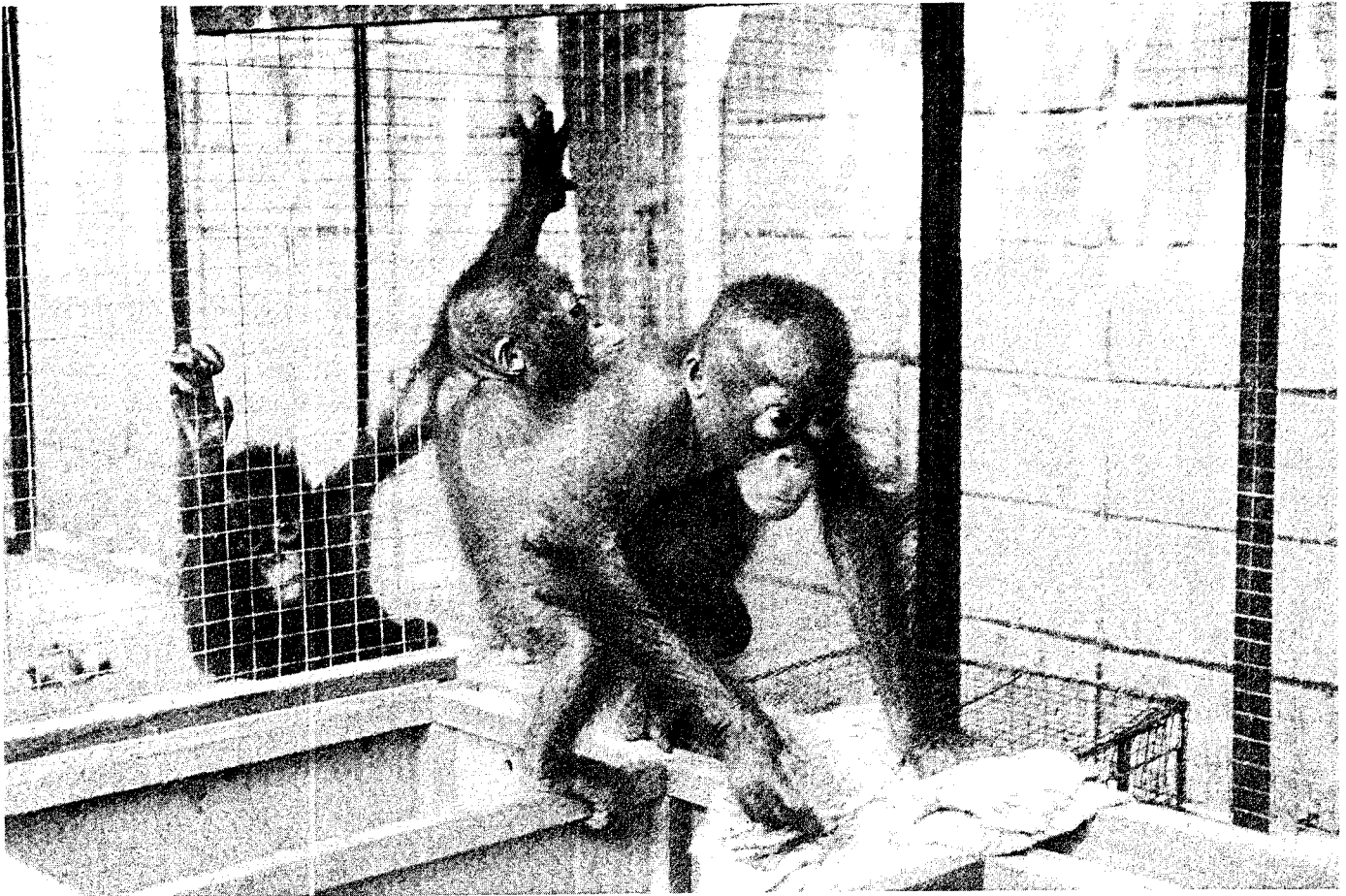




Newsletter

ISSN-1040-3027, Vol. 19, No. 1, April 1992



**INSIDE: INDICTMENT IN "BANGKOK SIX"
ORANGUTAN CASE**

**UNITED NATIONS HONORS
SHIRLEY McGREAL**

SPECIAL LAWSUIT SUPPLEMENT

IPPL CHAIRWOMAN HONORED BY UNITED NATIONS

Singapore, April 20, 1992

Dear IPPL Member:

I am sure that you will be as thrilled as we are to know that IPPL's Chairwoman, Shirley McGreal, has just been honored by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) which has added her to the "Global 500" Roll of Honour for her outstanding work in the field of primate protection and conservation.

As a long-time resident of Singapore, I have seen, and assisted in, the work of many voluntary animal welfare organizations. This is my 17th year with IPPL - and I can assure you that no other group works as hard in its area of interest. Shirley in Headquarters in South Carolina works round-the-clock and never fails to respond to requests for information or help from her voluntary helpers all over the world, whatever the outlandish hour that we phone her. Shirley's working hours encompass 24 hours per day.

You have read in previous Newsletters of the shipment of the "Bangkok Six" baby orangutans from Indonesia to Thailand transshipped through Singapore in February 1990. Shirley McGreal and IPPL's entire network have worked on this case for over two years and remain determined to identify all those behind this tragic shipment.

IPPL helped the Wildlife Fund of Thailand volunteers with the costs of caring for these six confiscated and desperately sick baby animals who had been crammed into crates and labelled as "Birds" by the despicable traders. IPPL member Dianne Taylor-Snow left the US for Bangkok at short notice to advise on the animals' care and, several months later, accompany them back to Indonesia.

Trying to apprehend those responsible for the "Bangkok Six" shipment has taught us some bitter lessons about the lack of resources and often the lack of responsibility of some officials charged with enforcing wildlife laws.

Our Chairwoman, Dr. Shirley McGreal, has had to endure 20 months of spurious litigation filed against her, in Miami, by a suspect dealer, since indicted for his alleged role in the shipment, and has also had to endure appalling invasions of her privacy from private detectives.

Shirley is held in high regard by all those societies and people concerned with the well-being of animals, including Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and President of the World Wildlife Fund.

Yet it is a sad fact that IPPL lacks the resources to expand its investigations and overseas projects.

I do hope that you will contribute as generous a gift as possible to help us continue our work and to participate in the honour we feel over our Chairwoman being invited to join the "Global 500" Roll of Honour.

Marjorie Doggett, Secretary, IPPL

On 25 March 1992, the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) announced this year's Global 500 Awards for outstanding environmental achievement. Among the winners was Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of IPPL.

According to UNEP's press release, the Global 500 awards, established in 1987, each year pay tribute to individuals and organizations whose everyday actions and leadership in the front lines of the environmental agenda push forward the urgent goal of safeguarding our planet.

UNEP noted IPPL's pivotal role in fighting the illegal traffic in gorillas, chimpanzees, orangutans and other primate species.



Photo: Judy S. Watts, Summerville Journal-Scene

Shirley and Beanie celebrate the good news

of Australian birds. Schafer had taken up residence in Thailand as a young man of 19, to make his fortune from the tolerance Thailand then accorded to wildlife smugglers. Schafer associated with disreputable Thai dealers such as Daeng and Lek of Siam Farm, and Netr Bhengsri.

Investigation revealed that the orangutans were to be sent to the Soviet import company Prodintorg, but that the siamangs would remain at Belgrade Zoo as a "reward" to Vuk Bojovic for "laundering" the orangutans.

Later, Kurt Schafer reported that a first effort had been made to move the orangutans out of Singapore in late 1989. How they reached Singapore from Borneo in the first place is not clear. Schafer stated that the first effort involved loading the animals on an Aeroflot plane as "cargo," (Aeroflot rightly requires that wild animals be shipped as "cargo" not "personal baggage"), and that the animals had been "processed" through export formalities - **only to be thrown off the plane because there was no room for them!**

The smugglers went home with the orangutans and hatched up a new plan.

Drama in Airport Cafeteria

At this point, said Schafer, the dealers behind the shipment asked him to help out, so he flew down to Singapore in February 1990 to pick up the orangutans. Schafer claims that he sat in the airport cafeteria, prominently carrying a newspaper so that the smugglers would recognize him. Then, he says, two men came and took away his ticket and passport, and checked in the crates with no trouble as Schafer's "personal baggage."

The "Bangkok Six" were on their way!

In Bangkok, Schafer reported that he sat in the transit lounge for some hours, and then boarded his flight to Belgrade. To his surprise, his "personal baggage" (the orangutans and siamangs) did not appear on the luggage carousel on Belgrade Airport!

German Government Investigates

German officials had always found Schafer's notorious bird dealings from his base in Thailand somewhat of an embarrassment, but they apparently got really exasperated about his involvement in orangutan smuggling. Schafer was hauled in by German wildlife authorities to whom he provided his version of the incident, along with documents which, he claimed, related to the orangutan deal.

One of these documents was a telex from a US animal dealer telling Schafer to put a contract number on the crates for an upcoming shipment - and this identical contract number was on the crates which carried "The Bangkok Six."

Schafer also claimed that dealers in several countries, including Indonesia, Singapore, and the United States were involved in the "Bangkok Six" deal.

Schafer Fined in Singapore

Kurt Schafer went to Singapore where he received a trivial fine equivalent to US \$1200 for his role in smuggling the



Victim of Trade

"Bangkok Six" - even though a jail sentence was allowable under Singapore law. He did not name his accomplices, and was not banned from re-entering Singapore.

This fine amounted to \$200 per animal, which is a little more than Singapore fines people who fail to flush public toilets. Schafer was allowed to leave Singapore without naming his accomplices. This small fines means nothing, as, if the orangutan deal had gone through, it would have netted the smugglers tens of thousands of dollars. Only big fines and, especially, long jail sentences mean anything!

Thailand took no action at all against Kurt Schafer.

Schafer continued his smuggling activities and, fortunately, he was arrested and jailed in Germany in January 1992. It is not clear whether the orangutan shipment will be included in any charges German authorities may file, or have filed, against Schafer.

US Agents Travel

The alleged role of a US dealer in the orangutan shipment has now been under investigation for close to two years. In January 1991, two special agents of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Law Enforcement (DLE) travelled to Europe and Asia to gather information about the orangutan shipment. During this assignment, the special agents, both based in Washington DC at the time, met with government and private parties, including Kurt Schafer, and gathered considerable documentation.

However, the case was taken away from these agents right after their return to the United States and sent to Region 4 of DLE. Region 4 is based in Atlanta.

Schafer's Claims

Kurt Schafer has reported that the US dealer whom he alleged was ring-leader of the "Bangkok Six" shipment has boasted of very high-level political ties and that the US investigation has never been serious. He says that he feels that the US dealer is somehow "protected." As of the time of writing, there has been no US prosecution.

Schafer reports that, since the shipment, he has received several visits from the US suspect, and from high-priced Ameri-

Indictment Continued

Bangkok, and that the shipment was worth \$100,000.

Block was released on a \$150,000 "signature bond."

Among the documents IPPL provided to US authorities was the strange telex reproduced below. Block told the **Miami Herald** that this telex referred to a legal shipment of hornbills **not orangutans**. However, the tone suggests something not 100% legitimate.

