



News

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Baboons at Taif garbage dump

Photo: Xavier Eichaker

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COLOMBIA'S UNIQUE SANCTUARY**

A MESSAGE FROM IPPL CHAIRWOMAN SHIRLEY MCGREAL

July 1995

Dear IPPL Member:

I was reading *Newsweek* magazine last night and noticed a short article about "The Green Revolt." The President of a large wildlife conservation organization was being pushed out of his \$325,000 a year position. People were fed-up! I couldn't believe that anyone working for a non-profit organization would take such an obscene salary.

For less than this man's salary, IPPL runs a large worldwide organization, maintains a sanctuary where 25 primates live, pays our office and animal care staff, and makes grants for overseas investigations and to rescue centers around the world (I am a volunteer).

We also publish *IPPL News* three times a year. We hope you will enjoy this issue. We are asking you to write lots of letters and please, please, take the time to do so. Two recent successes result at least in part from **YOUR** letters:

- 1) the confiscation of 9 young chimpanzees from pet shops in Saudi Arabia,
- 2) the US Fish and Wildlife Service setting inspection targets for imported wildlife.

IPPL officers are growing increasingly disturbed at the current trend to compartmentalize primate protection. There are many organizations working specially and solely for gorillas, chimpanzees and orangutans, but no other primates. These high-profile species need lots of help and have great appeal to generous donors and celebrities.

BUT the great apes form just a tiny percentage of the world's living primates. IPPL has always worked on issues affecting commoner, less spectacular primates too — we believe they are equally deserving of our compassion and concern. Sometimes it seems like they're forgotten.

One article in this issue of *IPPL News* particularly reflects IPPL's broad concern.

Baboons are heavily persecuted in many countries. They are even classified as "Vermin" in some countries and can be shot on sight. Others are trapped for export, often ending up in "heavy-duty" research. Through no fault of their own, these animals come into conflict with expanding human populations. Isabelle Lackman-Ancrénaz, and her colleagues have developed a program in Saudi Arabia to lessen human-baboon conflict and educate people on how to co-exist.

Recently IPPL had the pleasure of a visit to Headquarters from Laura Penn, an IPPL volunteer on her way to Africa to help a primate sanctuary. This facility needs lots of help. So we are offering you a special deal!

Buy an IPPL chimpanzee or gorilla t-shirt now — and your money will go to help Laura purchase needed supplies for her primate charges!

Thanks so much!

Shirley McGreal

BUY A T-SHIRT - HELP A RESCUED PRIMATE!

For just \$14 (shipping included), you can wear a lovely gorilla or chimpanzee t-shirt with designs both back and front. IPPL t-shirts come in large, extra-large or extra-extra large. All t-shirts are white. Please use the convenient order-form and mail it to IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484.

Size	Chimp or gorilla	Quantity	Cost
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____



Meet Laura!

THE MANILA GORILLA

On 12 April 1995, ten primates were confiscated at Manila Airport in the Philippines. The animals were shipped in two crates. One crate contained a baby male gorilla and two endangered drill monkeys. The second crate contained two patas monkeys, four vervet monkeys, and a baboon.

The animals were confiscated and taken to the Wildlife Rescue Center at the Ninoy Aquino Memorial Park in Quezon City.

The animals arrived on Pakistan Airlines Flight no. 760 from Karachi, Pakistan. The flight stopped at Bangkok on the way. However, the luggage tags suggest that the animals were loaded at Karachi Airport although it would be possible for Thailand's notorious and apparently unstoppable smugglers to obtain Karachi-origin tags if they were involved in the crime.

As is typical with smuggled wildlife shipments, the two crates containing the primates were carried as the smugglers' "personal luggage," rather than as cargo. Carrying smuggled wildlife as "personal luggage" means that there is no "paper trail" such as an air waybill, and that health and customs checks can be avoided.

However, checked luggage on international flights is usually x-rayed for security reasons, so it would be difficult to check smuggled wildlife without some collusion from airline and/or government personnel.

Philippine Customs officials initially suspected that the animals' bodies were filled with drugs, but this turned out not to be true.

The crates were appalling. According to Alma Ballesfin of the Philippine Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB):

They [the animals] were squeezed inside two wooden boxes measuring 2.3 by 1.5 by 1.5 feet.



