200
Arashiyama West Monkey Sanctuary, Dilley, Texas	\$500
Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, Zambia, chimp care	\$1,000
Total small grants for reporting period	\$12,250

IPPL (UK) has donated £1000 to the Wildlife Fund of Thailand for care of rescued primates and £1000 to the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in Zambia.

Thanks to all of our members we are able to continue to help these vital projects!

WHAT TO SAY TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

We hope that US members will contact their senators (Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510) and representative (House Office Building, Washington DC 20515). Overseas members may contact the US Ambassador at the US Embassy in the capital city of their country of residence.

Among the points to make in your letters are:

- 1) Explain briefly the threat posed to wild animals by the world-wide epidemic of wildlife smuggling.
- 2) Explain that the Division of Law Enforcement of the US Fish and Wildlife Service is grossly under-funded and understaffed. Request that the Division's budget be doubled and that the number of special agents be increased to at least 500.
- 3) International investigations are now handled at the local level branch offices by over-worked special agents. Request that a special unit consisting of at least 100 bilingual or multilingual special agents from a variety of ethnic backgrounds be formed to handle international investigations and collection of needed intelligence information.
- 4) Request that the officials you contact convey your request to the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gorilla Coat Scandal

Readers of the Minneapolis **Star Tribune** were amazed to find a classified ad in the paper offering for sale a:

Gorilla Long-haired wrap. A very rare wrap for a woman who enjoys compliments each time it's worn. Fits size 6-12. Private Showings Only: \$7,500.

The owner of the coat refused to give her name to the press and offered to have a model show it to a reporter at a motel. She reported that one person who phoned her in response to the ad had offered to wrap her in her coat and choke her! When the motel owner learned that the coat to be photographed was a gorilla coat, he told them to go and take their pictures somewhere else!

The woman reportedly stated:

I like really, really unique things. My style is very European and lavish. I've gotten wonderful compliments on it. Everybody wants to touch it.

It is not known whether the coat is really made of gorilla fur and, if so, what the age of the coat is. Gorillas are listed on the US Endangered Species Act and sale of coats made from skins acquired after the act came into force in 1969 could not be legally sold.

Kuwait Zoo Animals' Fate

The animals at the Kuwait Zoo fared badly during the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait when the zoo was used as a barracks by Iraqi soldiers. The fallow deer, eland and Dorcas' gazelles were eaten, as were the wild boar, a porcupine and a baby water buffalo. The Iraqi soldiers shot two griffon vultures for "sport" and injured a monkey and a lion.

Only 30 of the 442 animals at the zoo survived.

More animals would have died if it had not been for the efforts of two volunteer caretakers, Ali Mubarak-al-Hohti and his brother Suliman. The brothers collected food from stores around the city and bribed Iraqi soldiers to let them feed the animals. At the end of the war, overseas animal organizations and American military personnel provided help.

Ali al-Hohti stated:

When an Iraqi soldier was near, no animal would come. But, if soldiers were not there, the animals would come to meet us, making beautiful sounds. Somehow they knew we are the ones who love them.

Animal Dealer Murdered

Animal dealer and monkey trainer Todd Tucker was shot to

death with his own gun on 27 February 1991 by his travelling companion Anthony Rotondo. US border patrol agents found Tucker's body in a motor home when they stopped the vehicle at a checkpoint on Interstate 10 west of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Also found in the vehicle were two trained capuchin monkeys.

Cholera Spreads in South America

An outbreak of cholera that started in Peru, and then spread to Colombia, has now spread to Brazil. Public health authorities attribute the spread of cholera in Brazil in part to the filthy conditions on public meat markets. They suspect that cholera came to Brazil through the border town of Tabatinga, which is adjacent to Leticia, Colombia.

Monkey meat is often sold on these markets. The illustration, which comes from a Brazilian newspaper, shows two dead howler monkeys, one of them skinned, on sale at a stall in Tabatinga.

Cholera danger from dirty stalls in Brazil



Two monkeys, one skinned, and a fish being offered for sale in an open-air food stall in the Amazon town of Tabatinga last week, where Brazil's first cases of cholera were reported. The authorities fear that poor sanitary conditions, such as those found in stalls like this, may enable the disease to sweep through the country. — AP picture.

Project not funded

According to an aide to US Representative John Miller, the US National Institutes of Health have denied funding for a Washington Primate Center grant application for a project in which young rhesus monkeys would have been deprived of contact with their mothers and other monkeys in the hopes they would purposely injure themselves or "self-mutilate." The aim of the experiment was supposedly to help explain why some humans self-mutilate. However, none of the self-mutilating humans are exposed to such extreme conditions as were proposed by the experimenters.

The Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) of Lynnwood, Washington, worked very hard to prevent funding of the experiment, and Laurie Raymond of PAWS stated:

News In Brief Continued

We are very pleased with the NIH decision. The proposed study had no scientific or humanitarian value, and would have subjected these animals to unspeakable cruelty.

PAWS has never hesitated to challenge the activities of the University of Washington Primate Center and IPPL salutes this fine organization.

Fruit Flies for Research

According to the June 1991 issue of *The Embo Journal*, the European journal of molecular biology, scientists have, for the first time, inserted human genes into fruit flies in the hope that eventually the flies can be used for research instead of mammals.

Dr. Roland Wolf of the University of Edinburgh noted that this development could have vast implications for studying how environmental agents trigger cancer, how human enzymes fend off disease, and how the body breaks down drugs.

Moreover, said Dr. Trevor Jowett of the University of Newcastle, the fruit-fly is cheaper than mammals, has a very simple genetic system that lends itself to study, and is more "socially acceptable than the rather unpopular mammal studies."

Illegal Trade Project

The US Fish and Wildlife Service is sending suitcases donated by the American Tourister Company for exhibition around the United States. The suitcases are stuffed with illegal wildlife products such as sea turtle shell bracelets, black coral necklaces, rhino horn pills, spotted cat skins, and purses made from the skins of endangered reptiles. The suitcases also contain alternative products such as purses made of synthetic skins.

Ann Haas of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Law Enforcement commented that around 85,000 wildlife shipments reached the United States in 1989, with a value of more than \$1 billion. She estimated that illegal shipments worth \$240 million enter the country annually. Less than 20% of the shipments are physically inspected by Fish and Wildlife Service inspectors, of whom there are only 3 along the United States' entire 1,800-mile border with Mexico.

US zoos are sponsoring the exhibit which will be taken to schools to show young people how the multi-million dollar animal trade is pushing some species towards extinction.

India Bans Use of Performing Animals

On 2 March 1991, the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the Government of India banned the use of animals as performers and their display in circus cages.

The Ministry contended that circuses keep animals in dingy transport cages and unhealthy conditions that cause contagious diseases and violate the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. Indian animal protection groups strongly favor the act.

Lobbying by the Indian Circus Federation led the Delhi High Court to suspend the ban pending a hearing.

Visitors to India are all too familiar with the cruel trained bear and monkey acts operated by itinerant performers around tourist attractions.

Primates Get New Homes

IPPL (UK) has just placed 5 unwanted monkeys in good homes. These include two baby crab-eating macaques confiscated at Heathrow Airport, London. Michele Winstanley delivered the animals to a new home in Devon.

Law Enforcement Position Filled

John Doggett has been selected to replace the late Clark Bavin as Chief of the Division of Law Enforcement of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. For the past ten years, Doggett was Special Agent in charge of the Branch of Training and Inspection. He takes on an agency in urgent need of administrative reform and major funding increases.

Primate Fossils Found in Cuba

US and Cuban scientists found fossils of a previously-unknown extinct monkey species on a recent expedition to Cuba. The discovery confirmed that Cuba once supported a wild primate population, as did several other Caribbean islands. The newly-found fossil monkey is probably a distant relative of the Howler monkey now found on mainland South and Central America.

Expedition leader Dr. Ross MacPhee commented:

Why all these Caribbean monkeys died out is a real puzzle, so large a die-off in such a short time suggests a common cause for all extinctions. Most scientists believe that human factors, including destruction of the environment, played a major role in the extinctions.

All the extinct species had disappeared by the time Europeans reached the Caribbean in 1492.

The only primate species currently found wild in the Caribbean are non-native African monkeys brought over on the slave ships. These introduced monkeys are now being shipped out in large numbers to be killed in US laboratories so monkeys may well become extinct, for the second time, in the Caribbean.

Breeding Farm gets Initial Approval

The Lake Country Zoning Commission in Florida has given preliminary approval for a project to use about 90 acres of land ten miles from the Ocala National Forest to raise animals for sport-hunting, zoos, and the pet trade. Among the animals applicant Ron Gordon said he would breed are deer for sale to hunting clubs, and monkeys and birds for sale as pets. The Zoning Board approved Gordon's request to raise baboons, cheetahs, cougars, coyotes, and gray wolves. However, they did not approve his request for gorillas, rhinoceroses, elephants, hippopotamus, and crocodiles. Local animal-lovers and national organizations are fighting the proposed project.

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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, 116 Judd Street, London WC1H9NS, England. Membership fees and contributions are tax deductible in the U.S.A. to the extent allowed by law.

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