



News

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INSIDE:

**BALI'S
PROTECTED
MONKEYS**

**A CHIMP'S
RETURN
TO AFRICA**

IPPL photo by Shirley McGreal

Bali Monkey

BEANIE GIBBON STARS ON NATIONAL TV!

The Wildsight Productions program "The Forgotten Apes" is being shown on educational TV channels in the United States this fall. Don't miss it if it gets shown in your area!

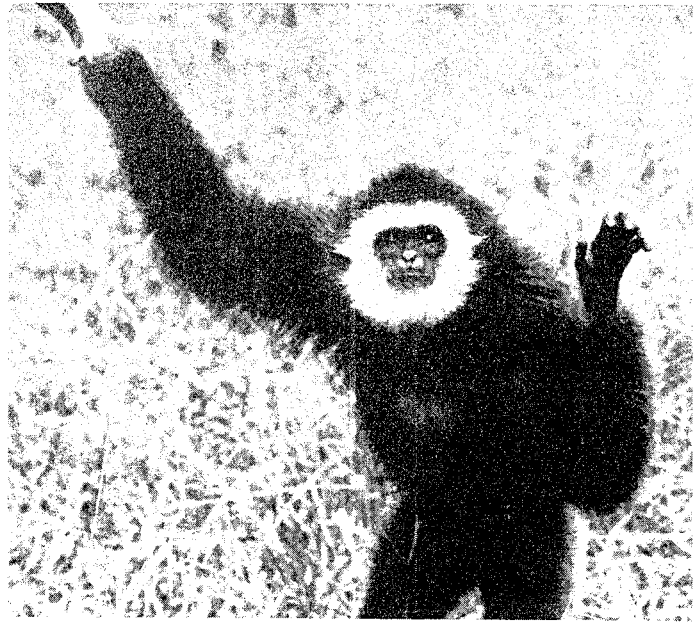
The program concentrates on the work done at two sanctuaries: Primarily Primates in Texas and IPPL's gibbon sanctuary in Summerville, South Carolina. Deborah Rivel was Executive Producer and Dan Friedman was producer and cameraman. Jane Goodall discusses the plight of abandoned primates and Jack Hanna of Columbus Zoo narrates.

One of the stars of the "Forgotten Apes" is IPPL's own Beanie Gibbon. Beanie was born at a private facility in Florida. Unfortunately Beanie got sick with encephalitis when he was just a few months old. He survived but lost his eyesight, and he has since suffered from occasional epileptic seizures.

Beanie was 3 years old when "The Forgotten Apes" was filmed. The program starts off with Beanie doing "back flips" around IPPL's property. Viewers are not told he can't see till later and there is no way they could have guessed. The program ends with Beanie, exhausted by the day's acrobatic routines, falling asleep on Shirley McGreal's lap on the porch of IPPL Headquarters.

Arun Rangsi and Shanti and their family receive a lot of attention on the program. Both were donated to IPPL by laboratories and adjusted well to their "retirement."

Also prominent in the program are Baby and Blythie Lafore, white-cheeked gibbons sent to the Lafores by their



Beanie

son and daughter-in-law, then working in Cambodia. Baby and Blythie were kept as pets by this wonderful Pennsylvania family for 22 years, and were fed a diet of health foods. It was not till their owners were 80 that they sent Baby and Blythie to IPPL in 1986.

The entire Lafore family maintain their keen interest in the gibbons and have always helped with their care. Baby and Blythie are very old for gibbons, being well into their 30s.

IPPL members can own their own copy of the Wildsight Productions program "The Forgotten Apes." Please see the center pages describing holiday items available from IPPL for details of how to obtain a copy.

ANIMAL LOVERS PROTEST MONKEY DISPLAY

Illinois Animal Action, an organization based in Warrenville, Illinois, USA, is concerned about five primates maintained by five separate Buickema's Ace hardware stores. Each monkey leads a solitary existence. The monkeys consist of 3 capuchins, one crab-eating macaque and one spider monkey.

Observers from Illinois Animal Action have made regular visits to the stores and have made videotapes of each monkey's enclosure.

Inspectors from the US Department of Agriculture have identified several alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act from 1989-1994, including inadequate cleaning, lack of environmental enrichment plans, exposed wires, lack of a written program for veterinary care, etc. Several "warning letters" were sent by the Department to the company.

However, Cindy Eck of APHIS told the Chicago Tribune that no formal complaints had been filed in connection with the monkeys and that the last inspection "showed no problems at all." Apparently APHIS does not consider solitary confinement incompatible with primate psychological well-being.

APHIS' view was not shared by Vince Sodaro, senior primate keeper at Brookfield Zoo, which maintains its primates in groups in spacious enclosures, who told the Tribune that:

If they're alone, that in itself is really a bad thing because primates are really social and normally live in social groups in the wild. Primates that are housed alone like that often have a lot of neurotic behaviors. They almost go stir-crazy.

SHIRLEY MCGREAL'S STUNNING COURT VICTORY

SMUGGLER SANCTIONED FOR FRIVOLOUS LAWSUIT

In early 1990, IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal handed to the US Fish and Wildlife Service information and documents strongly suggesting that Miami animal dealer Matthew Block was involved in the international smuggling of six baby orangutans confiscated on Bangkok Airport on 20 February 1990. The baby orangutans were in appalling condition. Several later died.

Shortly after IPPL turned him in, Matthew Block filed a civil lawsuit against Ms. McGreal, under the name of his company Worldwide Primates (of which he and his mother were then sole officers). Block claimed that two letters by McGreal to Peter Gerone, Director of the Delta Primate Center, had caused his firm economic damage.

Block used his lawsuit in part to try to get hold of IPPL documents related to himself as part of the process called "discovery." These would of course have included IPPL documents pertaining to the orangutan shipment, and identified for Block IPPL's network of confidential informants around the world. This could have helped Block abort possible prosecution if the US Fish and Wildlife Service ever "got its act together."

If these documents were passed to his fellow smugglers, whom Block later denounced in court papers as dangerous criminals, the consequences for IPPL's network might have been serious.

The lawsuit lasted for 18 months. Block dropped it on 23 February 1992, just three days after he was finally indicted by a clearly reluctant US Government for orangutan smuggling. Block was indicted on two felony and two misdemeanor counts. During his lawsuit, Block refused to provide one single document to prove his "case," which was based solely on IPPL lawfully circulating official US government reports showing filthy conditions found by Department of Agriculture and Centers for Disease Control inspectors at his monkey warehouse in Miami.

Oddly, Block took the 5th Amendment against self-incrimination 49 times in his own lawsuit. He even "took the 5th" on documents pertaining to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and various other US government agencies.

It is very unlikely that he would have "taken the 5th" if he had not in fact been engaged in criminal activity, which he later admitted. Anyone filing a lawsuit knows that he has to prove his case to win it.

Maybe Block thought he'd be able to get paid to drop his lawsuit. If so, his hopes were dashed. Before the case was dropped, Shirley McGreal applied for sanctions against Worldwide Primates for filing a baseless and frivolous lawsuit against her. Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides that those who file frivolous lawsuits, as well as their lawyers, may be sanctioned by judges. Rule 11 was established to deter frivolous lawsuits, such as Block's.

Magistrate William Turnoff and Judge Kenneth Ryskamp, both of whom had shown a strong bias towards Block throughout the case, especially the former, decided against an award of sanctions.

Turnoff expressed open sympathy for Block, on the grounds that he was facing criminal charges that could land him in jail. Jail is where many people knowledgeable of the horrible sufferings undergone by the smuggled baby orangutans thought Block belonged (he was later sentenced to 13 months jail, and is appealing to avoid serving his time).

Fortunately for Shirley McGreal and IPPL, Thomas Julin, a prominent Miami lawyer specializing in First Amendment (freedom of expression) cases, offered to appeal denial of sanctions. We are delighted to tell you that Mr. Julin just won a big victory!

On 25 July 1994 a three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals (11th Circuit) ruled unanimously that Worldwide Primates should be sanctioned for its frivolous lawsuit, and ordered Judge Ryskamp also to consider sanctioning Block's long-term lawyer Paul Bass, who had already been told off by the Florida Bar for lying in a court document.

The judges commented that:

The [case] record amply supports the imposition of sanctions because it reflects no basis, either factual or legal, for Worldwide's lawsuit.

Block had been helped in his lawsuit by Peter Gerone, Director of Tulane University Primate Center. Gerone did all he could to help Block by stonewalling efforts to get documents or testimony. Sixteen months into the case, Gerone finally testified, admitting that Tulane had continued dealing with Block after receiving the letters, which he had ignored and faxed to Block.

The appeals court noted that:

It is important to note that throughout the course of this action, Worldwide has never alleged that anything contained in McGreal's letters was false. The letters did no more than accurately describe the accompanying government reports. Worldwide could establish no cause of action for interference with its business relationship with Delta, when all McGreal did was give Dr. Gerone truthful information.

The appeals court concluded:

Because Worldwide pursued this action in federal court when it knew, or should have known, that its claim was legally and factually baseless, this case is remanded to the district court for the determination of an appropriate sanction against Worldwide...The court should also consider whether a sanction should be imposed against Worldwide's counsel.

Court Victory – Continued

Unless the appeals court reconsiders its decision (as requested by a clearly very unhappy Block), the case now returns to Judge Ryskamp for determination of sanctions.

The usual sanction under Rule 11 is an order requiring the filer of a frivolous lawsuit and/or his lawyer to pay the entire legal expenses of the victim of the frivolous lawsuit, including lawyers' bills. So far these bills have exceeded \$150,000.

Because Block and his company escalated the costs by constant delays and by Block wrapping himself up in the Fifth Amendment, it certainly would serve both him and his lawyer right if they now have to pay the costs of harassing IPPL and its Chairwoman!