Smugglers Tasleem Khan (left) and Jawaid Assam Khan



Alma Ballesfin with "Gorio"

The animals were carried by Pakistani nationals Tasleem Khan and Jawaid Assam Khan, names previously unknown to IPPL. A large delegation of thirteen Pakistanis, some with mobile phones, met the flight and allegedly tried to bribe a Philippine police officer with 150,000 pesos (\$5,500 US) to release the animals. When questioned, the Pakistanis claimed that the animals were a "gift" for a Pakistani resident of the Philippines.

The only document the Pakistanis could produce was something called a "Free Disposal Permit" issued on 21 March 1995 and numbered 03786. This purported permit was issued for "trophies" by the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Wildlife Management Unit, in Kano, Nigeria. The permit allowed the "free disposal" (whatever that means) of "6 pieces, monkeys."

The document was not issued by the CITES Management Authority for Nigeria, and in no way constituted a valid CITES export permit. It may well have been a forged document. Sadly, such documents are easily available in Nigeria.

Wildlife authorities and conservation groups around the world who are investigating the shipment are finding things frustrating. The governments of Pakistan and Nigeria are not helping at all.

It is likely that the Pakistanis were "couriers" for a big international smuggling operation. Big league smugglers always try to distance themselves from the risky task of actually carrying the animals in the shipments they orchestrate, just as drug smugglers do. That way, if somebody gets caught, they are far away from the events and have an "alibi."

It is probable that the gorilla was intended for a Philippine buyer, whose identity is not yet known to Philippine authorities. The drill has a very restricted range, being confined to

Cameroon, Nigeria, and Bioko Island, which is part of Equatorial Guinea. Because gorillas and drills are extremely rare in Nigeria, it is likely that these animals were poached in neighboring Cameroon, formerly a major supplier of gorillas to world markets.

At the present time, the primates are all in good health. Also at the rescue center and in good health are Saddam and Bush, two gibbons confiscated from Cartimar Market in January 1991 after IPPL received a phone tip-off about their presence on the market and requested Philippine authorities to confiscate them. IPPL has sent a grant of \$1,000 to the rescue center to help with care of the confiscated primates.

A potential crisis came when Philippine health authorities, alarmed by the epidemic of Ebola virus in Zaire, considered killing all the primates, since they came from Africa.

IPPL immediately contacted Dr. Alfred Prince, a virologist with the New York Blood Center. Prince provided IPPL with a statement that there was a close to 0% chance that the animals were infected because:

- 1) *they apparently came from Cameroon or Nigeria, which had never had any cases of Ebola and,*
- 2) *they had been in the Philippines six weeks when the concern arose, and the incubation period for Ebola (2-21 days) had long since passed.*

As a result of Dr. Prince's letter and the insistence of Philippine wildlife authorities that the animals be kept alive, the death threat was averted and the primates remain at the rescue center. The drills are likely to be sent to a German zoo but final plans for the other primates have not yet been made.



Shipping crate for gorilla and two drills

GET OUT YOUR PENS!

Unless we can get action, it looks like those involved in this cruel shipment will get off unpunished which means that more primates could get smuggled along this itinerary. That's where your letters come in.

Pakistan's national airline carried the primates and they entered and left Pakistan without CITES permits. Here's who to write to:

- 1) Please write to the *President, Pakistan International Airlines, PIA Building, Karachi Airport, Karachi, Pakistan*. Ask the PIA President to investigate how a gorilla and nine other primates were shipped from Karachi to Manila around 11 April 1995 as the "personal luggage" of Pakistan national Tasleem Khan. State that no live animals should ever be carried as "luggage."
- 2) Please write to *Mrs. Benazir Bhutto, Office of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Islamabad, Pakistan*. Tell Mrs. Bhutto about the shipment which violated the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of which Pakistan is a member. Ask her to investigate the role of Tasleem Khan and Jawaid Assam Khan. Please send a copy of your letter to the *Embassy of Pakistan* in the capital city of your country of residence (the US address is 2315 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington DC 20008 and the British address is 35 Lowndes Square, London SW1X).
- 3) Please write a letter to the *Director, Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau, Department of the Environment and Natural Resources, Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines*. Commend the Government of the Philippines for confiscating the smuggled primates and on taking such good care of them. Express the hope that the government will successfully identify and prosecute any Philippine nationals who may be involved in the primate smuggling conspiracy.