Lawsuit Backfires on Block

The bizarre Worldwide Primates/Block civil lawsuit against IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal over a bland 3-line, 28-word letter asking one person to read an enclosed letter boomeranged on Block: it inevitably focussed IPPL attention on Block's activities - and it encouraged us to maintain our interest in Block's alleged

role in the orangutan case and to keep on collecting information before federal authorities became seriously interested.

IPPL might well have moved on to other important primate issues - had it not been for Block's lawsuit.

It also appears possible that, on hearing

303 Local Message

11:28 11/24/89

ATTENTION KURT

1)PLS MAKE SURE YOU PHONE ME JUST B E F O R E SENDING SHIPMENT FROM SINGAPORE TO MY HOME.
THE PHONE (303) 232-6217-SUGGEST YOU PHONE ABOUT 2-3 PM SIN TIME JUST IN CASE I RCV ANY LAST MINUTE NEWS FROM NOS

PLS BE CAREFUL ABT CARRYING DOCUMENTS WITH MY NAME, COPIES OF TLX ETC ON YR PERSON OR BAGS- JUST IN CASE YOU HV ANY PROBLEMS-AS WE WILL HV MORE SHIT THEN YOU -HOPEFULLY ALL GOES OK-BUT PLS BE CAREFUL ABT DOCUMENTS N ALSO THE PHONES.

RGDS

M

P'S DONT SEND TOO MANY BIRDS-FEWEST POSS..

Block's Company's Lawsuit Against Shirley McGreal

In August 1990, Block's **alter ego**, the Worldwide Primates Company, of which he and his mother Gertie are sole officers, filed a civil lawsuit against IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal for having sent a 3-line, 28-word letter to Dr. Peter Gerone, Director of Delta Primate Center in Covington, Louisiana (since renamed the Tulane Primate Center).

The entire letter stated:

Should Delta patronize the company Worldwide Primates, we invite you to peruse this animal dealer's notice from the Centers for Disease Control suspending his license to import primates.

That was all the letter said. A copy of CDC's suspension letter, which listed 46 unsatisfactory conditions found on Block's premises, was enclosed. One CDC finding was monkeys (who are naturally clean animals) housed in two-tier cages with top-tier monkeys "observed to defecate, urinate and drop other wastes through to the cage immediately below."

On 23 February 1992, **just 3 days after his indictment**, Worldwide Primates/Block applied for "voluntary dismissal" of the lawsuit against Shirley McGreal. Miami Judge Kenneth Ryskamp allowed Block to withdraw his civil case "with prejudice" (meaning that he can never re-file it), but ordered him to pay all court costs.

McGreal's motion to get Worldwide Primates/Block sanctioned and to get her legal defense bills reimbursed was referred by Judge Ryskamp to Judge-Magistrate William Turnoff: no decision has been made on that motion yet.

of Worldwide Primates' obviously spurious lawsuit filed just weeks after IPPL had requested an investigation of the orangutan shipment, federal authorities may have become suspicious that Matthew Block might not be as innocent as he proclaimed himself.

Federal authorities may well have become even more suspicious when, on 19 September 1991, Block's company took the 5th Amendment against "self-incrimination" no less than 49 times in its own lawsuit - including on a request for documents pertaining to any "illegal activities" in which the company might have been involved - and did this even though the Fifth Amendment applies only to individuals **not corporations**.

Ironically, Block's long-time Miami civil lawyer Paul Bass (Block employs several civil and criminal lawyers around the country) may have, presumably unintentionally, done the cause of orangutan protection a great favor by filing a meritless lawsuit against IPPL's Chairwoman!

Fight Over Files

The civil lawsuit was marked by Block's insistent refusal to turn over one single document to prove his supposed "case": by his refusal to testify or answer written questions; and by his continuous efforts to get access to Shirley McGreal's confidential files, **which he may well have hoped might include information pertaining to the ongoing "Bangkok Six" orangutan investigation.**

Because IPPL had received information from confidential sources around the world regarding Block's alleged involvement in the orangutan affair, we naturally fought **tooth and nail** against betraying our associates to him.

IPPL's Chairwoman, Dr. Shirley McGreal, was even ready and

Indictment Continued

willing to go to jail before participating in the betrayal of colleagues that Matthew Block (sometimes assisted by fortunate for Block, unfortunate for McGreal, decisions by Miami judges Spellman, Ryskamp and Turnoff) appeared to be attempting to engineer - while Worldwide Primates itself hid behind the Fifth Amendment - to which it wasn't even entitled!



Two of the "Bangkok Six"

Thanks to our skilful attorneys Bart Billbrough and Thomas Julin, and IPPL's First Amendment Counsel Philip Byler, who all understood the First Amendment aspects of the case and the urgent need to protect IPPL contacts around the world, the handover of McGreal's files to Block was avoided - even though Judge Ryskamp once stated that he would not consider our early dismissal motion until Block had every document he wanted - **and had interrogated McGreal!**

Meanwhile, the judge and assisting magistrate ignored McGreal's motion to strip Block's company of the "Fifth."

Block goes after BBC Producer

Worldwide Primates made an unsuccessful effort to obtain testimony from Chris Terrill, the courageous producer of a BBC program "The Ape Trade," which exposed details of the orangutan shipment - and identified Block as a suspect.

Terrill knew nothing whatsoever about Block's dealings with Delta Primate Center, the ostensible subject of the lawsuit - but he did know a lot about the orangutan affair. This increased our attorneys' suspicion that Block's motive in filing his lawsuit might be more related to the orangutan affair than Delta Primate Center!

The National Geographic Society, which had US rights to the BBC program, eliminated Block's possible role in the shipment entirely from the US version of the BBC program, and cut the original program down from one hour to just 25 minutes.

Knowing of the ongoing federal grand jury investigation, the Geographic fortunately filmed an alternate closing to the program which announced Block's indictment. This was added just in the nick of time when the abbreviated program, a somewhat mangled version of the hard-hitting and suspenseful original, finally aired in March 1992!

McGreal's attorneys repeatedly alleged in court documents that the Block lawsuit was a SLAPP suit (a Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation), aimed partly or wholly at frightening Shirley McGreal and IPPL - and sabotaging the federal investigation of the "Bangkok Six" orangutan shipment.

If this were indeed the purpose of the lawsuit, it certainly back-fired! It is not IPPL's Chairwoman who is facing trial - but Matthew Block himself.

Possible Outcomes in Miami

In the United States prosecutors have various options: they can take a case to trial, drop the charges, or engage in "plea-bargaining," under which the defendant often pleads guilty to lesser charges, or gets a reduced penalty, in return for a "guilty" plea. A majority of US criminal cases end up "plea-bargained," because all court systems in the United States have excessive work-loads, and taking cases to trial is extremely expensive and time-consuming.

However, in 1991, the Miami US Attorney's Office, in spite of a huge case-load of narcotics, public corruption and homicide cases, took the time to successfully prosecute two young men accused of clubbing a highly endangered Key Deer to death, and tough sentences were delivered to the culprits by an angry judge. Further news of developments in Miami will appear in future IPPL Newsletters.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE FULL VERSION OF "THE APE TRADE?"

If you would like to see the uncut version of the BBC's "The Ape Trade," please tell the National Geographic! The American public should not be deprived of the right to see this wonderful program in its hard-hitting **uncut** version which tells about the "Bangkok Six," and the "Cambodian Connection" and takes you on a tour of Jakarta's sordid Pramuka Market.

Address your letters to:

Mr. Gilbert Grosvenor
President, National Geographic Society
17th and M Street Sts.
Washington DC 20036

LAWSUIT VICTIMS STRIKE BACK AND WIN BIG!

At the time it certainly didn't look like it - but the day in February 1988 that DECOM Medical Waste Systems, parent company of Bunker Resource Recycling and Reclamation Inc. of Bunker, Missouri, sued medical technician Linda Tanner for a million dollars may have been **the best day of Linda's life!**

Linda was sued for writing a "Letter to the Editor" critical of the medical waste incinerator company. Linda won the case - and then struck back hard at DECOM.

In May 1991, an outraged jury awarded her a staggering \$6.5 million dollars in damages.

The damages consisted of \$6.5 million in actual damages, \$70 million in punitive damages, and **\$10 million personally from the company President for the outrageous role he played in the affair!**

Oddly, Linda's "Letter to the Editor" protesting that the incinerator was a health hazard had never even been published, but the editor had given a copy to the local mayor who supported the plant. Linda lost her job at a local hospital after a company-generated smear campaign against her.

High school English teacher Jackie Sommer had also written a "Letter to the Editor" about the incinerator, and Jackie's letter was published. DECOM sued Jackie and Linda for \$1 million dollars each, even though public officials closed the incinerator.

DECOM's lawsuit against Jackie was thrown out, and she is also fighting back. A trial in her counter-suit is expected this summer, and **another huge verdict against DECOM is likely.**

Another successful counter-suit was filed by Raymond Leonardini of Sacramento, California. Leonardini had been sued for "libel" by the Shell Oil Company for alerting health officials to the possibility that a plastic pipe made from Shell oil resin might contain a carcinogen.

After Shell Oil dropped its suit against Leonardini, he counter-sued Shell and **was awarded \$5.7 million dollars.** Shell appealed right up to the United States Supreme Court, which let the huge award stand!

The "pot of gold" that enables companies to harass and intimidate their critics may end up being the "pot of gold" that ends up in the bank account of the company's victims.

EMERGENCY HOT LINE

Members who are willing to write letters during primate emergency situations that happen between newsletters are requested to send their names to Headquarters.

Please remember to include your telephone number so that we can reach you quickly when help is needed!

THIRD WORLD JOURNALISTS ATTEND CITES '92

Thanks to a friendly foundation, IPPL was able to sponsor two Third World journalists' attendance at CITES '92.

Our journalists were Ndyakira Amooti of **New Vision**, Uganda and Supradit Kanwanich of the **Bangkok Post**, Thailand. Both specialize in environmental and wildlife stories.

Both worked very hard and kept the fax lines buzzing with stories.

Japanese reporters, always on the look-out for a story, even wrote stories about the Ugandan reporter!



Amooti (left) and Kanwanich with IPPL Delegates

POSTAGE RATES FOR OVERSEAS LETTERS

IPPL frequently asks its members to send letters overseas. Rather than list the costs along with each article, we plan to tell you the cost of letters from the US and the UK in each **Newsletter**.

Currently, air mail costs from the United States are 50 cents for a letter weighing .5 ounce, 95 cents for 1 ounce, \$1.34 for 1.5 ounces and \$1.73 for 2 ounces.

From the United Kingdom, letters to Europe cost 26p. for each 20 grams: letters to anywhere else in the world cost 37p. for each 10 grams.

We would appreciate members in other countries letting us know international postage rates for letters.

BACKGROUND ON THE "BANGKOK SIX"

This article is intended for the information of new IPPL members who may not have heard of the famous or infamous "Bangkok Six" orangutan shipment.

On 20 February 1990, six baby orangutans and a siamang mother and baby were seized on Don Muang Airport, Bangkok, Thailand. The baby orangutans were all in terrible condition. They had been smuggled aboard Thai Airways Flight 414 leaving Changi Airport, Singapore, for Bangkok, where they were to be transferred to a flight to Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

The orangutans were shipped in closed bird crates, three of them upside-down, and were only found when suspicious Thai airport employees x-rayed the crates. The unventilated crates had tiny air-holes, and have been compared to "living coffins."