Oddly, the US Attorney's office in Miami became involved in the lawsuit in late 1991—seemingly, on the wrong side. Assistant US Attorney Tom Watts FitzGerald, then handling the "Bangkok Six" case, held a meeting with McGreal's then lawyer Bart Billbrough in late November 1991. McGreal was not present.

During this meeting, FitzGerald engaged in verbal abuse

of McGreal, and offered to give Billbrough copies of all IPPL documents subpoenaed for use in the criminal investigation, on condition that McGreal gave her signed permission. Normally grand jury documents are kept secret and are released to nobody. FitzGerald may have known that the Block camp badly wanted these documents. FitzGerald has failed to answer McGreal's requests for an explanation of his dubious "agenda."

The award of sanctions shows that, once a case gets out of the congested Miami courts, justice is attainable. Appellate judges work in teams, and are selected for their competence.

The 11th circuit recently ordered the release on bond of two Mexicans held in jail after they had completed their jail sentences (see "Gorilla Sting Trial," this issue) and will soon consider Block's appeal of his 13-month jail sentence.

IPPL sincerely thanks Thomas Julin and his associate Ed Mullins who showed their dedication to freedom of speech by fighting for sanctions against Worldwide Primates and its lawyer Paul Bass.

A LETTER TO MOLLIE BEATTIE, DIRECTOR US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

**FROM DR. RANJEN FERNANDO, PRESIDENT
WILDLIFE AND NATURE CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA**

The influx of wild animals to the United States is reaching phenomenal levels, with over a billion dollars worth of shipments being declared in 1992. Only about 20% of the declared shipments are inspected on account of the dearth of personnel to do so.

I write from a country which values our wildlife and has conserved it for centuries. Ironically we also note the Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States providing scholarships, training programs, project proposals, and plans to our country with a view to advising us on how we manage our wildlife.

This country has a 2000-year history with wildlife parks and conservation areas having been declared long before even the American Civil War and even 300 years B.C. Perhaps it is not in accordance with Truman's global policy for the United States to acknowledge such recognition.

In this context we would urge your Service to direct your resources to preventing and curtailing the quantity of wild animals being imported to your country. It is a basic concept of marketing that the supply is influenced by demand and, were it not for the demand created in your country, the supply in our country could well be self-protected.

This would be a greater contribution to conserving and protecting our wildlife *in situ* rather than offering training programs, scholarships and project proposals which start off a vicious cycle compelling us to seek your assistance to implement the projects and claims provided by your expertise.

It is hypocrisy to be inactive in the field of curtailing the consumptive nature of your life styles while trying to compensate for such indifference by doling out expertise and consultancies with scholarships on how we in the Third World should be managing our wildlife resources for the benefit of affluent countries such as your's.

THE PROTECTED MONKEYS OF BALI

The Indonesian island of Bali is a haven for wild monkeys. The roots of their protection lie in the strong Hindu tradition on the island. Most of the inhabitants of Bali are Hindus. Hindus have traditionally revered monkeys because of their important role in the Ramayana. Hanuman, the monkey god, Sugriwa, the monkey king, and his monkey subjects helped Prince Rama rescue his bride Sita from the clutches of the evil Rawana, King of Lanka, who had kidnapped her by trickery.

On his successful mission to rescue Sita, Rama was accompanied to Lanka by Sugriwa and his monkey army.

The monkeys of Indonesia, especially those living on the island of Sumatra, have been heavily exploited by Indonesia's notorious animal dealers. But, protected by tradition, the Balinese monkeys have enjoyed human protection, and many live in forest enclaves around Hindu temples.



Kechak Dancers

While in Bali to attend the August 1994 Conference of the International Primatological Society, IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal visited two of the monkey forests, including the Monkey Forest in Ubud. At both these locations the monkeys coexist relatively peacefully with humans. Teasing has unfortunately caused the monkeys at one of the monkey forests, Sangeh, to become aggressive and attack visitors.

Bali is famous for its dances. One of the most famous dances is the Kechak or monkey-dance. The accompaniment to this dance is not the usual gamelan orchestra but a group of energetic bare-chested men making monkey-like dance movements and chanting "chak-a-chak-a-chak."

Visiting wild crab-eating monkeys, one of the main species used in experimentation, in the wild, and observing their sociable family activities, underscores the cruelty of humans in incarcerating them alone in tiny cages, in laboratories or any other setting.

THANKS FROM HELP

Thanks to the generosity of members, IPPL was able to make a grant of \$1,000 to HELP, a sanctuary for chimpanzees in Pointe-Noire, Congo Republic. Chimpanzees confiscated from local poachers and animal dealers are restored to health and trained in the skills of wild living. One chimpanzee group has been released on an island in the Conkouati Reserve.

Acknowledging the safe arrival of the gift, Virginie Yacoubsohn of HELP wrote IPPL:

I just received the donation made by members of IPPL. I want to thank each of them personally for being interested. We'll use the money to buy medicine. Thanks to IPPL for publishing our article and collecting funds.



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Bali monkey and baby

TANJUNG PUTING NATIONAL PARK

Tanjung Puting National Park is located in the Central Kalimantan Province of Indonesian Borneo. It covers 300,000 hectares of land.

The park is best known for its population of wild orangutans studied for over 20 years by Canadian anthropologist Dr. Birute Galdikas. Orangutans confiscated from local residents or returned from overseas have been sent to Tanjung Puting for care.

Thanks to the kindness of Hans Iluk, an IPPL member living in Bali, IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal was able to visit Tanjung Puting National Park. To get to Tanjung Puting, visitors take a flight to Pangkalanbun, drive to Kumai, and then go by rented boat ("klotok") along the Sekonyer River to the park. Visitors can sleep on the boat or stay at the more comfortable Rimba Lodge on the edge of the park.

Camp Leakey functions as a research center. Many Indonesian students are now involved in studies of fauna and flora. In the afternoon, food is offered to several ex-captive orangutans still partly dependent on humans. One ex-captive gibbon and some wild monkeys come to share the food.

Several younger orangutans live at Tanjung Harapan, including Winnie, who lost one arm but can still climb trees skillfully. Davida, an orangutan named after IPPL West Coast Representative David Root, lives at Tanjung Harapan with her baby. Davida is an excellent mother.

In a third location in Tanjung Puting National Park, a group of eight orangutans live independently of humans, ignoring their presence.

Long-nosed Proboscis monkeys are very easy to see as they sleep in trees along the river. In the morning, these monkeys are extremely active, taking spectacular flying leaps between trees. In the evening they sleep in family groups. Agile gibbons are easy to hear because of their loud pre-dawn and morning calls, but are much harder to see. Langurs and crab-eating macaques also live in large numbers in Tanjung Puting National Park.

The six baby orangutans confiscated on Bangkok Air-



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Recently confiscated orphan

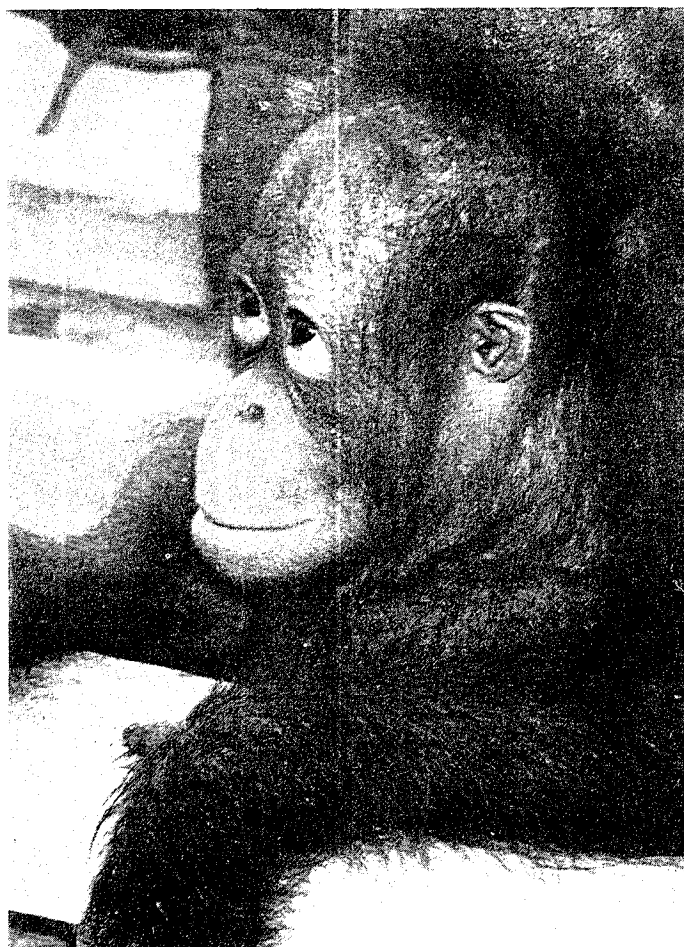


Photo: Shirley McGreal

Rehabilitant orangutan visits Camp Leakey

port on 20 February 1990 (the "Bangkok Six") were returned to Tanjung Puting. Three of the animals are known to have died, and another has been missing since 1990. Camp Leakey staff reported that the two known survivors, Tania and Bambi, have returned to the forest, and that they no longer return to camp.

Further down the Sekonyer River, Drs. Carey Yeager and her husband, Trevor Blondell, maintain a primate study camp called Natai Lengkuas. They kindly allowed Shirley McGreal, Hans Iluk, and their group to visit and trail-walk.

A British group called Trek Force has sent 50 British volunteers to help with various projects at Tanjung Puting. Among the Trek Force's accomplishments have been:

- constructing a laboratory building for Dr. Carey Yeager and her team at the Natai Lengkuas study camp;
- lengthening the 200 meter boardwalk at Camp Leakey;
- constructing a new building at Tanjung Harapan. Sadly, this building was accidentally set on fire and burned to the ground. But the volunteers have started the project again from scratch.