New US rates for overseas letters are 60 cents (half-ounce) and \$1 (one ounce).

HELPING SAUDI ARABIA'S "GARBAGE DUMP BABOONS"

by Isabelle Lackman-Ancrenaz

Mme. Lackman-Ancrenaz was formerly with the National Wildlife Research Center, Taif, Saudi Arabia

The arid mountains of Southwest Saudi Arabia host the only primate of the whole Arabian Peninsula: the hamadryas baboon whose scientific name is *Papio hamadryas*. The adult male hamadryas is recognizable by his profuse white whiskers, the silvery-grey mantle on his back and his shoulders, his calloused and bright red hindquarters and his nearly 2-inch (4 cm.) long canine teeth.

In contrast, the females are almost half the size of the males and their fur is uniformly short and brown.

The hamadryas baboon is also found in North Yemen and on the other side of the Red Sea: in Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia. Its closest relatives, belonging to the same genus *Papio*, are the four species of savannah baboons, distributed on the African continent. Of all baboon species, the hamadryas is considered the most adapted to life in arid environments. However, he could not survive in the huge sand and rock barren lands which cover most of Saudi Arabia. Even "desert specialists" need a little water and vegetation to live on, and hamadryas baboons also need steep rocky cliffs as dormitories. This is why its range in Saudi Arabia is limited to the

chain of mountains bordering the Red Sea.

Social Organization

Hamadryas baboon society is complex and is organized in several hierarchical levels. The troop, which can number several hundred animals, represents the highest social unit and comprises all baboons that spend nights together on the same rocky cliff.

At dawn, as the baboons set off in search of water and food, the troop successively splits into smaller and smaller groups, respectively called bands (around 50 animals), clans (around 15 animals), and families (around 5 animals).

In the evening, these sub-units merge again at the sleeping-site. This "fission-fusion" system, shared by the Arabian and the African hamadryas, is commonly interpreted as an adaptation to the arid environment.

Indeed, hamadryas baboons mainly feed on leaves, flowers, and pods, such as those of juniper or acacia, of which the bushes are quite far apart. Moreover, the quantity of food on each bush is so limited that only four or five animals find sufficient food at one time.

A group of fifty baboons, for example, would probably be forced to cover very long distances in order to find enough to eat, and most of them, each time, would have to wait instead of eating. Therefore, it seems more advantageous, when searching for food, that small family groups scatter in various directions, rather than a large number of baboons travelling together.

On the contrary, at night, a cohesive troop is less vulnerable than an isolated family to attack from predators — wolves, leopards, hyenas — rare nowadays in Arabia, but still present in East Africa.

The Male and His Harem

The family is the basic social unit. It comprises an adult male, several females, and their dependent offspring. The male has power over his entire harem. He acts as protector in case of danger, decides the direction to follow during the daily marches, and settles the conflicts that sometimes break out among his females.

He does not tolerate any form of contact between the other males and his females, and often resorts to violence to main-



Photo: Marc Ancrenaz
The author



Photo: Xavier Eichaker
Hamadryas family

tain order in the heart of his family. When he leads the march, for example, he often turns back to observe his females. If they dawdle on the way, he darts a threatening glance at them, blinking his eyes, and they usually hurry to join him.

But if he discovers that one of them, recalcitrant, is staying too far away, indeed even in the proximity of another male, he swoops down on her and bites her in the neck!

The Females

The females, nevertheless, have efficacious means at their disposal in order to appease the anger of their male, by reaffirming their absolute submission. After a threat or a bite, a female does not run away; on the contrary, she rushes to her male with a submissive grin, lips stretched backward and teeth uncovered, and uttering strident squeaks.

After that, she presents her hindquarters to him, still making the same screams, and grimaces at him over her shoulder. The male, appeased, then presents his back or flank and the female makes haste to groom him for a long time!