Crates labelled "Birds"

At that time, transit of smuggled wild animals through Thailand was completely legal. However, the crates were labeled "Birds," and false labelling was a violation of Thai law. So the animals were confiscated. If they had been labelled "orangutans," the crates would probably have proceeded from Thailand to Eastern Europe, as this was a well-established wildlife smugglers' pipeline.

However, shipping orangutans in open crates would have violated Singapore law. So the smugglers took their chances, and stuffed the animals in closed bird crates. The orangutans and siamangs were invisible. That is how one crate containing three animals could be shipped upside-down. Nobody even noticed.

The baby orangutans were in appalling physical and emotional condition when they were confiscated in Bangkok.

mysterious letter from Vuk Bojovic, Director of the Belgrade Zoo, Yugoslavia, requesting that "the monkeys confiscated from Mr. Schafer" be sent to Bojovic immediately.

That letter broke the case open. IPPL quickly learned that "Mr. Schafer" was Kurt Schafer, a German animal dealer with two bird smuggling convictions, and drew the affair to the attention of German authorities who questioned Schafer, and learned more details of the shipment. They also obtained various documents which Schafer said pertained to the shipment.

Schafer had taken up residence in Thailand as a young man of 19, and was associated with several disreputable Thai dealers.

Investigation revealed that the orangutans were to be sent from Belgrade to the Soviet import company Prodintorg, but that the siamangs would remain at Belgrade Zoo as a "reward" to Vuk Bojovic for "laundering" the orangutans.

First Try Fails

Later, Kurt Schafer denounced the orangutan deal when he learned more about the cruelty inflicted on the animals. He also helped the BBC with its splendid investigative report on the orangutan trade, which would have been impossible without his assistance.

Schafer reported that a first effort had been made to move the orangutans out of Singapore in late 1989. How the animals reached Singapore from Borneo in the first place is still not clear.

Schafer has alleged that the first effort to move the orangutans involved loading the animals on an Aeroflot plane as "cargo," (Aeroflot rightly requires that wild animals be shipped as "cargo"

not "personal baggage"), and that the animals had been "processed" through export formalities - **only to be thrown off the plane because there was no room for them!**

According to Schafer, the animal dealers went home with the orangutans - and hatched up their new plan.

Drama in Airport Cafeteria

At this point, said Schafer, the dealers behind the shipment asked him to help out, so he flew down to Singapore in February 1990 to pick up the orangutans. Schafer claims that he sat in the airport cafeteria, prominently carrying a newspaper so that the smugglers would recognize him.

Then, he says, two men came and took away his ticket and passport, and checked the three wooden crates with no trouble as Schafer's "personal baggage."

The "Bangkok Six" were on their way!

In Bangkok, Schafer reported that he sat in the transit lounge for some hours, and then boarded his flight to Belgrade. To his surprise, his "personal baggage" (the orangutans

Continued overleaf...



Dianne Taylor-Snow with an armful of orangutans

Mystery Letter from Yugoslavia

Shortly after the confiscation, Thai wildlife officials received a

Background Continued

and siamangs) did not appear on the luggage carousel on Belgrade Airport!

Schafer also alleged that people in several countries, including Indonesia, Singapore, Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union, and the United States were involved in the "Bangkok Six" deal.

Schafer Fined, Jailed

Kurt Schafer later went to Singapore where he received a fine equivalent to US \$1200 for his role in smuggling the "Bangkok Six."

This fine amounted to a trivial \$200 per animal.

Kurt Schafer was arrested and jailed for seven weeks in Germany in January 1992. He is now out on bond awaiting trial on various wildlife charges of which IPPL does not have details.

Yugoslav Zoo Director Sues

Yugoslav Zoo Director Bojovic, middleman in the "Bangkok

Six" shipment, is still director of Belgrade Zoo. In a travesty of justice, Bojovic sued zoo volunteer Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic for exposing an earlier Bojovic deal involving two baby girl orangutans ("Sanja" and "Vanja") that somehow reached the zoo from Indonesia.

Milka was actually sentenced to three months in jail, later reduced to 3 years probation under a "gag order" barring her from criticizing Bojovic. Later, the judge made the incredible demand that Milka pay Bojovic's legal bills. Milka is now appealing - and she continues to speak up for the animals.

A lengthy US investigation terminated with the indictment of Miami animal dealer Matthew Block on 20 February 1992. Block himself has recently avoided the media, but his lawyers claim he is innocent.

Only two of the "Bangkok Six" (Tanya and Bambi) are known to be alive now. Bimbo, Ollie and Thomas have all died, and Fossey disappeared from a rehabilitation center in Indonesia. Such is the tragic result of the greed of the wildlife smuggling fraternity.

Shadowy World

The international investigation of the "Bangkok Six" shipment has opened a window into the shadowy world of organized wildlife crime. It has revealed the near-helplessness of governments to cope with wildlife crime effectively - and how well-entrenched and well-connected some of the smugglers are in their homelands.

It has also shown that modern sophisticated animal smugglers maintain elaborate intelligence networks, and "profiles" of government officials involved in wildlife law enforcement activities.

Unless governments allocate more resources to fighting wildlife crime, more and more animals will suffer the fate of "The Bangkok Six."

WASHINGTON HEARINGS

IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal and Dianne Taylor-Snow testified before a US Congressional committee on 3 February 1992.

The House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight was chaired by Representative Richard Lehman of California, and was looking into problems with the Division of Law Enforcement of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Taylor-Snow began the testimony by telling the sub-committee about her experiences trying to keep the "Bangkok Six" orangutans alive, and described movingly how two of the babies, Bimbo and Ollie, died in her arms.

McGreal and Taylor-Snow discussed the serious lack of funding for DLE, which has only around 200 special agents to investigate all wildlife crime inside the United States and all over the world. They also expressed concern that DLE is not centralized, with Washington Headquarters lacking control over the regions.

Other witnesses addressing the Sub-committee on behalf of the world's beleaguered wildlife were Christine Stevens of the Society for Animal Protective Legislation and Ginette Hemley of TRAFFIC-USA.



Thomas playing with Dianne's airline baggage tags

ANTHONY'S SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE PTE LTD



STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMBER OF:

Association of Licensed Security & Investigation Agencies (Singapore)
American Society for Industrial Security
World Association of Detectives Inc.
World Safety Organization

Our ref. Your ref. Date
November 12, 1991

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

TO : Advance Adjusting Association Co Ltd FAX NO : 66-2-3812615
TIME : 1715 Hours
Attn : Mr John Sobell
TOTAL : 2 Pages

Dear Mr. Sobell Just as the matter I wrote about, I shall speak to you in Bangkok.
BACKGROUND

On about February 22, 1990, a shipment of Six Orangutans, were intercepted at Bangkok airport, destined for Yugoslavia. They were being carried as checked baggage by a man of German nationality, Mr KURT SCHAFER. At the time SCHAFER was a resident of Bangkok, and only spending part time in Germany.

The seizure of this shipment brought about a huge amount of publicity. It has also brought about a lot of pressure from a group known as the International Primate Protection League, (IPPL) and it's chairwoman, Shirley McGreal. She is British, but lives in the USA in Summerville South Carolina.

In Bangkok, IPPL is represented by a Sumit Hemasol but also works closely with a Leonie Vejajiva. We have a frequently called number in Bangkok as well, 258-5560, but no name to go with it.

McGreal has also been sending a number of documents to the Thailand Wildlife Department - (Mr Phairothe and a Mr Bulart). All files should be in these offices. I understand Bulart dislikes IPPL to some degree.

Agents of the US Fish and Wildlife Service have been to Bangkok and Singapore on at least 1-2 visits.

ASSIGNMENT

1. To trace any records of contacts by US Agents, including any offers that may have been to potential persons that could come to the US to offer testimony.
2. Any information on letters written to Thai officials in Bangkok.
3. Copies of Thailand newspaper articles, should you come across them (they should be filed in Phairothe's office) regarding these animals, which are known as the Bangkok Six.

Sincerely
[Signature]

LARGE ENOUGH TO UNDERTAKE YOUR EVERY INVESTIGATIVE & SECURITY REQUIREMENT - SMALL ENOUGH TO GIVE YOU OUR PERSONAL ATTENTION

ALL REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND INVESTIGATION SERVICES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: ANTHONY'S SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE PTE LTD, 100, TONG TONG BUILDING, 73 TONG TONG ROAD, SINGAPORE 0922. TEL: (65) 337 2011/2. FAX: (65) 337 2010.

"ANTHONY'S" INVESTIGATES IPPL!

IPPL has managed to obtain a copy of an amazing letter dated 12 November 1991 from "Anthony's Special Investigative Services Private Limited," a Singapore-based company, to a company in Bangkok. The letter is reproduced on this page.

"Anthony's" letterhead boasts that the company is a member of the "Association of Licensed Security and Investigation Agencies," the "American Society for Industrial Security," the "World Association of Detectives," and the "World Safety Organization!"

Several points in the letter are of concern. It is not clear who actually employed "Anthony's," but it is clear that whoever did hire the firm:

- had a strong interest in the "Bangkok Six" orangutan case, and had possession of, or information about, the contents of Shirley McGreal's/IPPL's telephone bills and,
- wanted, for an unspecified purpose, the identity of somebody whose phone number appears on Shirley McGreal's/IPPL's phone-bills.

The only way a third party could get access to IPPL phone bills would be through an unethical phone company employee, or by getting them subpoenaed by a dishonest law enforcement official. Such invasions of telephone privacy are totally outrageous, and possibly illegal.

The "Mr. Bulart" referred to in "Anthony's" letter is actually Khun Boonlert Angsirijinda, the excellent Thai wildlife official who confiscated the "Bangkok Six" orangutans - and who does not "dislike" IPPL at all.

We also find the request that "Anthony's" "trace any records of contacts by US agents, including any offers that may have been made to potential persons that would come to the US to offer testimony" of extreme concern. Who would want such information, and for what purpose?

IPPL has asked Singapore authorities to look into what is going on. We suggest that "Anthony's," as a member of the so-called "World Safety Organization," should work to identify all the perpetrators, (including the Singapore accomplices), of the "Bangkok Six" orangutan shipment, thus making the world safer for orangutans and other endangered species.

The world is safe enough already for wildlife smugglers!

This would be a far more desirable activity than trying to "unmask" decent and courageous people around the world, who work unselfishly for the conservation and protection of the world's endangered wildlife.

To protest this outrageous "investigation," please write the Prime Minister of Singapore asking that an investigation be made of the activities of "Anthony's Special Investigative Services Private Limited," a Singapore-based company, in regard to the "Bangkok Six" orangutan smuggling incident. Ask the Prime Minister to find out who hired the company, and for what purpose. Request an answer to your letter.

Address: Mr. Goh Chok Tong, Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
Orchard Road, Istana Annexe
Singapore 0922

CALIFORNIA LAWYER DENOUNCES IPPL

Michael Metzger, a criminal defense attorney with offices on Kappas Marina in Sausalito, California, and St. Helena, California, contacted the Assistant US Attorney in Miami on 9 September 1991, shortly after a federal grand jury began investigating Matthew Block.

Metzger informed the US Attorney's Office that he had recently advised the German animal dealer Kurt Schafer, who had carried "The Bangkok Six" orangutans from Singapore to Bangkok, that:

I told [him] that I could no longer represent him because of my relationship with Mr. Block.