MEET HANS ILUK

Hans Iluk is an IPPL member who has lived on the island of Bali for seven years. He speaks the main Indonesian language (Bahasa) and lives in a small Balinese cottage with a pampered cat. Hans' cottage is close to the home of Ibu Wayan, whom he affectionately describes as his "Balinese mother." Ibu Wayan runs a wonderful restaurant on Monkey Forest Road in Bali which serves excellent Indonesian and Western food.

Hans is a travel agent, and works closely with his Indonesian friend and colleague Leksmono Santoso. Leksmono is an expert leader of tours to remote outer islands of Indonesia seldom visited by tourists. Their company, called BEST Travel, is very helpful and extremely concerned about developing Indonesian tourism in an ecologically sound manner.

Shirley McGreal was truly fortunate that, on her visit to the International Primatological Society Congress, she was able to meet Hans, without whose help her visit to Borneo would either have been impossible or a miserable ordeal!

Not only did Hans make plans for Shirley's visit to Tanjung Puting, he and Leksmono came along! Also on the trip were George Braddock and Kathryn Weit of Oregon, USA, a delightful couple who were spending several weeks travelling round Indonesia.

On Ms McGreal's return to Bali from Borneo, Hans found Shirley a beautiful cottage among the rice paddies in the town of Ubud, which is a famous arts and crafts center. She stayed there for two days during which she visited the famous Ubud monkeys and spent a long time enjoying watching them live normal natural monkey lives.

During the southern summer, Hans leads natural history cruises to the South Georgia Islands, the Falkland Islands, and Antarctica.

IPPL members planning to visit Indonesia and needing professional help with their plans would be well advised to contact our helpful friendly member Hans Iluk through Headquarters.



Hans Iluk with Winnie

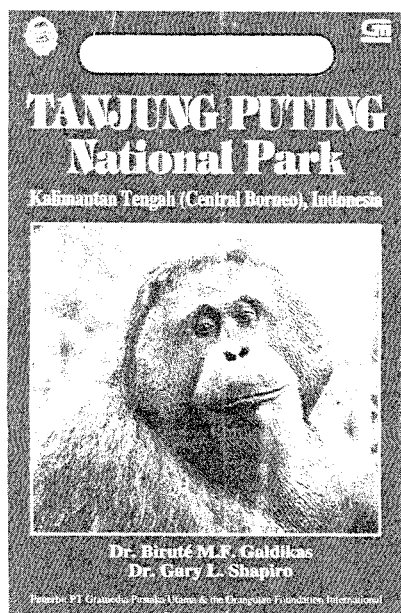
GUIDEBOOK TO TANJUNG PUTING AVAILABLE

If you are interested in visiting Tanjung Puting National Park in Kalimantan Tengah, Indonesia, a guidebook to the area has just been published. It was written by Drs. Birute Galdikas and Gary Shapiro.

The book tells the history of the region and its people, who include the fascinating Dayaks, and provides information about the park and its fauna and flora, including orangutans, proboscis monkeys, gibbons, leaf monkeys, and macaques.

There is a detailed section on how to get to the National Park, local accommodations, the park's main attractions, and other interesting places in the area.

A Guidebook to Tanjung Puting National Park is available from the Orangutan Foundation, 822 S. Wellesley Av., Los Angeles, CA 90049, USA, for \$9 (US) which includes postage and packing.



WANARISSET ORANGUTAN PROJECT

The Wanariset Orangutan Reintroduction Project was founded in 1991. It is located at Samboja, 30 miles from Balikpapan, in East Kalimantan. Samboja lies on the road to Samarinda. The project began when two confiscated orangutans were handed to an ongoing Dutch forestry project.

Willie Smits, then Team Leader of this cooperative Dutch-Indonesian Forestry Project, approached the Pasir Ridge International School to see if the children could raise funds for care and housing of the orangutans.

Since that time the International School has been closely associated with the project's orangutan work. Its principal, Dr. Joe Cuthbertson, heads the Balikpapan Orangutan Society which helps support the project. All Grades 1-8 students from Pasir Ridge went to the airport to welcome a group of orangutans being returned from Taiwan. Among these orangutans was six-year old "Dai-Dai," who had been raised by a Taiwanese family since she was a baby.

Over 120 orangutans have been sent to the project. Among them were the famous "Taiwan Ten" whose return to Indonesia, along with that of the "Bangkok Six," was featured in the BBC program "The Ape Trade." The fact that the Wanariset project has been forced to handle such a large number of orangutans emphasizes the appalling persistence of the profitable trade in baby orangutans.

Over 20 people are employed just on the orangutan part of the wide-ranging project. Among them are Pa' Unin, the head technician, Nardi, who supervises the laboratory, and Pak Lambai, who was formerly a poacher but now works to protect the Sungai Wain forest area where orangutans are being released.

Dr. Kris Warren, an Australian veterinarian, is live-in veterinarian at the project, which also uses the services of two Indonesian veterinarians. Two Dutch students are currently living in Sungai Wain Forest where they conduct observations on the released orangutans.

As of May 1994, 40 orangutans had been released at three separate sites in the Sungai Wain Forest. These sites are not inhabited by wild orangutans, which eliminates the poten-



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Kris Warren D.V.M.

tial problem of rehabilitant orangutans spreading human diseases to wild orangutans. Once the Sungai Wain forest reaches its carrying capacity, estimated to be around 165 orangutans, orangutans will be released in the Meratus Mountain area.

Project staff are hoping that public education in Indonesia and overseas will reduce the number of orangutans needing homes.

Most of the support for the project comes from local sources, including the Pertamina oil company. The UNOCAL Company, a Pertamina sub-contractor, allows the project use of its modern medical clinic during hours when human patients are not present!

A VISIT TO WANARISSET

by Shirley McGreal

Interested in learning more about the Wanariset Orangutan Reintroduction Project, I flew to Balikpapan, Indonesia, on 16 August 1994. Willie Smits' assistant Ellisa kindly met me at the airport. Shortly after checking into the hotel, Dr. Kris Warren came to pick me up since Willie Smits was out of town. Kris was in a large van containing several animal caregivers—and one orangutan.

The orangutan, a Taiwan returnee, had a questionable chest x-ray on her last check-up, and it was feared she might have

tuberculosis. Being close to Balikpapan, a major town, is a real advantage for the project in some ways because there is a medical clinic there run by the Unocal Company. The clinic was our destination.

The orangutan was tranquilized (a hard task) and carried into the clinic, where she was x-rayed by a machine usually used for humans. Unfortunately the radiograph was still not clear. The Unocal medical doctor was extremely helpful to the team.

Visit – Continued

Early the next morning I went to Wanariset, which is about an hour's drive from Balikpapan on a good road. Red and white flags were everywhere because August 17 is Indonesia's national day.

Employees and their families had all come to the station to celebrate the day with games such as sack races and tugs of war. But animal care proceeded as usual.

Some of the orangutans have tested positive for hepatitis B and/or tuberculosis. Until these problems are cleared up, they cannot be released. Sadly some of the animals will probably never be released, including Romeo, one of the first returnees from Taiwan. Funds are being sought for the long-term housing of non-releasable orangutans.

Several young orangutans are learning to live together in a glass-fronted enclosure. Older animals, those next in line for release, live in a very large enclosure. The orangutans in this enclosure can be observed from a viewing platform. This platform is the only place where people who have adopted orangutans, including Pasir Ridge International School students, can visit. Casual visitors are not allowed. These orangutans were very active and almost ready for release.

The station had a large clinic where nursery infants and animals under treatment were housed. Animal records are computerized. The International School students have also prepared a software program about Indonesian primates. They are spreading the word about orangutans round the world through E-mail and, as a result, several overseas schools have adopted orangutans.

On a display board are photos of every single orangutan who ever entered the project as well as childrens' drawings of orangutans.

In addition to the orangutans, there were three gibbons and two monkeys at the station. Because gibbons are territorial, gibbon release poses special problems. Unfortunately, there are many captive gibbons all over Borneo, and an aggressive

gibbon confiscation program could result in a large increase in gibbons at a facility already deluged with orangutans.

Visiting Wanariset was a fascinating experience and IPPL thanks Kris, Mr. Mulyana, Ellisa, Yanti and all the staff for being so helpful.

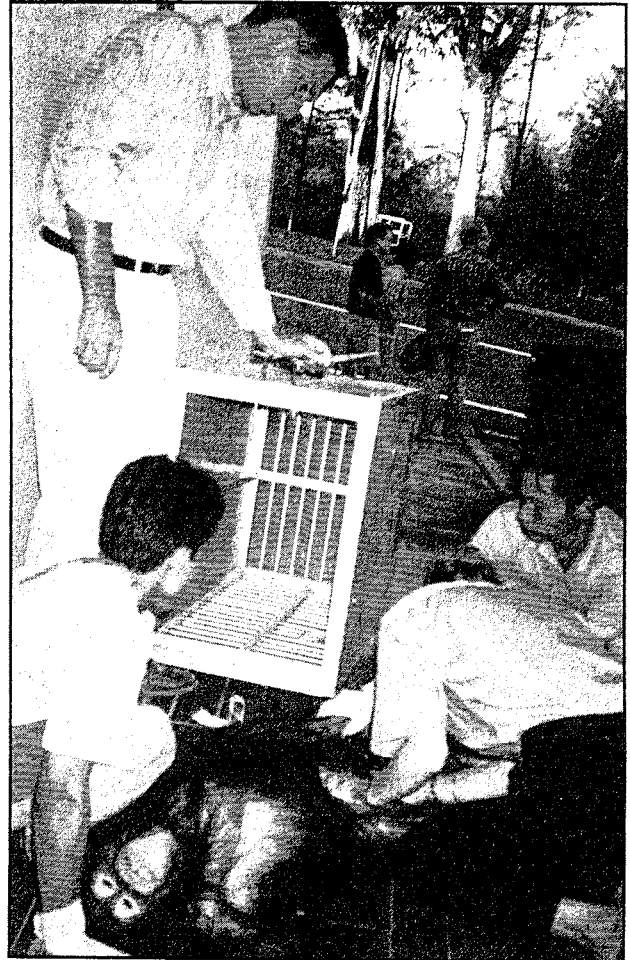


Photo: Shirley McGreal

Orangutan arrives at clinic for x-ray

THE DOWNSIDE OF GORILLA TOURISM

The April 1994 issue of *Getaway* magazine described a visit by Western tourists to the gorillas of Zaire. A photograph accompanying the article shows a woman sitting within arms' reach of gorillas in the middle of a group. Later there was inter-species touching.