The chief of a harem becomes particularly possessive when one of his females is in heat. At this time, the mucosa surrounding the opening of the vagina swells considerably to form a bright red swelling, which serves as a strong sexual stimulus for the males. The harem chief then keeps a constant watch on his female and drags her by the tail, as on a leash, when he moves. He also displays an increased frequency of friendly care towards her, such as grooming, and numerous matings take place, the male climbing on the hindquarters of the female, gripping his feet on the inner sides of her knees.

The Babies

After 6 months of gestation, the female gives birth to a baby with an entirely black coat. During the first months of existence, the infant is continuously carried by his/her mother, who frequently nurses and cleans her baby. At this stage, the other females of the harem are rarely allowed to approach the baby. As for the father, he only pays limited attention to his baby.

As the infant approaches the age of 6 months, the coat be-

comes brown. It is at this time that the respective destinies of the young males and the young females start to diverge. As the young females are strictly kept in the bosom of the harem, the young males begin their social life by playing with other males of their age. Weaning occurs around the age of 14 months. Although he still follows his family during the daily marches, the young male then asserts his independence by frequently joining groups of juveniles, in which the principal occupation is play.

At puberty, around 4 years old, the silvery mantle of the young male starts to grow. He is then chased away from the family group by his father, and unites with a group of "bachelors", within which strong social bonds are established.

Later these "alliances" will become very useful, in his adult life, when he will need the cooperation of powerful allies to launch out into the complex struggles for influence which govern the society of hamadryas males.

Forming Harems

As they become fully adult, hamadryas males seem to have a single objective: to form their own harems. For this, they use one of two possible strategies. The first one lies in kidnapping newly weaned females and taking care of them until they become adults. This method involves great risks because it requires the male to evade the vigilance of the parents to abduct the young female, and to be able to lavish quasi-maternal care on her for years.

The second tactic requires even more patience. It consists of striking up a friendship with the chief of an already formed harem, in order to get accepted as a "follower". At the beginning, the young adult male merely follows his new family during all its movements, supports the chief in his conflicts, but always keeps the females of the harem at a distance, and especially when they are in heat.

But, as time goes by, he manages to develop friendly bonds with the females, grooms them, and plays with their young. With an enormous amount of patience and perseverance, he sometimes succeeds in dragging away one of the females, without the knowledge of the harem chief, and obtaining her favors.

Many years later, when the follower has reached full maturity, he usually finds little difficulty in defeating the aged and weak harem chief, and in seizing hold of the willing females.

The old and dismissed harem chief ends his life in solitude. He is no longer a threat to the other males, who let him wander freely in the bosom of their family and play with their young. However, the other members of the clan trust his good knowledge of the environment, and grant him a degree of authority in decision making as to the route to follow for the daily marches.

The Problem of "Commensal" Baboons

During the last 20 years in Saudi Arabia, some baboon troops have adopted a peculiar life style: driven away from their natural habitat by sprawling urban development and excessive overgrazing by domestic cattle, they have developed the habit of searching for food on the outskirts of the cities, in the municipal garbage dumps or by raiding isolated plantations.

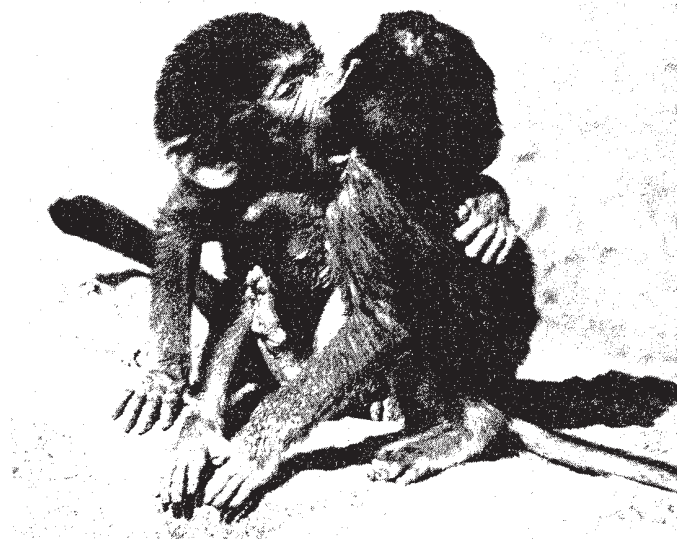


Photo: Xavier Eichaker

Hamadryas babies at play

Commensalism, defined as sharing of one's meal with others, is generally accepted by the Saudi people as the opportunity to do a good deed in feeding apparently starving animals. At the top of scenic mountainous escarpments near the cities of Taif and Abha, one can see dozens of cars stopping daily, and people throwing all kinds of food items to the baboons. As years go by, more and more wild baboons are attracted by this "easy" food and come to live along the highways and on the parking lots. The "highway" baboons even became a tourist attraction and travelers rarely miss the occasion to visit and feed them.