The "relationship" between Metzger and Block was not specified. According to Mr. Metzger:

Mr. Schafer never discussed anything substantive about this investigation, he merely asked my advice about Grand Jury procedures.

Mr. Metzger went on to denounce Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of IPPL, as being "associated with an 'animal rights' group known as the International Primate Protection League," and stated that:

Based upon information supplied to me, I have the strong impression that IPPL, acting as ex officio law enforcement agents, prosecutors, judges and juries have "convicted" Block of some heinous crime...

Being neither trained in law enforcement procedures, nor being bound by constitutional strictures applied in state and federal criminal investigations, IPPL seems to be employing practices that would never be tolerated if employed by law enforcement agents or prosecutors.

If IPPL's activities are driving your investigation, or, worse, if IPPL is acting with the tacit approval of an official government agency, then I think such activities must come to a rapid halt.

If an indictment is ever returned against Block, an intense investigation will be made as to the role of Shirley McGreal and her organization, the methods by which "information" was obtained by them, and whether or not they received actual or tacit approval from any federal agency to engage in improper practices.

Most of IPPL's work consists of letter-writing and petitioning, and collecting information as best we can, so we are rather puzzled at the contents of Mr. Metzger's letter.

With the indictment against Block returned, it appears likely that the "intense investigation" is now under way!

Metzger sent copies of his letter to Matthew Block and to Benedict Kuehne, the Miami criminal defense attorney defending Block in the orangutan case.

Oddly, Michael Metzger had formerly been associated with the Animal Legal Defense Fund (itself a hard-hitting "animal rights" organization) and had represented several California animal activists on a *pro bono* (volunteer) basis!

KYOTO ZOO AND PET-SHOPS

While attending CITES '92 in Kyoto, Japan, Shirley McGreal and Dianne Taylor-Snow visited Kyoto Zoo and several pet shops.

Kyoto Zoo turned out to be very disappointing. The zoo owned three gorillas, one pair and one lone male, kept in small cages.

There was a dismal primate house with tiny indoor cages. The animals were near-invisible because of the filthy windows. The units were heated by hazardous space-heaters. We learned that the animals had been kept indoors all winter.

A troop of rhesus macaques was on display: all the animals were suffering from a horrible skin disease.

One of the pet-shops was offering squirrel monkeys and marmosets for sale. They were kept in tiny filthy cages in a noisy, dirty shop. Many rare birds such as owls, macaws and cockatoos were offered for sale.

A group of Japanese animal-lovers have established an organization called Kyoto Pet Research (KPR) to monitor the conditions at the pet shops. The group circulated a critique of the pet shops to CITES delegates.

A rebuttal of the group's allegations was circulated to the delegates by the "Japan Livestock Importers' Association." The dealers sneered at KPR as "a group who only has amateur members" and alleged that:

None of their members have [sic] enough knowledge to identify the species of animals and judge the management of keeping such particular animals.

IPPL finds this argument ridiculous as it does not take special skills to spot dirt and misery, only compassion!

The Importers' Association claimed to be a "responsible and accredited NGO to this conference."

The Association's address (River Field Building in Yokohoma) sounded vaguely familiar to IPPL. A check of our files showed that the address belongs to the Keihin Chochu Company, which, with Walter Sensen, was involved in the famous "Taiwan Three" gorilla shipment for which Sensen was later jailed. Two of these gorillas died on the trip from Cameroun to Taiwan.

← STOP PRESS

On 9 April 1992, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that the US Attorney for the Northern District of California had asked a judge to discipline Michael Metzger "for allegedly harassing his staff of prosecutors."

US Attorney William McGivern accused Metzger of delivering "insulting and abusive remarks" to three assistant US Attorneys.

Metzger allegedly challenged two male prosecutors to fight him "mano a mano" (hand to hand).

When asked for a client's hand-writing sample, Metzger allegedly left a message on a woman Assistant US Attorney's "voice-mail," in which he asked her to supply body tissues "to see what species you are."

Metzger responded that the prosecutors "do not know a joke when they hear one."

GORILLA EMERGENCY!

IPPL has learned that a young girl gorilla stranded in Thailand needs our, **and your**, help immediately. She is truly a "Prisoner of War," - the war being the war against the world's wildlife run by animal smugglers out for easy profits.

The little gorilla was caught in Equatorial Guinea or a neighboring country by poachers who shot her mother. She ended up in the hands of the notorious German animal dealer Walter Sensen.

Sensen's company managed to sneak her into Thailand in late 1989 or early 1990, intending to sell her to the Pata Department Store Zoo, a ghastly menagerie which owns one unfortunate lone male gorilla shipped to Thailand on 21 February 1984.

It appears that she was recently transferred to the owner of the Pata Department Store Zoo. In such an environment, her future will be bleak. IPPL wants to get her returned to Africa. We have even located a home for her: the Gorilla Orphanage in Brazzaville in the Congo Republic.

The orphanage, directed by Mark Attwater, and funded by John Aspinall of Howletts' Zoo in the United Kingdom, is now home to 21 gorillas.

At the time of the export of the gorilla from Equatorial Guinea, Equatorial Guinea was under an international embargo.

The Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) had sent a circular to all member nations on 5 September 1988, warning them that a dubious European animal dealer had moved to Equatorial Guinea.

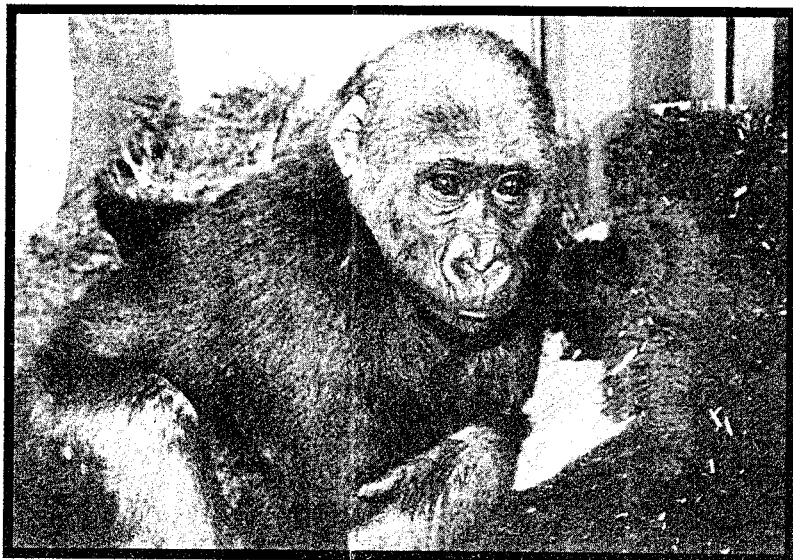
This was Sensen who was forced to leave the Cameroun after IPPL protested his export of 3 gorillas to Taiwan, of whom two died on the way.

Therefore, Thai authorities should have confiscated the baby gorilla on arrival, since Thailand is a CITES member.

Further, Sensen had been under German professional prohibition since 1988, and thus the deal violated German law too (in 1990 Sensen was jailed by German authorities for other gorilla deals).

IPPL would like to see the young gorilla sent home to Africa, and this means working to get her voluntarily surrendered by the store or confiscated. Leonie Vejajiva has offered to keep her at her sanctuary while travel arrangements are made.

IPPL has also received an unconfirmed report from a previously reliable source that a baby gorilla was shipped by unidentified parties from Moscow to Thailand a few years ago, and arrived frozen to death.



Zira, a zoo gorilla

Around the time the second gorilla was imported, the owner of the Pata Department Store died, and the newly-imported female gorilla disappeared as if "into thin air."

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Your help with correspondence is needed during this emergency. Remember, **your voice** is important.

Please send a letter to:

The Manager, Pata Zoo Company
630/253 Somdej Prapiklao Road
Bangkok Noi District
Bangkok 10700, Thailand

Tell him courteously that the young female gorilla would be better off in Africa and ask him please to give her up immediately!

Also, please send a letter to:

Khun Watana Kao Kamnerd, Director
Wildlife Conservation Division
Royal Forest Department
Phahoyothin Road
Bangkok 10900, Thailand

Ask Khun Watana to help get the female gorilla acquired by the Pata Department Store Zoo back to Africa where she belongs.

Please refer to page 6 of this issue for current overseas postage rates.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

UPDATE ON PRAMUKA MARKET

The August 1991 issue of the IPPL Newsletter described the appalling conditions under which all wildlife, including rare and common primates, is sold at the Pramuka Market, Jakarta.

Pramuka Market is a noisy open-air market and Sally Walker described the horrendous conditions: dead birds piled up in cages, cruel mistreatment of animals, wildlife from many of Indonesia's thousand islands.

IPPL requested readers to contact the Indonesian Government, and many of you did. We also sent press releases to all Indonesian newspapers and the story was widely run and picked up by international wire services.

The intensive campaign provoked a reaction from the Indonesian Government, which issued a statement circulated to Indonesian Embassies overseas. We are not satisfied with the statement, as IPPL does not believe that animals belonging to rare species suffer any more - or less, than those belonging to common species. For us, suffering is suffering and "There is no excuse for animal abuse."

The Indonesian response, which we shall reproduce in full, leaves the impression that the suffering of common animals does not matter at all. It also leaves the impression that any activity which creates employment, **however disgusting**, is desirable. Such an immoral line of argument could be used to justify narcotics trafficking and child prostitution.

Indonesian Government Statement

The Director-General for Forest Protection and Nature Preservation (PHPA) Sutisna Wartaputra has stated that the Pramuka Market in Jakarta need not be closed down but that the Jakarta authorities should tighten their control on animal trade and prevent endangered species of animals from being traded.

Furthermore, the Forest Ministry did not have any right to close down bird markets, but had the duty to prevent the

illegal trade of protected animals.

This statement by Sutisna Wartaputra was in reply to the press campaign launched by the International Primate Protection League (IPPL).

IPPL which is based in Summerville, South Carolina, recently called for the closing down of the bird market at Jalan Pramuka, East Jakarta. That organization considered the condition of the bird market as very poor. It also accused the market of illegally selling protected animals.

The campaign was launched by IPPL following a BBC-TV broadcast of a documentary film on a transaction of protected animals (such as gibbons) at the bird market in Jakarta.

An IPPL Newsletter also printed an article in the Bird Market by Sally Walker of the Indian Zoo Organization.

Sutisna Wartaputra is of the opinion that the closing down of bird markets was not a good solution for preventing the illegal trade of protected animals. Such an action would make the situation worse, as it would affect many people who make a living at bird markets.

The best way is by tightening control on animal trade and taking firm measures against those violating Law No. 5/1990 on the conservation of natural resources and the ecosystem. Those who violate the law will receive a maximum jail term of five years and a maximum fine of 100 million rupiahs (\$50,000 US).

Indonesia at present protects 218 species of animals including the Java and Sumatra tigers, the Sumatra elephants, and Komodo dragons.

According to Sutisna Wartaputra, the campaign launched by IPPL shows the foreign league's concern over the animals' fate.