Concerned at this and other reports of too close proximity between humans and gorillas, conservationists Drs. Jan Kalina and Thomas Butynski sent a statement to government agencies and conservation organizations around the world to express their concern.

The purpose of our writing this letter is to encourage those governments and conservation organizations concerned with managing, supporting and advising on gorilla tourism, to do more to ensure that the "5 Meter Distance" regulation is strictly enforced.

There is general agreement that gorillas and tourists must stay far apart to avoid the possibilities of over-habituation of gorillas, harm to the tourists and guides, and the transmission of diseases, particularly the many viruses and bacteria which humans carry and to which gorillas are highly susceptible. These include such killers as tuberculosis, measles and pneumonia. A disease epidemic in any population of mountain gorilla could be catastrophic for this critically endangered subspecies.

Tourism, supposedly to benefit mountain gorilla conservation, could well be responsible for the demise of the mountain gorilla.

If you ever visit gorillas, please remember and respect the rules. Stay well away from the animals, and try to ensure that other group members do the same.

PROFILES OF CONFISCATED ORANGUTANS

The 1992 Annual Report of the Wanariset Orangutan Re-introduction Project includes the profiles of all orangutans, living and dead, that have been included in the project. These profiles reveal human cruelty and abuse, which resulted in the deaths of some animals despite the best efforts of Wanariset staff to keep them alive, but it also shows that many orangutans have been restored to health and sanity through the dedication of all involved in the program. Extracts from some of the case histories follow:

Uce, female, 3 years, 15 kg. on arrival in January 1991

Uce was confiscated together with three orangutans and two gibbons in January 1981, ready to be sold to people on a foreign boat near Samarinda...she has become very strong in the meantime and destroyed anything that could be destroyed in the large cage...she is rarely ill...Uce was released in the Sungai Wain Forest on 23 May 1992...Uce already knows how to make a simple nest and eats a great variety of leaves and fruits and also often is seen eating ants...Uce has visibly gained weight and is in perfect condition. She does no longer want to come close to people.

Charlie, 5 years, male, 30 kg. on arrival in 1991

Charles is the biggest of the orangutans present at the station. He is one of the famous Taiwan Ten that was smuggled out of Kalimantan to Taiwan and was returned to Indonesia in 1990...he is very fat...his hands are enormous...he will probably be the leader of the first group to go back to the jungle... Charles was released in the Sungai Wain Forest on 23 April 1992...he is already completely independent and we will probably not see him very often again. Very recently we heard him perform the long call for the very first time.

Atong, 1 year, male, 3 kg. on arrival in 1991

Atong was confiscated from a shifting cultivator who had felled the tree that his mother was in. He was bound with a

rope around his neck to one of the stilts the house was built on and sitting there in the dirt. He had several wounds in his neck, on his back, on his thighs, and he had some fungal skin infection... he clearly suffered from malnutrition. His eyes look sad in his seemingly over-proportionate head. Especially when he just reached the station he seemed to have lost all interest in the outside world. After intensive medical treatment he now starts to become active and to eat a lot for an orangutan his size. He now even starts to play with other baby orangutans...It looks like he will make it after all.

Garong, 2 years, male, 3 kg. on arrival in 1991

Garong was confiscated in Tenggarong. The word garong means "wild." When we received the message that he was awaiting transport and went to pick him up he had escaped. First he had ruined a cage and when he was locked in a house of a police officer, he broke through the ceiling and roof and escaped for three days while everybody was hunting him in the middle of the town. No wonder that after three days he had become very aggressive and bit everybody. After two days at the station he had already become more quiet and proved to be a gentle nice orangutan...soon Garong will join the second group to the jungle.

Bento, 2.5 years, male, 11 kg. on arrival in 1992

Bento was confiscated from some Dayaks in the backlands of the Mahakam River. The confiscation almost resulted in an attack with a machete on the official of the ministry of forestry. Then he was trans-

ported by boat to Samarinda and by car from there to the station. There he arrived on 8 January. Benito has a very round face, very different to all the other animals at the station...Benito eats and drinks well...when he is being called or wants something he will clap his hands. He likes to be held by the technicians. He seems to be in very good condition.



ANI

Unyil, female, 12 years, 32 kg. on arrival in 1992

Unyil is the only adult female at the station...she was kept for 11 years by various officials of South Kalimantan. Every time when they were moved to some other location they handed her to another high official. She was always kept in a very small cage. The cage was bound to a tree with a chain, because she had pulled out the cage from the ground. She walked around a little carrying her cage. Even when treated so bad Unyil had an extremely gentle character. She was isolated for the quarantine period but then broke off the 18 millimeter iron bars as if they were just some decoration. When we welded the bars again and put them in reinforced concrete she repeated the trick without any problem. Fortunately she did not want to escape but wanted contact with other orangutans...She is very clever. For example she once pulled out some of her hairs, then bound each single one to another at the ends, thus making a long thin rope. Then she bound a banana peel to the end of her string and threw it behind the apples far away from her cage. Then she carefully brought the apples in.

Lusi, 3 years, female, 7 kg. on arrival in 1992

Lusi was a very poor victim of abuse. She came out of the forest with two other orangutans because of the drought. They were eating some bananas planted by some shifting cultivators at Kilometer 74 along the road to Bontang from Samarinda. Then the people started hunting them because

they were angry and poor Lusi could not make it as fast to the trees as her companions. The villagers started beating her up very severely when a military man stopped his car and told them to stop it and release the animal. The villagers were very angry and did not agree. Then the military man took Lusi and brought her to the PHPA [Indonesian nature conservation division] people in Samarinda that brought her to the Wanariset Station. Here the doctors noted a broken right arm, many broken teeth, a fracture in the skull and some heavily bruised ribs...the bone that stuck through her arm started infecting and more than a glass of pus had to be removed before the broken arm could be treated. Her condition quickly deteriorated...she died after four terrible days notwithstanding the transfusions and antibiotics given her. She was buried in the forest.

Ani, female, 3 months, 1.5 kg. on arrival in 1992

Ani was another baby orangutan that was confiscated in the Sebulu region close to Samarinda. She is very small. Actually she is the smallest orangutan we have ever received at the station. Ani is still much too small to take a blood sample...she is accepting milk from the technicians. She will not take any food, except crushed bananas that have to be deposited in her cage, then she will slowly eat some by herself. We hope that she can survive and grow bigger.

Bella, 9 months, 2.5 kg. on arrival in 1992

Bella is another little baby brought into the station. She was confiscated in Balikpapan...she can eat herself and likes to climb. She eats and drinks very much for such a little baby until her belly is completely round...Bella has been through a very critical period in which she was severely ill. She had heavy, long-lasting diarrhea...[three months later] Bella's weight is now 5 kg. which is twice as much as when she arrived. Bella is completely healthy.

MEET SHIRLEY GIBBON!

Besides over 100 orangutans, three gibbons currently live at the Wanariset station. They belong to the agile gibbon species. One gibbon recently handed over to the station was living in a small holding cage not suitable for long-term housing.

Ms. McGreal donated \$500 of her travellers' checks so that new housing could be built for the friendly as-yet-unnamed gibbon, who was immediately given a name—Shirley! We have just received a fax from Willie Smits thanking IPPL and saying that the new enclosure is under construction already, so that Shirley can have more space as she awaits rehabilitation.

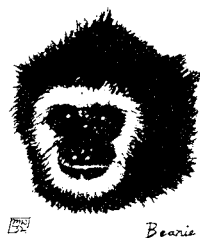
It is the generosity of IPPL members that makes it possible for IPPL to learn about, and help, lovely animals in faraway places.



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Shirley Gibbon

CHRISTMAS GIFT ITEMS



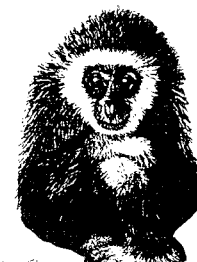
Beanie



Igor



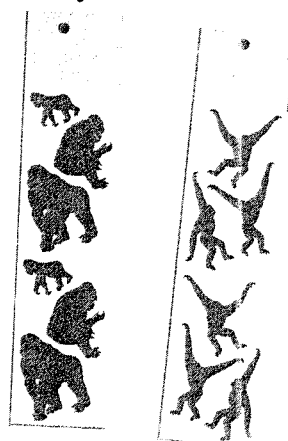
Shanti with Michele



Arun Rangsi

NEW: Lovely note cards featuring IPPL gibbons Beanie, Igor, Shanti with Michele and Arun Rangsi

Artwork by Michele Winstanley



Gibbon gift wrap: \$4.50 for 3 packs postpaid

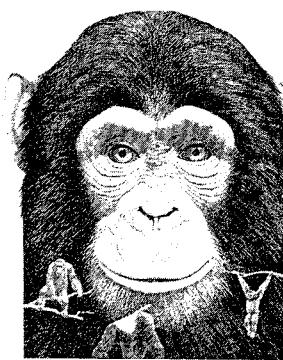
New: Gibbon and Gorilla Stickers
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"Baboon Orphan"
Hard cover: \$8



APES
TESS LEMMON
JOHN BUTLER

"The Apes" by Tess Lemmon
Hard cover: \$16



"Among the Orangutans"
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 and the IPPL gibbons
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 Chimps both sides
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 XXL White only



Gorilla T: \$14
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 XXL White only

Gorilla sweats: \$25
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 front silverback,
 back mother/baby.*

Gibbon T: \$14
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CONSERVATION HERO'S MYSTERIOUS DEATH

Klaus-Jurgen Sucker was found dead at his home in Kisoro, Uganda, on 20 June 1994. The circumstances of his tragic death are still shrouded in mystery, like the death of Dian Fossey. One press report indicated that he had hanged himself. However, before his death Sucker had received several threats on his life.