The situation at the Taif City garbage dump is even more striking. Every morning, as the first garbage trucks arrive, a huge troop of about 1,500 baboons leaves its nearby sleeping site and moves to the tipping area to feed on the city waste.

Hundreds of trucks dump their load daily, and this is more than enough to feed the largest baboon troop ever recorded, either in Saudi Arabia, Yemen or East Africa, the species' entire range.

Being well-fed, "commensal" baboons show a reproduction rate much higher than that of wild ones, with a lower infant mortality rate. Consequently, the growth rate of the commensal troops can reach phenomenal proportions.

Moreover, these baboons have long lost their ancestral fear of man, and are not shy of penetrating further into the cities, breaking into houses or raiding the neighboring farms. They sometimes cause considerable damage, and once they have settled down in an area, the "commensal" baboons prove practically unmovable.

A Solution to the "Commensal" Baboon Problem

The National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) was es-



Photo: Xavier Eichaker

Baboons feeding at Taif garbage dump

tablished in 1986 near the city of Taif by the Saudi "National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development" (NCWCD). Its primary objectives are to breed endangered or extinct endemic species of Saudi Arabia, such as the houbara bustard and the Arabian oryx, and to reintroduce those species into the wild, notably in protected areas.

A Baboon Department was also created at the NWRC to find a solution to the problem of "commensal" baboons. Two French primatologists, Veronique and Sylvain Biquand, with



Photo: Xavier Eichaker

Saudi feeding baboons at Al Hada escarpment road

the assistance of a Saudi student, carefully investigated the distribution of the virtually unstudied wild and commensal baboon populations within Saudi Arabia.

They also tested various protection devices — electrified fences, chemical repellents, specially trained dogs — but none of them proved effective in stopping the intruding baboons.

Systematic culling, besides being ethically unacceptable, would prove useless since new wild baboons would soon be attracted, in their turn, by the vacant commensalism sites. In this respect, the relocation of entire troops would not be a good solution either.

Fertility control offers a humane alternative as a means of limiting population growth. In hamadryas baboons, each adult male has total control over the reproduction of several females. For this reason, males are more suitable targets for contraception than females.

However, hamadryas males ensure the "fidelity" of their females by possessive behaviors largely determined by the production of a sexual hormone — testosterone — in the testes. Should the testes be damaged or removed by castration, the male will not herd his females anymore. This would result in the disintegration of the harem, and the females might be taken over by any other non-castrated male.

A New Approach

In the beginning of 1995, my husband Dr. Marc Ancrenaz, a wildlife veterinarian, and I investigated a new method of producing irreversible male baboon sterility, without modifying the testicular production of testosterone: chemical vasectomy.

It consists of injecting a chemical agent (e.g., a 3.5% formalin solution) through the skin of the scrotum, directly into the epididymis. After a few weeks, the targeted cells become sclerotic and obstruct the passage of sperm to the urethra, from where only seminal liquid henceforth flows out. A male treated this way should be able to resume his sexual life, and his social behavior should not be in the least affected.

The technique has already been used in various animal species, including humans, for contraception. In humans, it has proven to be efficient and painless: the patients experienced no discomfort and could resume their normal activities imme-

diately after the injections.

We recently tested the method on five captive adult male baboons. All animals treated showed total azoospermia (lack of spermatozoa in semen) between 20 to 50 days after injections. In a second test, a male baboon was kept in a large enclosure with four females.

Behavioral observations, carried out before and after chemical vasectomy of this male, showed that the treatment did not modify the social or sexual relationships between the treated male and the females of his harem. It is therefore expected that, during a large scale application of chemical vasectomy, treated males will be able to keep the integrity of their harem, and that the social structure of the troop will not be affected.