Thanks to everyone who wrote letters. The helpless siamangs, cockatoos and orangutans on Pramuka Market would want you to write on their behalf. The "suffering" involved in writing and mailing a letter is nothing compared to what our wild creatures are suffering at human hands.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Please send a courteous and thoughtful letter rebutting Mr. Wartaputra's position to:

Mr. Sutisna Wartaputra
Director-General, PHPA
Jl. Ir. H. Juanda 100
Bogor, Indonesia

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

A TALE OF A TUBERCULOUS MONKEY

Not all research facilities appear to have been as satisfied with Worldwide Primates as the Tulane (formerly Delta) Primate Center and its director Peter Gerone.

On 17 November 1986, veterinarian Katherine Moody of the Yale University School of Medicine was so concerned at the condition of a male rhesus monkey shipped to the University by Worldwide Primates, that she fired off a complaint to the US Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Moody stated:

Thus letter provides a summary of the events surrounding the shipment of a tuberculous rhesus monkey from Worldwide Primates to Yale University last month...This shipment of primates was picked up by Emery Worldwide on 10/16/86 and delivered to Yale on 10/17/86. They were accompanied by an illegibly signed health certificate dated 10.15.86. After their arrival, these monkeys were moved to the primate quarantine area. When they were transferred to their cages, one was noted to have labored breathing and I was called to examine him.

This particular Rhesus was emaciated, depressed, dehydrated, and in obvious respiratory distress. Purulent material drained from the fistulae below the left ear, an open draining lesion on the ventral chin, and an enlarged right inguinal lymph node. Chest radiographs demonstrated a multifocal pneumonia with numerous areas of consolidation...Later that afternoon I personally contacted Mr. Black [sic] of Worldwide Primates concerning the poor condition of this monkey. At that time Mr. Black stated his belief that the shipper (Emery) was to blame.

The unfortunate monkey tested positive for tuberculosis. He was killed and was found to have advanced TB.

Dr. Moody continued:

On 10/20/86, our Chairman, Dr. Robert Jacoby, contacted Mr. Black [sic], who claimed that the wrong monkey had been sent to Yale: a rhesus from an adjoining cage should have been in the shipment. At this time Mr. Black also refused to name the veterinarian who had signed the health certificate for this shipment of primates...

Dr. Moody reported that 4 of the 9 survivors had various parasitic diseases which caused them "severe diarrhea requiring intensive treatment."

Dr. Jacoby sent Block a letter dated 21 October 1986 stating that:

We are concerned and dismayed that your quarantine and conditioning program failed to prevent shipment of the affected animal to Yale.

In a sworn affidavit dated 17 February 1987, Dr. Robert Jacoby stated under oath:

I, Robert O. Jacoby, D.V.M., am Chairman of the Section of Comparative Medicine and Director of the Division of Animal Care at the Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut. I have held this position since 1978.

I would like to give this statement in regard to a shipment of 10 Rhesus monkeys received from Worldwide Primates Inc. Florida, on October 17, 1986, and a telephone conversation I had with Matthew Block of Worldwide Primates on October 17, 1986.

I advised Mr. Block at the time that one animal identified as M-16 arrived in poor clinical condition and had pneumonia, draining fistulas and lymphadenopathy. Additional clinical and pathological examinations indicated that the animal had an advanced state of tuberculosis.

Mr. Block advised me that the wrong animal had been shipped by mistake. The animal that should have been shipped was in an adjacent cage in the same room.

In answer to my inquiry as to whether the animal had been examined prior to shipment, he could not provide me with accurate and complete information regarding the health status of the animal or the individual responsible for establishing the health status.

On 2 December 1986, W.D. McFather, of the US Department of Agriculture, filed a memorandum on his visit to Worldwide Primates on 2 December 1986 at 11 a.m. He stated:

He [Block] stated as follows...The monkeys were delivered to Emery Freight by John Mehrtens, one of his drivers. The monkeys in the shipment were part of fifty (50) monkeys which he had imported from Asia and received on 5 September 1986. One of the monkeys was dead on arrival. The remaining 49 had been tested for TB on three separate occasions and found to be negative. His records show that the monkey identified as No. 16 was tested for TB on September 5, 1986, September 22, 1986 and October 10, 1986 and John Mehrtens performed the test on September 22, 1986. When asked to give a signed statement pertaining to the information he had given, Mr. Block declined.

On 1 April 1987 Dr. McFather visited Mr. Block to obtain additional information on the case. He noted:

After showing Matthew Block two photocopied photographs of the primate in question (M-16) and discussing with him the information in Dr. Jacoby's affidavit dated February 17, 1987, Mr. Block stated as follows: He did not receive a call from Dr. Jacoby on October 20, 1986, nor had he ever spoken to Dr. Jacoby by phone. On October 17, 1986, he received a call from Dr. Katherine Moody and was informed that the primate identified as M-16 arrived in bad shape and was thin...During the time of the shipment in question, he did not have any primates that were noticeably in the condition as the primate described by Dr. Moody. To the best of his knowledge, the primate in question had not been shipped by mistake, nor had he advised anyone that this had happened, nor had he been informed by any of his employees that this had happened. Mr. Block's office personnel, Gertie Block and John Mehrtens, informed me that they had not spoken to Dr. Jacoby by phone, nor advised anyone that the primate had been shipped by mistake.

Continued overleaf...

TB MONKEY Continued

The following is a description by Mr. Block of the method in which the primate (M-16) was shipped and how the animal was identified. The primate (M-16) was housed at his facility in Cage #16. The shipping containers for the primates were partitioned off inside for each animal shipped. The identification (M-16) was recorded on top of the shipping container showing that the primate was a male from Cage 16. The shipping container was labelled with a description of the primates, number, and species...If the primate in question had been shipped by mistake, he didn't feel that his employees would have informed him of this.

Mr. Block declined to give a signed statement.

In a report dated 10 April 1987 submitted to J. D. Tanner, the Acting Area Veterinarian in Charge, Dr. McFather stated:

On December 2, 1986, I interviewed Matthew Block. Mr. Block stated that the health certificate for this movement was signed by Dr. Bern Levine. Mr. Block and two of his employees, Alfredo Morales and John Mehrtens, denied observing any health problems pertaining to the primates prior to shipment. Mr. Block informed me that the primate in question was tested negative to TB on three (3) different occasions prior to shipment...

In Dr. Jacoby's affidavit he stated that on October 20 1986, he had a telephone conversation with Mr. Block and informed him that the animal identified as M-16 arrived in poor clinical condition and had pneumonia, draining fistulas and lymphadenopathy. Additional clinical and pathological examinations indicated that the animal had an advanced state of tuberculosis. He had been advised by Mr. Block that the wrong animal had been shipped by mistake and the animal that should have been shipped was in an adjacent cage in the same room.

Due to Mr. Block being out of the country, I was unable to revisit him till April 1, 1987...Mr. Block denied the statements made by Dr. Jacoby, and stated that he had never spoken to Dr. Jacoby by phone.

Dr. William G. Smith, Veterinarian in Charge for the Department of Agriculture's New England area, filed a report on 6 May 1987 in which he stated:

Due to the clinical signs and gross lesions indicative of an advanced case of generalized [TB] in this Rhesus monkey, it is unlikely that this condition would have gone undetected upon a competent physical examination. Either the veterinarian failed to complete an adequate examination in this case or another monkey may have been substituted by the dealer or someone else in its place. The fact remains that an animal chronically infected with TB with draining fistulous tracts was moved interstate and exposed other primates and many unsuspecting individuals along the way. This Act was not only a violation of our laws, but seriously jeopardized the health of many people by exposing them to a very infectious and debilitating disease. Therefore we recommend that a \$1000 cruelty penalty be assessed, a 60-day suspension of license, and a cease and desist order for future violations against the Animal Welfare Act.

The proposal to fine Worldwide Primates \$1,000 and suspend the company's license for 60 days came to nothing. The Office of the General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture stated that:

We recommend that APHIS send a letter of warning admonishing Worldwide to take greater care in shipment of sick monkeys which could harm others.

PATHETIC GIBBON REACHES THAI SANCTUARY

Leonie Vejjajiva of the Wildlife Rescue Fund of Thailand sees so much animal misery that she tries not to cry any more. On 5 January 1992 she called IPPL Headquarters in tears to tell us about the latest arrival at the Sanctuary.

Tom Gibbon is 2 1/2 years old and is a brown White-handed gibbon. He was a family pet, but the family had no idea how to care for him. One of his owner's neighbors had bought 10 baby gibbons at Krabi in the south of Thailand two years ago with the intention of selling them, and all but Tom were now dead.

Tom's first owner kept the animal in a bird-cage in her back yard with no protection from sun or rain.

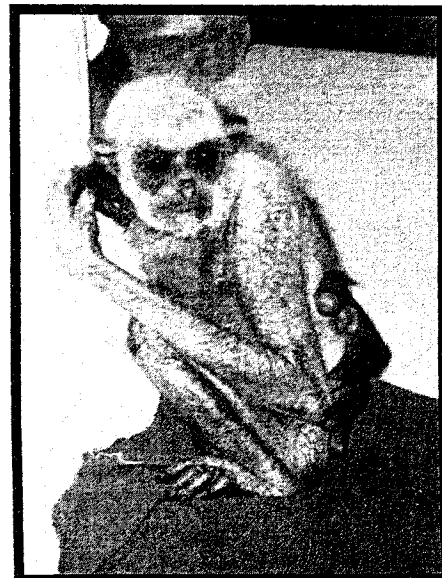
Tom survived a bout with pneumonia and arrived at Leonie's "covered with scabies from head to foot." Leonie thinks all gibbons are beautiful, but tells us that:

He looks awful and scratches all the time and has medicine to stop the itching, he shivers with cold and has to have a hot-water bottle all the time, we've never had a gibbon in such terrible shape. Yet Tom is friendly and has a lovely smile in spite of everything.

Amazingly, Tom is still alive.

Tom and many more gibbons and monkeys are living at Leonie's sanctuary, and funds are urgently needed. IPPL shared last year's fall gibbon donations with Leonie, for which she thanks everyone who helped.

If you would like to make a special donation, please mail a check made out to IPPL and clearly marked "For Tom Gibbon" and we will transfer your gift to the Wildlife Rescue Fund Sanctuary.



Tom Gibbon

IPPL ATTENDS CITES KYOTO

by Dianne Taylor-Snow

I found a piece of crumpled paper in my brief-case with the following notation scrawled on it:

23 February 1992. 12.42 p.m. (6.42 a.m. Seoul) 33,000 feet KE #107, LAX/Seoul, outside temp - 67° Miles to go: 5059 Hours to go 9 hours 29 minutes (total flight time 12 hours 18 minutes) slight turbulence/dinner served first.



Primate Friends at CITES

Dianne Taylor-Snow, Leonie Vejajiva and Shirley McGreal

Shirley McGreal and I were on our way to Kyoto, Japan for the CITES Conference (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna), with a five-day stopover in Taipei, Taiwan to investigate the plight of captive primates on the island.

In the 1991 BBC documentary "Ape Trade", we learned that Taipei had been nicknamed "Mad Monkey City." We were anxious to discover if conditions had changed since then.

After our host, IPPL Taiwan Representative Charles Shuttleworth settled us into his charming lodge, "Treetops," we began with a pilgrimage to the Taipei Zoo.

The primate island exhibit was home to a group of gibbons and rather nice, with one exception: there was no shade provided. One could only imagine the miserable condition on the island with no respite from the relentless summer sun beating down on these lovely lesser apes.