Sucker was born in Minden, Germany, on 12 November 1956. Since 1988 Sucker had been involved in mountain gorilla conservation work in Uganda.

In 1989 Sucker took charge of the Mgahinga Gorilla

Project. Mgahinga is located in the Virunga Volcanoes, and mountain gorillas move freely across the Rwanda-Uganda border. In May 1991, Mgahinga became a national park. Sucker worked on plans for limited eco-tourism in the area, and a tourism program was initiated in 1993.

He had also worked to bring an end to illegal deforestation in the area. Sucker worked hard and with total dedication, during his last months in extremely difficult circumstances. His death is a sad reminder of the dangers that protectors of wildlife face in a troubled world.

GORILLAS STILL IN PERIL

The sheer horror of the civil war in Rwanda has filled TV screens worldwide for months now. Among the massive press coverage little is heard about the plight of the mountain gorillas. All expatriate conservation workers in the Virungas left Rwanda early in the war.

However, the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund has reported that its anti-poaching patrols, staffed by Rwandans, have continued, although in mid-July 1994, as rebel forces were advancing, some or all of the workers and their families fled to safety across the Rwanda-Zaire border. The Karisoke Research Center has been ransacked. The absence of rangers leaves the gorillas vulnerable to snares set by poachers and the park open to encroachment and illegal wood-cutting.

Press reports indicate that a group of trackers crossed the border in early August and located the three gorilla groups studied by researchers. The 60 gorillas shown to tourists were not found. Some may have crossed the border into Zaire.

Two gorillas, including the well-known gorilla Effie, are reported missing from the Karisoke study groups, but their deaths are presumed to have been from natural causes.

The Akagera National Park, which is not in gorilla territory, has been abandoned by humans. Baboons have reportedly taken up residence at Park Headquarters and at the two-star Akagera Hotel. **Los Angeles Times** reporter John Balzar found them having a wonderful time and totally ignoring the "Access Forbidden for Non-Residents" and "Swimming Pool Entry Charge, \$5" signs in the pool area!

Nyungwe Forest Reserve, home to black and white colobus monkeys, blue monkeys, and grey-cheeked mangabeys, but not gorillas, has unfortunately been in the direct path of fleeing civilians. Several thousand visitors a year used to visit Nyungwe to view habituated monkeys, another program that has sadly been suspended.

The gorilla tourism program, formerly Rwanda's second biggest money earner, is dead but may be revived if and when hostilities cease—if there are any gorillas left. To make things worse, parts of Rwanda have been mined.

Although solid information is hard to get, reports in the British press of gorillas being eaten have fortunately not been confirmed.

JANE GOODALL STANDS UP FOR CHIMPS

The April 1994 issue of **IPPL News** told about the sale of chimpanzees in Saudi Arabia and asked readers to send protest letters to Saudi embassies and wildlife officials.

Unfortunately Saudi law does not ban import of animals smuggled from their homelands: it only protects Saudi Arabia's native animals. The source of the chimpanzees reported by several observers is still not known although the animals are believed to have been shipped from Tanzania, having probably been caught in either Zaire or Tanzania.

Jane Goodall, who is a member of IPPL's Advisory Board, has now added her voice to the protest. In a letter to the Saudi Ambassador, London, England, dated 7 June 1994, Dr. Goodall described the intelligence and family life of chimpanzees and commented:

For every infant that survives and appears on the markets many individuals die, since the method of capture is to shoot the mother and take the baby. In so doing many other adults and adolescents may be killed, trying

to protect the group from attack. Even if the baby survives capture (and many do not) they are so often traumatized and dehydrated that it requires skill to nurse them back to life. Thus it is when one understands the chimpanzee and the close similarities to humans that one becomes disturbed to hear of infants offered for sale, as so many will have died for every one baby that survives.

I believe that when more people understand these facts, there will be fewer people wanting to buy infants. In the meantime, if Saudi Arabia would become a signatory of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) this could be very helpful to all those who want to see an end to this form of suffering and cruelty.

As of 31 August 1994, Saudi Arabia had still not joined the CITES treaty, and Saudi nationals and their disreputable suppliers are most probably actively continuing their depredations on the world's wildlife, including chimpanzees.

MASYA CHIMPANZEE RETURNS TO AFRICA

A young chimpanzee stranded in Haiti left the island nation for Africa on 24 June 1994. Her name is Masya and she was on the next to the last commercial flight to leave Haiti for the United States.

It took the efforts of a large team of people to ensure Masya's safe return to Africa. Those involved included Lori and Duane Raab of Palm Beach, Florida, who direct a US support group for the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage; Carole Noon, a University of Florida Ph. D. student; Patty Ragan of Miami, who advised the chimpanzee's owner in Haiti about chimpanzee care and raised funds for her return to Africa; IPPL's US and UK branches; His Excellency Otema Musuka, Ambassador of Zambia to the United Nations, and many others.

Masya is now safe in Africa. Negotiations to return her to Africa had been under way for nine frustrating months.

Masya had been accepted by the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in northern Zambia. Chimfunshi is run by Dave and Sheila Siddle. It is home to over 40 confiscated chimpanzees, many of whom live in a large 7-acre walled enclosure. This wall is known locally as "The Great Wall of Zambia." All the arrangements for Masya's entry into Zambia had been made by Renate Winch of Lusaka.

The United Nations had at the time applied an economic embargo on Haiti for political reasons. To move the chimpanzee to Zambia, permission from the US Treasury Department would be required. Or so it seemed. Both Lori Raab and Shirley McGreal worked with unfriendly US Treasury officials to try to get an exemption from the embargo. Treasury officials were stubborn and obnoxious, even though the chimpanzee was being donated to Chimfunshi and the

US Fish and Wildlife Service had agreed to allow the chimpanzee to transit Miami.

The officials' argument was that people matter and chimpanzees don't! These bureaucrats conveniently forgot that Masya was not competing for passenger space with humans leaving Haiti since she would travel in the cargo hold. Any "competition" would be with suitcases not people!

What seemed like a crippling blow to the attempt to return the chimpanzee to Africa turned out to be a blessing in disguise. After weeks of stalling, the US Treasury Department got rid of its unwanted problem by suddenly announcing that Zambia, not the United States, would have to obtain the waiver from the United Nations embargo. Masya's friends were in a state of shock. It seemed like things were back at Square One and that Masya might never reach Africa.

Faxes were sent by Raab and Shirley McGreal of IPPL to the Zambian Ambassador to the United Nations, His Excellency Otema Musuka. The Ambassador immediately contacted IPPL Headquarters by phone offering assistance and seeking more information. He made immediate contact with his home government, and applied for and obtained the waiver within days.

IPPL SUGGESTION:

Without the help of Ambassador Musuka, Masya might still be in Haiti — a chimpanzee without a future. Please send him a note or thank-you card to express your appreciation for his help!

Address: H.E. Ambassador Otema S. Musuka, Permanent Mission of Zambia to the UN, 237 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022, USA



Carole and Masya

CAROLE'S STORY

Carole Noon accompanied Masya to Africa and her account of Masya's early days at Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, directed by Dave and Sheila Siddle, follows.

In October 1993 I sent the following fax to Dave and Sheila Siddle at the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in Zambia.

Here's a story I'll bet you've never heard before. A sailor buys a baby chimpanzee in Zaire and takes her across the sea to the ship's first port of call, Haiti. The chimpanzee, named Masya, arrives too ill to continue. A local family adopts her and she stays behind as their family pet. She is about three years old now and healthy. The family wants to do what is best for her. Can Masya come to Chimfunshi to live?

The Siddles' reply was short and simply: "Yes, send her."

Nine months later Masya left Haiti for Miami, the first stop on her way to Africa. She arrived in Haiti on the second to last plane before the US sanctions stopped all commercial air traffic. This is the story's of Masya's amazing journey back to Africa.

I met Masya in Miami. She was a little chimpanzee in a large wood transport box. Her face was barely visible behind the heavy mesh that covered the ventilation windows. My impression of Masya was that she was admirably calm in the presence of all the heavy, noisy equipment that was rushing about the cargo terminal where she spent her time before leaving for London.

Because Masya's departure from Haiti had been repeatedly postponed, Lori Raab was no longer free to accompany her to Africa. So I was asked to take Lori's place and reluctantly agreed. Masya needed someone to produce the proper permits and papers, accompanying her through Customs, and make sure she was not stranded on a tarmac somewhere en route. I was professional, detached, and not overly keen about this interruption in writing my dissertation.

After eight hours in Miami Masya and I left for London. The minute the plane left the ground, much to my surprise I was overwhelmed with a sense of responsibility to Masya, riding below in the cargo hold, so far from home with even farther to go. I couldn't have felt more affection for this little chimpanzee whose face I'd hardly seen. By the time the plane reached cruising altitude, I was completely devoted to Masya.

We arrived in London on Saturday morning. Due to the assistance of the International Primate Protection League in the USA and Britain, Masya was promptly unloaded and delivered to the London Animal Quarantine Station. Twenty four hours after Masya entered the transport box in Haiti the door was opened. Masya popped out, gave me a brief hug, and was off exploring her large cage. She was thin and had very little hair but it wasn't until I saw her with the other babies at Chimfunshi that I realized how little she was.