Compared to other methods of male sterilization such as surgical vasectomy, chemical vasectomy also offers valuable advantages when performed on very large numbers of animals under field conditions. Indeed, with this non-surgical method, risks of hemorrhage and infection are eliminated. Moreover, the procedure can be done quite rapidly (one minute per animal) and at very low cost.

Although further investigations are needed (especially to confirm the absence of long-term effects on testicular testosterone production) chemical vasectomy already seems a highly valuable tool for large scale programs to control the growth of the populations already settled in commensalism situations.

However, it will also be imperative to make concurrent efforts to prevent other wild baboons, in their turn, from becoming commensal. If that happened, it would then be necessary to incessantly repeat the sterilization operations, and

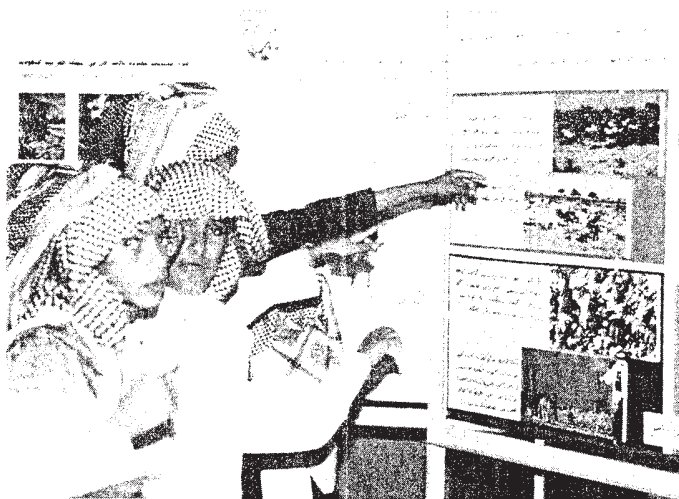


Photo: Xavier Eichaker

National Wildlife Research Center educates students about wildlife protection and why they should not feed baboons

this would deplete the local wild populations and, in the long-term, jeopardize the species within the country.

This could be avoided simply by developing a sound program of waste management (e.g. by using incinerators in the dumps) and by running a strong campaign of public awareness to stop people from feeding the baboons. A national management strategy including all aspects of this complex problem is presently being elaborated, with the hope that its implementation in the near future will result in the progressive decline of commensal baboon populations in Saudi Arabia.

CONGRATULATIONS, ISABELLE AND COLLEAGUES!

IPPL applauds Isabelle and her colleagues for their work to solve a difficult problem.

In many African countries, baboons are classified as "vermin" and persecuted. Application of humane methods of limiting baboon populations in other countries would allow baboons to live out their lives in natural environments.

IPPL REPRESENTED AT GENESIS AWARDS

The Genesis Awards were established in 1986 to recognize the role of the media in increasing animal awareness. Awards are given to newspapers, magazines, movies, and TV programs. The awards are a project of the Ark Trust, which is run by actress Gretchen Wyler. IPPL was represented at the 1995 ceremony by our West Coast representative, Evelyn Gallardo. Evelyn reports that over 900 people attended. Actors Ed Asner, Ellen DeGeneres and Kevin Nealon co-hosted the event. Presenters of awards included Cheryl Tiegs, Earl Holliman, Tippi Hedren, Sid Caesar, Lyn Redgrave and Bea Arthur.

Among the 1995 winners were the television program "CNN Presents" for its in-depth look at the state of many of the nation's zoos and menageries. MTV, a rock music TV station, won an award for its program "Shock the Monkey," a drama about determined young people so appalled at mistreatment of animals used in experiments that they rescue the lab's victims. A Nova program about parrot smuggling called "The

Great Wildlife Heist" won the award for "Best TV documentary." The runner-up in this category was the Wildsight Productions program "The Forgotten Apes" produced by Deborah Rivel and filmed by Dan Friedman. This wonderful program, half of it filmed at IPPL Headquarters, told the stories of several of the wonderful gibbons living at our sanctuary.