The orangutan exhibit was fairly roomy- as zoo exhibits go. A keeper was feeding them an afternoon treat of hard cooked eggs which they gratefully accepted to the delight of the assembled crowd. Pleased with the aspect of a balanced diet for the orangutans, my heart fell when we moved to the chimpanzee exhibit and saw the troop in total chaos. Chimpanzees are gregarious animals, but the crowd of visitors here seemed to have one goal: incite to riot.

The exhibit was a moated affair with a wire fence, an additional concrete wall and a four foot high log fence in front of that. Perfect,

it seemed, for the unruly crowd that had gathered to sit on it. Quite a few of the people gathered had jumped over the fence and were throwing hands full of "junk food" at the chimpanzees, creating a frenzy.

My "former zoo keeper mentality" began to boil, and I wanted desperately to shout at the crowd to stop...junk food mingled with

germs and bacteria from the hands of the crowd could be a fatal combination. I of course, as a guest, bit my tongue and said nothing. I also don't speak Chinese!

We found one lone gorilla in a dismal indoor cage with nothing for him to sit or climb on, nothing and nobody to play with. He was charging from side to side as if totally insane. I learned from Shirley that this gorilla was the survivor of the infamous "Taiwan Three" shipment engineered by the notorious Walter Sensen. To get this one animal into such a miserable situation, Sensen had shipped three gorillas from the Cameroun on a permit for which he later told a German court he had paid \$25,000 to Camerounian authorities.

Two of the wretched animals died in flight between Douala and Kinshasa Airports and Sensen stood to gain \$300,000 from an insurance claim - a claim blocked,

Shirley said, after IPPL proved that the animals were "contraband" and thus not insurable.

Seeing this animal in his lonely misery, I couldn't help but think of the minimum of three groups of gorillas slaughtered to bring him into such a miserable environment.

Other primate species were housed in totally inadequate glassed enclosures. No room to jump and leap. Nowhere to hide from prying eyes. The afternoon sun beating in created an even more uncomfortable condition.

Our zoo experience behind us, we geared up for an evening visit to the "Taipei Tourist Market" or "Snake Alley," as it is sometimes referred to.

Marcus Phipps of the Orangutan Foundation was our generous guide for this and another "field trip." Snake Alley is a two block long arcade filled with curio and Chinese medicine stalls at one end, brothels at the other.

Two of the Chinese medicine stalls used orangutans to lure customers in. Each stall has "DO NOT TAKE PICTURES" signs clearly posted, even though the orangutans were legal pets of the shop owners. Perhaps the owners did not want to be photographed chopping off the heads of live turtles, pouring rice wine into the still squirming bodies, stirring it up and pouring the contents into shot glasses for sale to the public.

We took our chances photographing and got bold with our cameras after Charles purchased a bag full of delicious fruit and Shirley began feeding the orangutans.

Continued overleaf...

CITES Kyoto Continued

One shop owner, with an orangutan chained to a metal chair and live cobras coiled atop a table, finally started screaming at me, so I beat a hasty retreat back to the turtle stall and took more photos



Snake Alley Orangutan

of the orangutan dressed in a T-shirt, with a plastic air rifle strapped over his back and a funnel on his head for a cap. The owner, probably resigned to the fact that we wouldn't go away until our film ran out, stopped lopping off heads, and allowed us to take our photos. Besides, no one was buying his blood and guts concoction.

A few days later we visited the Bopomo Monkey Zoo which is a 2 1/2 hour drive from Taipei. Reports of upwards of 40 orangutans housed there had reached IPPL Headquarters. The day we visited we counted at least 25. They were housed in clean, but woefully tiny, cages with no food, no shelter from the sun and no climbing objects, ropes or swings. In contrast to the lack of stimulation for the non-human primates, the lovely grounds were burgeoning with a large variety of swings and toys for us human primates.

One of the most unusual gibbon exhibits I have ever seen was here. It consisted of three kiosk-type small buildings, built in the center of a small lake. The kiosks were connected by narrow cat-walks with a single rope suspended above it. One slip could have spelled disaster as gibbons cannot

swim. Here, too, in spite of "No Feeding" signs, families clambered over barriers and placed food in the outstretched hands of the gibbons. A human daddy was teaching his human infant how to ignore the rules and regulations. Unfortunately, this is an activity not confined to Taiwan.

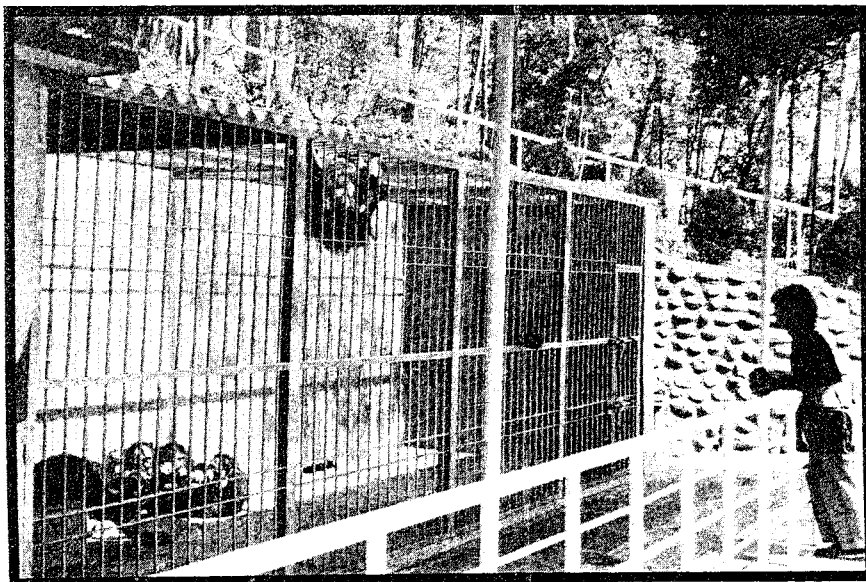
The window display at the concession stand is crowded with what my notes refer to as "moth-eaten, dead, stuffed guys" and five jars of "pickled" specimens, not all embryos. Shirley refers to them as "zoo mistakes" but whatever label one assigns to them, they were neither interesting, appealing nor educational to my Western eye.

With thoughts and memories still fresh in our minds of the sights we had seen, it was on to Japan for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). 112 nations assembled for the two week meeting. The purpose of CITES is basically to conserve and protect wild plant and animal species.

The treaty "functions" on the basis of two main appendices, establishing different trade restrictions for species listed on Appendices I and II, and allowing for trade only when a competent government authority has issued an import and export permit (for Appendix I species) and an export permit (for Appendix II) species.

As set forth in the treaty's fundamental principles, commercial trade in Appendix I, the most endangered species, is prohibited: trade in Appendix II species must be controlled through permits - and allowed only when it is deemed not to be detrimental to the survival of the species' wild population. Primates were not a specific "issue" this year, although many of the general issues discussed (such as Zimbabwe's proposal for a resolution acknowledging the alleged benefits of commercial wildlife trafficking) would affect all species.

The conference documents given us at registration weighed 4.4 kilos, which meant there was a lot of work to do, and as all things in nature are interdependent, we put on our headphones and got to work. Each evening, after the working sessions, the non-govern-



Orangutans at Bopomo Zoo

mental organizations got together and discussed the day's events and strategies for the next day.

African elephants and rhinos were a big issue at CITES '92, with Zimbabwe, Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and South Africa lobbying to have them removed from the endangered Appendix I listing and downgraded to Appendix II. An Appendix II listing would not only lift the ban on trade in ivory and "parts" but also send a lure and clear signal to smugglers and poachers to "get back to work."

It was a great day for the elephants and rhinos when the vote was taken, and they remained on Appendix I.

Probably the most exciting vote was that to list the American black bear on Appendix II. Early on, in committee, the proposal was voted down, with the United States, Canada and Mexico strongly opposing upgrading.

At the "eleventh hour," Birgith Sloth of Denmark reintroduced the proposal to upgrade the black bear to the plenary session, and

The official delegation from Indonesia passed us and moved into the room and, to my horror, I recognized one member as Mohammed Hardi, an animal dealer who has been accused by confessed smuggler Kurt Schafer of orangutan smuggling and whose name appears on an Australian Customs LINK diagram of bird traffickers.

Mr. Hardi was officially listed as a member of the Indonesian Department of Forestry! A few days later, Japan's *Mainichi Daily News* ran a front page story with the headline "CITES Delegate Suspected Illegal Wildlife Dealer." There was nothing for the CITES Secretariat to do, however, as the Indonesian Government has given Mohammed Hardi - and 12 other animal dealers - official status!

On a much brighter note, H.R.H. Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, spoke at a special session on the second day of the Conference. I was moved by his remarks, especially the following:

Many people know about the war against the drug barons and the huge sums of "dirty" money that flow from the business that destroys so many human lives. I believe that the illegal trade in endangered species is just as dangerous. The trade itself has already been directly responsible for the extinction of many species and today it threatens the survival of even more. Furthermore, as in the drug trade, money from these criminal operations finds its way into bribery, corruption and violence.

That evening the Governor and Mayor of Kyoto Prefecture, with the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the President of the Kyoto Convention Bureau held a gala reception at the Takaragaike Prince Hotel. When Shirley and I walked in we were surprised to see H.R.H. addressing the audience as we thought he had left. I urged Shirley to say hello.

You could have knocked me over with a feather when I heard him say "Shirley, did you get my last letter?" and then "Dianne - you went to Bangkok to take care of the orangutan babies."

They're PEN PALS - and he reads the IPPL newsletter (Hello, Your Royal Highness). I'm told that the rest of the evening was very nice!

The weekend provided us with enough time to take a whirlwind tour of the lovely temples of Kyoto and to visit the wild macaques of Arashiyama.

Our guides to Arashiyama were Prof. Toshisada Nishida and Drs. Juichi Yamagiwa and Michael Huffman, of Kyoto University. Mr. Nobuo Asaba, Director of the Monkey Park Iwatayama (Arashiyama) was a delightful host.

Our group for the day included Mr. Ian Redmond of EleFriends; the wonderful Dr. Rainer Blanke, Head of the German CITES Scientific Authority, and Dr. Ardith Eudey of IPPL and the IUCN Primate Specialist Group.

The best part of the visit for me was to find myself standing in

Continued overleaf...



Arashiyama Visit

an impassioned debate began again. Thailand's Khun Boonlert Angsirijinda, Chief of the Law Enforcement Section, Royal Forestry Department, tearfully related a recent raid on an underground "bear restaurant" in Bangkok, where bears are roasted alive to the delight of foreign visitors.

Not only are entire bears consumed, but the gall bladder is considered by some to be an aphrodisiac. Widespread poaching of bears in the United States is at an alarmingly high rate. Currently, dried bear gall-bladder sells on the black market for more than the price of gold!

The delegates were polled country by country, and the American black bear won the needed two-thirds majority and was upgraded to Appendix II. A great end to the Conference!

Between proposals, debates, and voting many other interesting stories were unfolding.

One such drama was at the beginning of the conference when quite a few NGOs (non-governmental organizations) were sitting outside the Asian regional meeting-room, waiting for permission to attend as observers.

the middle of a very large troop of Japanese Macaques with them totally ignoring me! Unlike the macaques of Penang Island, Malaysia, who will charge you if you don't supply them with a picnic basket full of food, the Arashiyama macaques are allowed public feeding, but only when the public feeds approved foods from **inside** a screened building.