We spent four days in London waiting for our flight to Zambia. During these days volunteer Tamsin Constable of

BBC Wildlife magazine helped out. Masya was, above all else, curious. She was playful and ticklish and laughed easily. Masya swung from the ropes in her cage and made elaborate nests in the shredded newspaper that covered the floor. The staff at the station gave Masya special attention and food and a large pink teddy-bear three times her size. When it was time to leave London for Africa Masya was loaded back into the transport box with a head of lettuce and her teddy bear.

Dave Siddle met us at the airport in Lusaka and we made the six-hour trip to Chimfunshi in his truck. When we arrived Masya met Sheila and then explored the kitchen. She discovered the vegetable bin and gorged herself on tomatoes, onions and garlic. Finally, she went to sleep in an airline kennel with the pink teddy bear.

The next morning we took Masya up to the handling facilities at the 14-acre enclosure and placed her in a cage next to the five other orphans about her age. When the door to the kennel was opened, Masya came out. She displayed and hooted at the others through the bars.

The five babies were glued to their side of the bars that separated the two cages. Masya reached into the kennel and pulled out the teddy bear. Positioning herself on the ledge Masya lay on the stuffed bear and refused to look at the others. That bright playful chimpanzee I knew in London disappeared. Masya was depressed.

For the next few days Masya was given lots of attention, special food, and milk. She still refused to acknowledge the existence of the five babies next door. Masya hadn't seen another chimpanzee since her mother was shot by poachers during her capture. She was understandably overwhelmed.

After four days Masya and I started to accompany the others on their daily trips to the bush. Masya, still refusing to acknowledge the existence of the five babies, was eager to explore the forest and left me almost immediately. The other chimpanzees were eager to get to know Masya and repeatedly approached her.

Masya misunderstood every play invitation given her by the others. She returned looking small and vulnerable compared with the babies crowded around her. When they got too rough, I hooted "threats" to the others! Safe in my lap Masya slapped at the babies whose play gestures offended her.

But, the more Masya rejected their attention, the more intrigued the others became with her.

I spent a month with Masya at Chimfunshi. By the end of the first week she was getting more confident. Masya could easily out-climb and avoid the others and crossed over skillfully between the trees in the forest canopy.

Suddenly, she stopped running away when the others approached. She started to play with Violet, the smallest of the

five babies and then with some of the others. Violet and Masya started staying together when the babies returned from the bush to the cages. Masya was changing so rapidly now that I was having trouble keeping track of it all.

Zsabu is the oldest of the babies. Masya was still afraid of him and would rush to me when he approached. During her third week in the bush she stopped running away from Zsabu. They started to play daily. I noticed Zsabu was protecting Masya. His protection was very subtle. If one of the others would play too roughly with Masya, Zsabu would intervene and take over the unruly baby himself. More often he simply placed himself between Masya and the others.

Because Masya was playing with all of the other babies in the bush, the door that separated her and Violet from the others was opened. Masya was herself in the bush but, when the babies returned to the cage after their day in the forest, Masya was withdrawn. She would sit all huddled up alone while the others played nearby. Zsabu continued his protective role both in the bush and in the cage.

Three weeks after our arrival in Chimfunshi I wrote the following in my notes:

This morning I was up at the cages watching the babies before going into the bush. Trixie was getting frustrated with Masya's play refusals and smacking Masya harder and harder with every pass. I said to myself "Zsabu should come along just now" and that is exactly what he did.

Trixie made another pass at Masya and this time pulled her hair. Masya threatened Trixie and then screamed. Zsabu put his arms around Masya. Masya put her arms around Zsabu. For the first time since her mother was killed Masya looked at another chimpanzee for comfort and reassurance. She didn't even glance in my direction. Masya is finally looking at the others.

In an instant it is finished, only the details are left to work out. After we returned from the bush, Masya, usually aloof and alone, napped in a heap with the others.

For the next week I watched as Masya worked out the details and evolved into a member of the group of babies. Sometimes all you could see was a black blur of chimpanzees playing and laughing high in the trees with the sound of branches breaking in the background. After refusing at least a hundred play invitations from the others, Masya was pursuing them and in correct chimpanzee fashion, grabbing their

Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, Inc.

July 28, 1994

Ms. Shirley McGreal
IPPL
PO Drawer 766
Summerville, SC 29484

Dear Shirley:

The long process of attempting to return the chimpanzee Masya to Chimfunshi is finally over and Carole Noon is due back tomorrow with a full report on her trip from Haiti to Africa.

Over the last year I have had to deal with many organizations and agencies in acquiring permits and making transportation arrangements. By far one of the most helpful of these was IPPL, both here in the U.S. and in London. You were always there for help from translating documents to following up with Washington officials in acquiring licenses. Since Masya would be transitting through London I had regular contact with Mr. Cyril Rosen, UK Representative for IPPL in London. It seems that every request or need I had Mr. Rosen's answer to me was, "Yes, we can do that" and did.

My biggest impression in looking back on my contact with IPPL was that when something needed to be done you didn't just talk about it - you did it, and immediately. I couldn't have asked for anything more.

Thank you from myself and from Masya, who now has a promising future as a chimpanzee.

Sincerely,



Lori Raab
Director

cc: Mr. Cyril Rosen

P.O. Box 13003 • North Palm Beach, Florida 33408

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feet and slapping their backs. She continued to run to Zsabu for protection but rarely needed to as she now understood that the others only wanted to play.

That is the story of Masya's amazing journey. Out of Haiti at the very last minute to London where was pampered and spoiled. Then off to Africa to meet other chimpanzees that she couldn't bring herself to look at for weeks. Finally, out of my lap and part of a black blur, high in the trees, laughing and playing.

The flawless pink hands, feet and ears she arrived with are now covered with baby bites, bush scratches and other evidence that she climbs in the forest with other orphans.

In my Utopia, Masya would still be in Zaire with her mother. With that no longer an option, she in is the next best place. She has travelled far. Now she is home.

IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU SICK

From 6-22 January 1994, Heather Smith of the Endangered Species Project of the Earth Island Institute visited Vietnam as part of a team representing several non-governmental organizations. Ms. Smith was able to obtain a copy of the menu offered by the Trong Khach Restaurant on Tam Bac Street in Haiphong.

The restaurant offered a wide range of "exotic meats," including "Stir-fried monkey," "Roty monkey," "Stewed monkeys," "Monkey stewed in ginseng," "Monkey Stewed in Chinese herbs," "Brandy mixed monkey's brain," and "Brandy mixed monkey's blood."

BLOCK: NO SHIPMENTS INSPECTED IN TWO YEARS

During the May 1992 trial of two Mexicans (See "Gorilla Sting Trial," this issue), neither side wanted to call convicted orangutan smuggler Matthew Block as a witness, both sides claiming him to be a liar.

However, because Block's name came up so often during the trial, Judge Federico Moreno startled both prosecution and defense by announcing that he intended to call Block as a "court witness" and question him himself. Such questioning is allowed, but does not happen often.

For an unclear reason, the defense lawyers then changed their minds, and Block was called to testify for just 30 minutes. He was handled very leniently by Donald Bierman, attorney for Victor Bernal, who asked Block solely if wildlife agent Jorge Picon had wanted to call the "Gorilla Sting" by the name of "Operation Kiki," after Kiki Camarena, a US drug agent killed by Mexican drug traffickers. Block said that Picon had made this comment. Bierman had no further questions.

Next Block was questioned briefly by Frank Quintero, representing Eduardo Berges. The following exchange took place:

Quintero: *How many shipments of primates did your company, Worldwide Primates, receive in 1993?*

Block: *I can't answer specifically as to 1993. I can give you a lump sum, of '92 and '93 together.*

Quintero: *Okay. Well, how many?*

Block: *Approximately sixty.*

Quintero: *Isn't it true, sir, in 1993, not one of your shipments was inspected by United States Fish and Wildlife?*

Block: *To the best of my knowledge, probably not.*

Judge Moreno: *How do you know that, Mr. Block?*

Block: *When I was present, Your Honor, there were no inspectors there.*

Judge Moreno: *How many times of those sixty shipments were you present?*

Block: *95%.*

IPPL has repeatedly protested the total failure of the six Miami-based wildlife inspectors to inspect primate shipments. These individuals are paid by US taxpayers to ensure that no smuggled wildlife enters the United States. They cannot do this unless they inspect crates to see what's in them!

Monty Halcomb, the Atlanta-based boss of Region 4 of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Law Enforcement, has justified the inspection failure by claiming that he is protecting wildlife inspectors from unspecified pathogens and chemicals.

Halcomb's excuse is feeble. Halcomb is himself based in Atlanta: six primate shipments actually entered the United States through Atlanta in 1993. Four of these shipments underwent full or partial inspection by Atlanta wildlife inspectors **right under Mr. Halcomb's nose!** Three of the inspected shipments reaching Atlanta were consigned to Wake Forest University, North Carolina, and one to a company called LABS in South Carolina.

In 1993, seven primate shipments reached San Francisco: every one was inspected. Fifteen shipments reached Washington DC: thirteen were inspected. Fifty-two shipments reached Houston, forty-one were inspected.

Only in Miami is there a 0% inspection rate for primates.

If indeed merely looking at crated primates were truly hazardous to inspectors' health, then no primate shipments would be inspected anywhere in the country. Smugglers would have a field day! If there really were a danger, then it would be dangerous for wildlife inspectors in foreign countries to check crates. The logical conclusion is that primates should remain in the wild where they belong.

Many readers of **IPPL News** probably have jobs exposing them to far more danger than looking at monkeys in crates, e.g., policemen/women, convenience store clerks, prison wardens, health care workers, etc. One of the most dangerous occupations in the world is removal of land-mines (see "Landmines, Deadly Legacy of War, this issue).

MAURITIUS SPCA CALLS FOR MONKEY BAN

For many decades the monkeys of Mauritius lived peacefully on their remote island home in the Indian Ocean. Many Mauritians belong to the Hindu religion which teaches coexistence with wildlife, and has a special respect for monkeys. Further, Mauritius was "off the beaten track" and monkeys were available from other countries.

The monkeys of Mauritius were descendants of introduced animals and had an adverse effect on some native wildlife. They also caused some crop damage.

Unfortunately for them, it was inevitable that one day animal dealers prowling the world for monkeys would descend

on the happy monkeys of Mauritius. And they did. Mauritius now exports large numbers of monkeys. Observers from the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection went to Mauritius and were able to photograph the trade, which was featured on a British TV program "The World in Action" shown on 22 June 1992.

Mr. J. D. Shuja, Honorary Secretary of the Mauritius SPCA, has sent regular protest letters to the Ministry of Agriculture. However, exports continue. The Mauritius SPCA has also offered to bring in experts to design a sterilization program to prevent monkey over-population.

"GORILLA STING" TRIAL

Despite efforts by Miami Assistant US Attorney Guy Lewis to jail them for many years, two Mexican nationals "set up" by Miami wildlife agents working closely with convicted orangutan smuggler Matthew Block were sentenced to 70 days each ("time served") by Judge Federico Moreno on 18 July 1994.

However, Lewis succeeded in keeping the two Mexicans in jail for 18 days beyond their 70-day sentences by filing an immediate appeal for longer sentences. On 5 August 1994, the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, based in Atlanta, Georgia, ordered the Mexicans released immediately on bond while Lewis' appeal of their sentences is handled, apparently feeling that keeping people in jail after they have completed their sentences is inappropriate. This appeal may take several months or possibly years to consider.

Block named three associates in the orangutan deal (all foreigners whose names had been known to US authorities for several years), and led wildlife agents on two "stings," both of people different from himself, in that none of the people "stung" had criminal backgrounds.

One sting involved Clement Solano, a 65 year old Florida bird dealer, who had smuggled birds' eggs "planted" on him by unidentified parties. Shortly after the eggs hatched, Block and Miami wildlife agent Jorge Picon came to "buy" the chicks.

Solano reports that he was arrested at gun-point. Business records and endangered parrots worth \$250,000 were seized. The birds were taken to the Loxahatchee compound of multimillionaire bird collector Richard Schubot, himself owner of 2,500 birds. Schubot died several months later.

The things I saw really shook my faith in the way our government operates. It was obvious entrapment....

Kathryn Cabrisas, Alternate Juror

The 11th Circuit, which just ordered Matthew Block sanctioned for filing a frivolous lawsuit against IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal, who had developed the information that led to Block's criminal conviction, will also soon be considering Matthew Block's appeal of his 13-month jail sentence for the international smuggling of six baby orangutans ("The Bangkok Six").

The "Mexican Gorilla Sting" originated in December 1991 following Judge James Kehoe's rejection of a probation plea-bargain Guy Lewis had signed with Block. Lewis never seemed to take Block's cruel crime seriously, saying that he just "put the buyers and sellers together" and didn't personally stuff the orangutan babies into their coffin-like shipping crates.

Although the US Fish and Wildlife Service has a Memorandum of Understanding with the American Zoo Association for placement of confiscated wildlife, the US public will not get to see the birds, which included spectacular Australian cockatoo species, because they were handed to a private party.

Solano, an extremely sick man, got off lightly, getting no jail time because of his "diminished mental capacity." He was assessed no fine due to his precarious financial condition.

The second "sting" involved Block and Miami wildlife agents luring 5 Mexican nationals to Miami to attempt to buy a zoo-born gorilla for Toluca Zoo, then directed by Victor Bernal. Toluca Zoo owned a lone female gorilla. Block learned that the zoo wanted a male gorilla, and "tipped off" Miami wildlife agent Jorge Picon.

It's so hard to believe the government used this informant, who actually committed a crime himself, and they're gonna use this ass-hole to try to get these people. It's incredible.

Juror who didn't want his name used

"Others did that," claimed Lewis in Block's defense. Lewis apparently contradicted his position on Block's role in the orangutan incident by correctly asserting in Mexican case documents that each member of a conspiracy is responsible for all acts of any conspiracy—whether present or not.

Following rejection of his lenient probation plea-bargain by Judge James Kehoe, Block became a US government informant in the hope of avoiding jail. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, federal sentences are based on mandatory guidelines, but "downward departures" can be given to criminals who become US government informants.

The normal procedure for US Fish and Wildlife Service "stings" is for proposed operations to be reviewed by a committee directed personally by the Director of the Service. Apparently procedures were bypassed in the "Gorilla Sting" case, on the grounds that the need to entrap the Mexicans constituted an "emergency." Block and Agent Picon (Picon playing the role of a foul-mouthed "mafioso") deluged the Mexicans with phone-calls (over 70 calls in three weeks). Mrs. Alejandra Berges, wife of one of the Mexicans, told IPPL that she was present when her husband's office received four phone-calls in just one afternoon.

The unsuspecting Mexicans (Bernal and two businessmen with a past relationship to Block) were taken to Parrot Jungle where they were trailed by agents videotaping them. They were also taken on a yacht cruise round Miami Harbor. Finally, they agreed to buy "Moja," a gorilla living at Miami Metro Zoo. Picon produced export permits which he said were obtained by bribes.

This was definitely illegal conduct. However, it is hard to understand why the US Government thought that this "fabricated crime," which caused no animal suffering or death, was many times more serious than Matthew Block's all-too-real and species-destructive crime, especially since transcripts of conversations made by the "wired" Picon show that both convicted defendants separately asked for, and were given, assurances that the gorilla was not wild-caught in Africa (Picon explained that he had obtained the animal in settlement of a debt).

Following their arrest, the five Mexicans, including two women, were jailed for 10 days while they worked to raise bond and find lawyers. The Mexicans' trial took place in May 1994. The two women, who were only peripherally involved, were let off with probation plea-bargains.

For an unexplained reason, leading participant Jose Luis Alcerreca, 47 years old, got a probation plea-bargain after agreeing to testify against his 30 year old employee, Eduardo Berges, and Victor Bernal. Oddly, Alcerreca was never called on to testify. He has eluded efforts by the Mexican press to interview him.

Bernal and Berges' trial lasted 2 weeks. Assistant US Attorney Guy Lewis demonstrated that his lackluster work on the "Bangkok Six" case did not result from incompetence.

In the Mexicans' case Lewis was well-organized, articulate and passionate, begging the jurors to find the Mexicans guilty so that "our children and grandchildren and their chil-

Because of the conspiracy charges, defendant [Berges] is responsible for all conversations between conspirators.

AUSA Guy Lewis, seeking long jail term for Eduardo Berges

Trading in wild-caught apes leaves a terrible trail of death and suffering. All the "Bangkok Six" orangutans had suffered horribly and several had died miserable deaths while still babies. They were cheated out of their precious lives by Block and his disreputable associates, several of them notorious wildlife smugglers.

The "Mexican Sting" was widely publicized after the theatrical arrest of the three Mexican men at Opa Locka Airport, Miami. After failing to persuade any US zoo to lend him a real gorilla for use in the "sting," Picon decided to have Miami wildlife agent Terry English, since transferred to South Carolina, dress up in a gorilla suit, and sit in a shipping crate containing strong-smelling gorilla dung!

Some have suggested that it would have been a good idea to put Matthew Block inside the stinking crate!

dren and grandchildren may enjoy these wonderful animals."

He never made a remotely similar statement at hearings in the Block case. Lewis even described apes as "sacred" in one "Mexican Sting" court document, a term he had never used in connection with the six baby orangutans. During the Mexicans' trial, he once addressed Block as "Special Agent Block!"

The jurors found the defendants guilty on three felony and two misdemeanor counts, and they were jailed pending sentencing, which took place 60 days later. Lewis filed court papers asking for over 5 years jail for Bernal and over 2 years for Berges. This is the same man who had signed a certain-probation plea-bargain deal with Block (rejected by Judge James Kehoe), long before either "sting." Donald Bierman, one of the Mexicans' defense lawyers, openly accused the

The defendant in this case was in Miami. He had put some of the buyers and sellers together....The defendant at no point...does any of the hands-on type of work.

AUSA Guy Lewis justifying Block probation-deal

Block obtained a gorilla suit from a volunteer at Parrot Jungle, a tourist attraction then co-owned by Richard Schubot and Bern Levine. Levine, a close friend of Block, also lent a baby orangutan named "Ruby," born at his orangutan breeding facility, for use in the night-time arrest.

The highlight of the event was Picon taking off his baseball cap and waving it in the air, at which point the "gorilla-agent" leaped out of his shipping crate and the three Mexican men were forced to their knees at gun-point. The media had a field day with the sensational story.

prosecution of racism.

Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of IPPL, who attended part of the Mexicans' trial, also found Lewis' behavior strange. IPPL had turned in a major wildlife criminal, but Lewis never even said "Thank You." In fact, he said not one word to McGreal, turning his head away, and never once looking her in the eye. Normally prosecutors see public-spirited cooperative citizens like McGreal as heroes in the war on crime.

Lewis had also acted strangely at Block's sentencing hearing when he did not have one friendly word for Dianne

Taylor-Snow, who had taken care of the six baby orangutans traded by Block and who had suffered the nightmare of having two of them die in her arms. Taylor-Snow had flown to Miami to testify at sentencing on behalf of the crime victims: the six baby orangutans who could not speak for themselves. Lewis publicly humiliated Dianne by refusing Judge Kehoe's invitation that he introduce her.