Once outside, the Macaques seem to have no use for tourists, and go about their business as if we were sticks of furniture. What a wonderful concept: **humans** in cages. **non-human primates** outside and **free**. I like it!

The conference was a splendid education. I learned a great deal, and look forward to working with the many wonderful people we met, in a continued effort to protect the world's wild flora and fauna.

SINGAPORE DEFENDS DOUC DEAL

Dr. C. H. Giam, Director of Primary Production for the Government of Singapore, disagrees with IPPL about the appropriateness of Singapore Zoo buying 5 Douc langurs from the notorious Thai animal smuggler Kampang Ploentham in December 1988. The animals were part of a huge collection of 100 highly endangered Douc langurs amassed in Bangkok by Kampang in 1988.

Giam states that the documents that accompanied the Douc langurs "complied with CITES regulations." However, the documents were fraudulent, having been fabricated by Kampang, and falsely stated that the Douc langurs had been born at a zoo in Cambodia **which did not exist**.

Dr. Giam notes that, based on an IPPL circular sent to the world's wildlife authorities by IPPL in March 1989, "Animal Smugglers Flout Endangered Species Convention," the Singapore Government rejected another application to import Douc langurs submitted in April 1989.

Dr. Giam noted that, "Singapore is fully committed to stop the illegal trade in endangered species," and requested IPPL to continue to provide information about any illegal trade involving Singapore animal dealers.

RECOMMENDED READING

Extremely Weird Primates is a children's book which introduces 22 primate species to young people. It is published by **John Muir Publications, POB 613, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87504 USA**. Among the primates described are the slow loris, the tarsier, the pygmy marmoset, the golden-lion tamarin, the white uakari, the woolly monkey, the De Brazza's monkey, the Sulawesi macaque, the Proboscis monkey, the Douc langur, and the Bonobo chimpanzee.

The book, which is excellently illustrated with color photographs, concentrates on primate species which are not well known to the general public, and we strongly urge you to get a copy for your children or as a gift for somebody else's kids or even yourself! The book contains a strong primate conservation-protection message, too, which will delight you.

To place an order for *Extremely Weird Primates*, US readers may call 800-888-7504 or mail a check for \$9.95 plus \$2.75 for

MESSAGE FROM THE SWEDISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Swedish animal dealer Ingemar Forss was involved in the export of 4 chimpanzees from Uganda to the Soviet Union on 10 September 1990. He was not prosecuted by Swedish authorities because the chimpanzees were not routed via Sweden. IPPL asked members to contact the Swedish Government to express their concern over the weakness of Swedish law.

Because of the volume of letters, Rune Frisen and Linda Hedlund of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency asked us to inform readers that Sweden's internal legislation is stronger than the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). For example, both import and export permits are needed for CITES Appendix II species, for which CITES requires only an export permit. In addition, Sweden does not allow the importation of sport-hunters' "trophies."

However, they added:

Swedish citizens can be held responsible for actions taken in other countries. This requires that the action is regarded as a crime in the country where it was conducted. To prosecute a Swedish citizen for crime outside Swedish territory a decision taken by the Chief Public Prosecutor is necessary. This makes it difficult to prosecute rare types of crime, which are not generally known. Perhaps animal smuggling is a very common crime, but it is rarely prosecuted, as very few people are discovered doing this in Sweden.

However, we are aware of the fact that our legislation is too weak in some parts, and that it is often difficult to take action against people violating that legislation. The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency is acting for a strengthening of the Swedish legislation, but this requires changes that have to be decided upon by the Swedish Parliament.

shipping to **John Muir Publications, POB 613, Santa Fe, NM 87504, USA**. Be sure to include a street address for UPS delivery. If payment is made in Canadian funds, the book costs \$12.95. Overseas orders will be shipped surface mail at a shipping cost of \$3.

Wildlife Law is a technical book discussing laws and treaties aimed at protecting US and the world's wildlife. It is written by David Favre, a law professor at Detroit Law School. *Wildlife Law* is available for \$40.50 from **Lupus Publications, 12839 Grand Haven, Sterling Heights, MI 48312, USA**.

The *1992 Information Please Environmental Almanac* is a wonderful book compiled by the World Resources Institute. The almanac contains information about national and global issues and includes profiles of 150 countries. It is published by the Houghton Mifflin Company and your book-store can order it for you. The paperback edition costs just \$9.95.

IPPL PUNISHMENT POLL

The German national, who carried the "Bangkok Six" orangutans from Singapore to Bangkok, was given a token fine equivalent to US \$1200 by Singapore authorities. No other person has received any punishment at all. IPPL asked its members in its November 1991 *Newsletter* how they thought convicted orangutan smugglers should be punished. IPPL members were not as "smuggler-friendly" as some of the world's judicial systems appear to be.

Members who participated in the IPPL poll are definite about what they want - tough punishments for wildlife smugglers. British members were especially tough!

Here's what some of the 500+ IPPL members who responded to our poll say:

An apt and just punishment for orangutan (or any animal) smugglers would be to lock them in a room with me for 5 minutes (I'm a large man)!

James Clink, California, USA

Five years in jail and I suggest that the punishment should include some awareness aspects, such as to focus on the deterioration in endangered wildlife species and to show the economic importance of wildlife resources and their cultural values.

Salah Ahmed, Khartoum, Sudan

People responsible for such atrocities should be punished severely. Yet I doubt very much that such punishment would be approved. It would mean that political and government officials would not be able to line their pockets with blood money. In this day and age it seems that money has more value than life.

Natalie Philip, Illinois, USA

These animals are our nearest relatives, therefore it is a heinous crime. Take away the liberty of the smugglers for at least 5 years. The punishments have to be deterrents.

Pat Maxwell, Nanaimo, Canada

\$50,000 plus life in jail. We feel it it's about time more dealers were made to pay a bigger price than a few months in jail and too small a fine.

Peggy Rogers, Kelowna, Canada

Stuff them into wooden boxes, nail the lid on tight, and turn them upside-down for a day.

Helen Metaxis, Athens, Greece

I feel that we need to make a penalty as drastic as possible to help discourage these people from doing this. These people who have no compassion are not going to stop just by us writing them letters. They need to be punished.

Lori Sanborn, New Jersey, USA

The smugglers belong in cages. My husband and I are deeply sad with the hurt and pain these animals are going through.

Mr. and Mrs. B East, New York, USA

Life in Jail! Orangutan (or any primate) smuggling is kidnapping and should be treated as such.

Wendey Wolf, Colorado Springs, USA

Solitary confinement in a small cage.

Dr. Reena Mathur, Jaipur, India

\$50,000 and life in jail. They should also be made, under strict supervision, to do some kind of work to protect animals. e.g. plant trees. God bless you.

Sister Mary Vianney, Florida, USA

Permanently bar non-citizens from entering country.

Adam Moledina, Singapore

Death by firing squad and no last cigarette. They shoot orangutan mothers and smugglers should be shot, too.

Pattie McReber, Georgia, USA

\$50,000 fine and 20 years jail. Banishment. Passport revoked. Censored, not printable!

Barbara Middlemas, California, USA

Life in jail for all the lives they have taken. They know it's illegal but they commit crimes over and over again with no regard to the sanctity of life. Inexcusable.

Traci Hoeltke, Wisconsin, USA

Continued overleaf...

PUNISHMENT POLL

How do you think animal dealers responsible for orangutan smuggling should be punished? We'd like to hear from members in all countries. Please fill in this form and mail it right away to IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484.

I vote for:

☐ Warning letter, no penalty ☐ One month jail

☐ \$100 fine ☐ One year jail

☐ \$500 fine ☐ Two years jail

☐ \$5,000 fine ☐ Five years jail

☐ \$10,000 fine ☐ Twenty years jail

☐ \$50,000 fine ☐ Life in jail

Other _____

Comments _____

Name _____

Address _____

Poll Continued

I would hang the bastards!

Ira Winkelman, New York, USA

Castration!

Corinne Fowler, California, USA

Death Penalty! More money for enforcement of all wildlife protection laws and more and stricter laws. No loopholes!

Margaret Halley, New York, USA

Personally, I would like to see them burned at the stake! But 20 years (no parole) and a \$50,000 fine would be a) acceptable to society and b) believable to the poachers.

Lona Lubin, Florida, USA

Fines are not much of a deterrent as such people have plenty of money. A few strokes of the rattan would help - may be.

Marjorie Doggett, Singapore

\$50,000 fine, 20 years in jail, plus no more traffic of any other kinds of animals for ever. Probably 20 years in jail is too much but anyway, it should be, first of all, a good deterrent.

Andres Crosta, Milan, Italy

These unscrupulous individuals must be dealt with harshly, and even the imposition of a hefty fine and life imprisonment are not severe enough penalties to match the crimes committed against these innocent creatures. In order to deter further atrocities such as these from being committed, the message must ring out loud and clear so that anyone who dares to, will wish to God they hadn't.

Barbara Pietrowiak, California, USA

20 years in jail. These guys are nothing but scum. Nothing's too harsh!

Tania Anderson, Texas, USA

I would flog them, then jail them. They wouldn't be back for a second dose!

Mrs. B. Naylor, Manchester, England

Life in jail, I think a fine is a bad idea, they'd probably smuggle more orangutans to pay for it.

Barbara Quiller, Michigan, USA

Ship the offenders in a crate, preferably to Siberia, and leave them with their conscience for company.

Mrs. B. Richfield, St. Albans, England

Death penalty! Why should taxpayers have to pay to feed and give shelter to this scum? Strong feelings? You bet!

Carol Risser, California, USA

20 years in jail, the judicial system in all countries is far too lenient for all animal smuggling.

Susan McKay, Cairns, Australia

It is time that crimes against animals should be punished as severely as crimes against humans.

Miss S. Haylock, Bishop's Stortford, England

Commitment to a mental institution with extensive psychological help before the individual can turn his/her aggressive and hostile attitude on others, including humans.

J. Roberts, Reseda, California, USA

They should be deprived of freedom in the same way as the poor creatures they smuggled lost their's, and, in some cases, their lives.

Joyce Harper, Worcester, England

Confiscation of all property and possessions, not to be returned. Prohibition from ever being a dealer in animals.

Eleanor Jones, Georgia, USA

20 years. Not only do they completely ruin the lives of the animals involved, but they also kill the mothers. So the life of the smugglers should be ruined as well.

Gert Van den Broeck, Belgium

Two years in a Turkish prison, along with the above, they should be publicly lashed 100 times with a bull-whip.

Craig Westfall, Georgia, USA

Life in jail with no parole. Murderers are murderers, regardless of species. It's even worse when the victims are endangered.

Dana Dell, Louisiana, USA

If you have not yet
responded:

PLEASE

take a few moments
to fill out and return the
Punishment Poll
on page 19.

Your comments and opinions
are important to us.

IPPL HOLDS MEMBERS' MEETING

The second IPPL Members' Meeting was held at IPPL Headquarters in Summerville, South Carolina from 27-29 May 1992. Around 50 members attended. England, Germany, and Canada were represented, as well as California, Oklahoma, and other faraway states.

Speakers included Michele Winstanley, Dianne Taylor-Snow, Shirley McGreal, William Cotreau, Bonnie Brown, and Peter Van de Bunt.

Michele, who keeps busy as an actress and IPPL volunteer, talked about IPPL-UK's Spanish beach chimpanzee campaign. William Cotreau of the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, Washington DC, explained how Washington regulatory agencies function and



Bob Ingersoll of Oklahoma with Betty Breslau of California



Michele Winstanley and Peter Van de Bunt

managed to make the topic interesting! Bonnie Brown talked about effective communication with your congressional representatives. Dianne Taylor-Snow talked about caring for the "Bangkok Six" orangutans and then teamed with Shirley McGreal to discuss the February 1992 CITES conference in Kyoto.

IPPL animal caregivers Ginny Stallings and Donetta Causey were kept busy answering questions about gibbon care. Betty Brescia coordinated the conference, and organized the baking of refreshments by IPPL staff. She was assisted by Jayne Herman who came in a few days early to help Betty. Erimic Caterers put on a splendid vegetarian banquet.

Videos were popular: Craig Westfall brought along his tape of Moza the handicapped Japanese snow monkey. Everyone enjoyed the full version of the BBC's "Ape Trade," starring our own Peter Van de Bunt, Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic, and Shirley McGreal. Members also enjoyed a five-minute Miami news segment starring (against his wishes) indicted animal dealer Matthew Block, as well as Assistant US Attorney Tom Watts FitzGerald, Shirley McGreal of IPPL, and Ron McGill of the Miami Metro Zoo, along with close-up photographs of the six baby orangutans.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Oscar Attacks Katie

The November 1991 issue of the IPPL Newsletter told how the Cleveland Zoo had spilt up a compatible non-breeding pair of gorillas (Timmy and Katie). Timmy was sent to the Bronx Zoo, supposedly to mate with four females there, and a new male gorilla named Oscar was sent to Cleveland to live with Katie.

In January 1992, Oscar attacked Katie, biting off one of her toes and hurting her back and the two animals were separated.

On 8 February, demonstrators picketed the Cleveland Zoo and called for Timmy and Katie to be reunited.

Writing in the Cleveland 9 February 1992 issue of the *Plain Dealer*, scientist Ron Haybron commented:

It makes me wonder if we shouldn't put the humans behind bars and let the gorillas out. Genetically these creatures are our nearest living relative yet we seem utterly indifferent to their individual well-being. We can't be sure that captive breeding can save the gorillas - habitat preservation is the only way.

Eye-Glasses and Monkeys

Bausch and Lomb, the world's largest supplier of eye-glasses, also owns Charles River Laboratories, the world's largest supplier of laboratory animals, including wild-caught primates.

Judge Rules for Rats, Mice and Birds

On 8 January 1992, District Judge Charles Richey ruled that the US Department of Agriculture violated US law when it excluded rats, mice, and birds from a requirement that research animals be treated humanely. Richey accused the Department of putting cost considerations ahead of the welfare of the animals contrary to "the congressional mandate."

In 1990, Animal Legal Defense Fund attorney Valerie Stanley had filed a lawsuit against the Department of Agriculture contending that the department was wrong when it excluded rats, mice and birds from the definition of "animal."

The Department of Agriculture had complained that adding other species to its inspection work-load could add work and harm other animals. But the judge noted that the Department had intentionally sought funding decreases for its animal welfare program and had even suggested eliminating the program.

Judge Richey commented:

This inertia on the part of an agency allows the mistreatment of birds, rats and mice to continue unchecked by the agency charged with the protection of laboratory animals. [I] cannot believe that this is what Congress had in mind.

Congratulations to Ms Stanley and ALDF on their court victory!

Indian Law Bans Zoo Teasing

India's Wildlife Protection Amendment Act of 1991 states in Section 33-J that:

No person shall tease, molest, injure or feed any animal or cause disturbance to the animals by noise or otherwise, or litter the grounds in a zoo.

Zoo directors are empowered to punish offenders on the spot by a fine or other penalty.

Chloe Chimp Placed in Group

The sad plight of Chloe, a chimpanzee sent from France to the Primate Research Institute of Kyoto University, Kyoto Japan, and kept singly caged for many months, drew international attention when Brigitte Bardot and Dr. Bernadette Bresard intervened on her behalf.

Now Chloe has been placed with other chimpanzees in an outdoor enclosure and appears much happier.

The Origin of AIDS

The 19 March 1992 issue of *Rolling Stone* carried a fascinating article entitled "The Origin of AIDS" by Tom Curtis.

Curtis speculates that AIDS may have been caused by inadvertent use of contaminated polio vaccine in Zaire (then the Belgian Congo) in the late 1950s. The vaccine was made from monkey kidneys.

Curtis believes that the seed vaccine stocks, which are still available in small quantities, should be tested for contamination. Noting the good motives of polio vaccine developers Salk, Sabin and Koprowski, he concludes:

There is evidence that all three pioneers used vaccines inadvertently contaminated with viruses from a species dangerously close to our own. If the Congo vaccine turns out not to be the way AIDS started in people, it will be because medicine was lucky, not because it was infallible.

Another AIDS Theory

The 29 November 1991 issue of the British scientific magazine *Nature* carried an article entitled "Aids, Monkeys, and Malaria," by Charles Gilks, of the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, Oxford, England and the Kenya Medical Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya. Dr. Gilks notes that, "Direct inoculation of fresh blood is the most efficient way to transmit the AIDS virus," and reports that there are many instances in the scientific literature of humans being experimentally injected with primate blood containing viable malaria parasites.

Gilks suggests that AIDS may be "an unforeseen hazard of primate malaria experiments," and calls for this theory to be tested.

Thieves Target Tamarins

In November 1991, thieves targeted the Poco das Antas nature reserve in Brazil and stole an entire family of golden-lion tamarins consisting of four animals.

Whitson Jose da Xosta, chief warden of the reserve, noted that this was the fourth such theft in three years.

Less than 1,000 golden-lion tamarins are left in the world.

Over 100 tamarins have been sent to Brazil by the world's zoos for rehabilitation. Now poachers and smugglers are endangering the project - and the future of the species.

Gamma Dies

Gamma, the oldest known chimpanzee, died at the Yerkes Primate Center, Atlanta, Georgia, in February 1992. She was 59.

Escaping Chimpanzees Killed

Two adult chimpanzees were shot dead, and a third was wounded by police after they escaped from their cages on 4 February 1992 at the Pencynor Park in Wales. Zoo officials were deluged with protest mail and justified the killing of the animals by saying that "we had to consider the very real danger the animals posed to members of the public and act accordingly." They admitted that the escape of the animals was facilitated by a "design fault" in the enclosure.

Wildlife Protection Pays!

The Canadian publication EcoSource reports that preservation of animals for eco-tourism is far more profitable than killing or exporting them.

Each live lion in Amboseli Park in Kenya is estimated to bring in \$27,000 in tourist dollars and each elephant herd brings in \$610,000. Prince Edward Island residents earn over \$600,000 from tourists visiting baby seals, more than was ever made by clubbing baby seals for their fur.

Cirque du Soleil Moving to Las Vegas

The Cirque du Soleil, a circus which does not use performing animals, will be moving its Headquarters from Montreal, Canada to the Mirage Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA in November 1992. The state of Nevada is notorious for its performing animal acts. Now visitors to Las Vegas will have an alternative.

August 1991 Newsletter Available in French

Thanks to our friends at "La Feuille de l'Animal," the August 1991 issue of the **IPPL Newsletter** is available in French. Free copies are available from Headquarters. Thanks to our Belgian colleagues for making a French version of our Newsletter possible!

Mannheimer Foundation Plans Expansion

The Mannheimer Foundation in Homestead, Florida, was the dream of Hans Mannheimer, the inventor of tearless baby shampoo and "Johnnie Mops." Mannheimer had a private collection of over 100 primates that he loved dearly, and he left most of his estate to a foundation to study and care for primates.

Since Mannheimer's death in 1973, his dream facility has become a fully-fledged laboratory housing over 2,000 monkeys. According to the 10 October 1991 issue of the *Miami Herald*:

Since 1973, hundreds of researchers, mostly from the University of Miami School of Medicine, have performed orthopedic, behavioral and pharmaceutical experiments there.

The Foundation recently announced plans to increase its monkey holdings to 15,000 animals and to perform more experiments on monkeys.

Transition of Mannheimer's dream facility into a laboratory performing experiments on monkeys is in questionable compliance with Mr. Mannheimer's intentions. However, poor Mr. Mannheimer is dead and so he is in no position to challenge goings-on.

Dr. Blood Dies

Dr. Benjamin Blood died on 20 January 1992 at his home in McLean, Virginia. Dr. Blood had served as head of the US National Institutes of Health Interagency Primate Steering Committee and had worked hard to keep primate trade channels open and obtain primates from the wild, including gibbons, macaques, and South American monkeys.

Blood had served as a consultant to the Austrian company Immuno AG in the corporation's lawsuit against Dr. Jan Moor-Jankowski, Shirley McGreal, and others. He had assembled the US Government's **National Primate Plan** part of which was quoted in New York Judge Beatrice Shainswit's early decision in favor of Immuno. This decision was heavily criticized in the US press, and was reversed by New York's First Appellate Department, the New York Court of Appeals and the US Supreme Court.

Blood's obituary in the *Washington Post* described him as "active in primate conservation work."

Study Opportunity

The Foundation for Field Research announces an opportunity for research on the Caribbean island of Grenada. A population of Mona monkeys introduced from Africa exists on this island. The Foundation will support a graduate student or professional for the time period 1 January-1 June and 1 October-15 December 1993. Support will consist of use of the Foundation's research center on the island, vehicle use, food, airfare and a small stipend.

Interested readers should contact the *Foundation for Field Research, POB 2010, Alpine CA 91903* before 15 June 1992 for further information.

THREAT TO CHIMPANZEES

Since 1990, the world's chimpanzees have been partly protected by Section 214 of U.S. Public Law 101-166, which states that:

No funds appropriated under this act shall be used by the National Institutes of Health or any other federal agency or recipient of federal funds on any project that entails the capture or procurement of chimpanzees obtained from the wild.

A quiet attempt is now under way to get rid of this ban. In an addition to pending US appropriations legislation, the embargo on US funding of research on wild-caught chimps would be eliminated.

Should this happen, US funds could be spent on overseas research involving wild-caught chimpanzees, and organizations outside the United States wanting to get US dollars might start acquiring chimpanzees by fair means or foul - thus adding a further incentive for poachers and smugglers and complicating the already complicated lives of beleaguered African officials seeking to enforce local laws and CITES.

Please contact your senator (*Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510*) asking that he/she ensure that Section 214 of Public Law 101-166, which helps protect chimpanzees from extinction, is not rescinded.

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TREASURER: Diane Walters

SECRETARY: Marjorie Doggett

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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.

Overseas payments should be made in US dollars or by a check drawn on a US bank. Overseas members wishing to receive their newsletters by Air Mail should add US \$5.00. Canadian members may use US dollar postal orders, issued at all Canadian Post Offices.

I wish to join IPPL as a: ☐ Patron member \$100.00 or £50
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Name _____ Street _____
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All members receive complimentary copies of the IPPL Newsletter. Individuals or organizations may subscribe to the IPPL Newsletter at an annual fee of \$20.00.

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

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