Prosecutors traditionally introduce crime victims at sentencing. Dianne was certainly a victim of the "Bangkok Six" criminals. After six months of hard volunteer work caring for the desperately ill animals, she had returned to the United States desperately ill herself.

It was obvious that Lewis had totally different standards for Block's real and species-destructive crime, and the Mexicans' victimless government-fabricated crime.

On her return to South Carolina, McGreal, concerned at what she had witnessed, sent an action alert to IPPL members asking them to write three letters.

- 1) To US Attorney-General Janet Reno asking her to investigate the very different handling of the "Bangkok Six" and "Mexican Sting" cases.

- 2) To Judge Federico Moreno to express concern that AUSA Lewis was trying to send two Mexicans to jail for very long terms for a victimless crime staged by the US Government working in close association with a real criminal, who Lewis had treated so leniently. Hundreds of Mexican nationals also contacted Judge Moreno, as well as two unhappy jurors.

- 3) To Kendall Coffey, US Attorney for South Florida, asking him to review the status of the "Bangkok Six" case.

At the Mexicans' sentencing on 18 July 1994, Judge

Moreno asked Lewis to explain the discrepancy between his leniency towards Block and his harshness towards the Mexicans. Judge Moreno sentenced Bernal to time served (70 days) and a \$40,000 fine, and Berges to time served (70 days) and no fine. Neither defendant had a criminal record. The US Government had converted them into criminals, at vast expense to US taxpayers.

On 15 July, the working day before the Mexicans' sentencing, the Clerk of Court in Miami unsealed dozens of sealed "Bangkok Six" case documents, and finally the case file was sent to the Clerk of the Court of Appeals in Atlanta. The Atlanta Clerk had sent several letters to Miami asking where the file was. With the case file completed, the appeal schedule has finally been set.

Without the letters from IPPL members, the "Bangkok Six" case might well have been consigned to permanent limbo. It will be interesting to see if Lewis will now fight to uphold or increase Block's jail sentence with the same ferocity he has shown towards the Mexicans. Lewis has accused Block of double-dealing with the government.

At the start, the "Gorilla Sting" received massive favorable publicity. The "agent in the gorilla suit" angle caught the media's attention. However, subsequent press coverage has been less enthusiastic. **BBC Wildlife** wrote a critical article. **Proceso**, an influential Mexican news weekly, wrote a series of highly critical articles.

Kathy Glasgow of **New Times** attended the entire trial and wrote a thorough and objective 6-page article (contact IPPL if you would like a free copy). The "Tabloid-TV" show "Inside Edition" ran a brief segment, predictably emphasizing the stench emanating from the "agent gorilla's" crate.

The court received hundreds of letters from concerned citizens stating that the government in this so-called sting operation should be ashamed of their conduct in using a murderer of wildlife as a confidential informant....This is not a case where the government is ferreting out crime. It is a case where the government...set about putting persons in the business of crime for the first time...this is a case where the alleged crime was fabricated entirely by the government....

Frank Quintero, Berges' defense lawyer

ANIMAL DEALERS VANISH

Guyana is one of the few South American countries that export wildlife. Several prosperous-looking Guyanan animal dealers attended the 1992 Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and appeared to be on very friendly terms with the Guyanan Government delegation, which made speeches in favor of the wildlife trade.

In early June 1994, Moses Bhagwan Lall, a Guyanan animal dealer and suspected wildlife smuggler residing in South Florida, USA, and his aunt Lila Buerrattan, mysteriously disappeared. So did two workers at their bird farm. It is not known whether they returned to Guyana, assumed new identities, or were murdered.

Shortly before Lall's disappearance, police arrested a man using Lall's suspended drivers' license in Richmond Hill, Georgia. The man disappeared after posting bond. However, a check of the man's ID and fingerprints showed that the arrested man was not Lall. According to an article in the 23 August 1994 issue of the Florida Sun-Sentinel, a video detailing how to change a person's identity was found in the van.

Lall's bird facility was located at Loxahatchee, Florida. Following Lall's disappearance, over 700 birds were found on his abandoned 5-acre property. Over 350 birds were already dead.

The 335 surviving birds belong to a variety of species, and include many rare parrots. They are to be sold at auction by Palm Beach County, which is currently taking care of them.

LANDMINES; DEADLY LEGACY OF WAR

Landmines are endangering the lives of men, women, children and animals in many countries. Unexploded mines continue maiming and mutilating for decades, long after the wars which caused them to be laid have ended.

The organizations Human Rights Watch and Physicians for Human Rights have published a book detailing the devastation caused by mines. The book is entitled **Landmines—a Deadly Legacy**.

United Nations experts estimate that between 100–200 million landmines lie unexploded in 62 countries—awaiting victims. Landmines are totally non-discriminatory—striking young and old, civilians and combatants, humans and animals, alike. Often they cause death. Survivors of exploding mines suffer devastating and painful injuries, often resulting in limb amputation.

Removal of mines (demining) is difficult and expensive. It is also dangerous, and even experienced demining personnel have been killed and injured. Several have been blinded. Most mines are made almost entirely of plastic, and do not respond to metal-detectors.

Many mines are extremely small and almost-undetectable. One Canadian mine is 2 inches long and weighs just two ounces. The wounds caused by plastic mines are very difficult to treat because plastic does not show up on x-rays, so it is hard for surgeons to locate and remove materials embedded in victims' bodies.

Around the world, mines are being laid down faster than they can be removed. According to **Landmines**, a mine which costs \$10–20 to buy costs from \$300–\$1,000 to remove. Demining is slow, difficult and extremely dangerous to personnel.

Among the countries that both produce and export landmines are:

Brazil, Canada, Chile, the United States, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Israel, South Africa, China, Pakistan, Singapore and Vietnam.

All these countries, and especially the companies that produce these horrendous devices, deserve condemnation just as much as the users. Many more countries produce, but are not known to export, land-mines.

Mines can be placed by hand, or by “scattering” from the air. The Italian company Valsella offers a “scattering system” that can spread 1750 anti-personnel mines in just one minute. Records of precise locations are seldom kept.

Mines were laid extensively in Indochina by the United States during the Vietnam War. Ironically, US-laid mines are estimated to have caused one-fifth to one-third of all US deaths during this war.

Landmines have wreaked havoc in many countries of the world, and have contributed to massive environmental destruction and degradation. Valuable agricultural land is rendered unusable. The most heavily mined countries include Afghanistan, Cambodia, Vietnam, Burma, Laos, Angola, Mozambique, Somalia, El Salvador and Nicaragua. Laos is also affected by small unexploded anti-personnel cluster bomblets (known as “bombies.”)

A new target for land-mines is Rwanda, where thousands of mines have been set. According to an Associated Press story run on 3 September 1994, both sides in the civil war have been laying mines in both urban and rural areas.

Many Rwandans have received severe injuries, including a 9 year old girl whose body was embedded with mud, grass, insects and shrapnel. Mines produced in several countries have been found in Rwanda, including Israel, Italy, Belgium, the United States, South Africa and Russia.

There is no doubt that, along with the human victims, tens of thousands of wild and domestic animals, including many nonhuman primates, have suffered excruciating deaths after touching landmines. Mines have been laid in forested areas where “enemies” might hide.

Human Rights Watch, Physicians for Human Rights, Handicap International, the Mines Advisory Group, Vietnam Veterans of America and other concerned organizations are campaigning for an international ban on the production, distribution, and use of landmines. Use of chemical and biological weapons is already banned.

In May 1994 an international conference of nongovernmental organizations concerned about landmines called on the world's governments to ban the production, stockpiling, trade and use of landmines.

MONKEY EXPERIMENTER ACCUSED

A research assistant at Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA, has sued monkey experimenter Dr. Seymour Levine, aged 69, for alleged sexual harassment. According to the **San Jose Mercury News**, the assistant's lawsuit alleges that Levine harassed women as far back as 1977 and as recently as 1993.

In her suit filed on 2 May 1994, Helen Bae accused Levine of making sexual advances, including kissing and licking and

slobbering over her, and making sexual comments towards her and others.

Dr. Frances Conley, who had been involved in an unrelated sexual harassment incident at Stanford Medical School, told the **San Jose Mercury News** that Stanford had gone easy on Levine and others because of all the grant money their research attracts. Levine has conducted studies of induced stress in monkeys.

APPALLING CONDITIONS IN PET SHOP

According to a visitor to Kyoto, Japan, animals, including monkeys, birds of prey, parrots, and even a totally out-of-place prairie dog, are kept at the Kyogoku Pet Shop in Kyoto in conditions that are:

Appalling. I cried when I visited it. Cramped—Dark—Noisy—and smelly. A Hell-hole!

Another visitor commented that:

There is a dark heavy feeling about the place and the eyes of desperate faces swirl around the store like the chaotic overload of a Fellini film when all of these scenes begin to run together. Little hands of monkeys grip the bars and peer between them as if sorrowfully awaiting their escape from prison... The stench and oppression make me feel nauseous.

During a 1992 visit to this same pet shop, IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal viewed similar disgusting conditions. Many animals, especially monkeys, appeared moribund. As well as primates, there were parrots and birds of prey for sale. A Japanese nature group protested for a while, but now seems to have given up.



There are rumors that criminal elements control the exotic pet trade in Japan. Japanese people generally live in very small homes, far too small to be shared with any exotic animal. Exotic animals should not be kept as pets in any case. The conditions at the Kyogoku Petshop are so appalling that probably most animals die before being sold.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please write a letter to the Ambassador of Japan in your country of residence asking that an investigation be made both of the appalling conditions at the Kyogoku Pet Shop in Kyoto, and how it gets its animals.

His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan to the United States, 2520 Massachusetts Av. NW, Washington DC 20008, USA

His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan to the United Kingdom, 101 Piccadilly, London W1V 9FN, England



All photos by Lisa Mahoney

For Sale: Marmosets, Owl Monkey, Prairie Dog

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