Photo: Juanita Kempe

**Evelyn Gallardo (left) with
Gretchen Wyler**

JUDGE SANCTIONS MATTHEW BLOCK AND HIS LAWYER

At a hearing in West Palm Beach, Florida on 17 March 1995, Judge Kenneth Ryskamp sanctioned Matthew Block and his lawyer Paul Bass \$25,000 each for their conduct in their lawsuit against IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal. Block has paid his \$25,000 sanction to Shirley McGreal, but Paul Bass announced that he would appeal. As is normal in appeals, Judge Ryskamp ordered Bass to post a bond of \$25,000 plus two years interest.

Bass was given 30 days to post his bond, which was due on 19 June 1995. However, as of 10 July, Bass had failed to post his bond. He had earlier offered to post a "letter of credit" and purchased a certificate of deposit. However McGreal's attorneys learned that Bass could withdraw this certificate of deposit at any time. This not being acceptable, further steps are under way.

It is very unlikely that the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals will reverse the \$25,000 sanction.

IPPL was represented by Thomas Julin and Ed Mullins of Steel Hector and Davis, a Miami law firm. Julin and Mullins helped with the appeal on a *pro bono* basis. Several IPPL members attended the two hearings on the sanctions.



Shirley McGreal with Thomas Julin (right) and Ed Mullins

MATTHEW BLOCK LOSES APPEAL

After seemingly endless delays, a three-judge panel of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, Atlanta, Georgia, has unanimously affirmed Miami animal dealer Matthew Block's conviction on orangutan smuggling charges.

There are still delaying maneuvers possible, but the decision makes it more likely that Matthew Block will eventually serve a short sentence (13 months) for arranging the international smuggling of six baby orangutans (the "Bangkok Six") and two siamang gibbons in 1990.

At various times no less than seven lawyers have been named in court documents as Block's criminal defense attorneys (Jon Sale, Ben Kuehne, William Aaron, the late Michael Metzger, William Osterhoudt, Paul Bass and David Russell).

Block's appeal attorney William Osterhoudt of California submitted a lengthy 55-page appeal brief. While making excuses left, right and center for his criminal client, and viciously attacking the law-abiding International Primate Protection League, the Animal Welfare Institute, the Monitor Consortium and the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida for their active concern for the orangutans, Osterhoudt admitted that the orangutan shipment was "unlawful, violating the Endangered Species Act and the Lacey Act," i.e., that his client was guilty.

Osterhoudt seemed unfamiliar with the case record, falsely asserting that:

The government had agreed that the purchase price had been \$10,000 apiece for the animals, a provision that was included for guideline sentencing purposes.

In fact, the rejected plea-bargain was even worse. It had

placed a value of "less than \$10,000" for all six orangutans (i.e. less than \$1,666 for each baby, a totally ludicrous figure) and guaranteed probation, since sentencing in wildlife crime cases is based on value.

In normal cases prosecutors try to establish a high value for wildlife, while criminals and their lawyers try to set a low value. But unfortunately the crucial price issue in the "Bangkok Six" case was not handled in a normal manner. A Miami animal dealer close to Block (a former partner in two Block businesses, according to Florida state records) who breeds and sells orangutans, reportedly for around \$30,000 each and sometimes more, was not even called on to testify about value.

The appeal was not handled by any of the four prosecutors successively assigned to the "Bangkok Six" case (Patricia Fahlbusch, Lauren Priegues, Tom Watts FitzGerald and Guy Lewis, in that order). Instead it was handled by Marc Fagelson.

Fagelson's response was impressive and makes one wonder if things would have gone differently if he had been handling the case from the start. Fagelson saw nothing sinister in the expressions of public concern about the horrible nature of the crime, and of course there was nothing sinister.

People should be angry at how criminals are destroying the world's wildlife. Fagelson even quoted parts of IPPL's Dianne Taylor-Snow's testimony at the sentencing hearing. Despite ridicule from Block's then lawyer Metzger, Dianne, who had flown to Bangkok to take care of the baby orangutans, stood her ground and denounced the cruelty of the shipment.

One extract from Fagelson's response shows his intelligent

approach to the case. To understand why price matters so much, one needs to understand that the United States has adopted national standards for sentencing of criminals. These guidelines were established because judges in different parts of the country would give widely differing sentences for similar crimes, giving an appearance of injustice and sometimes grounds for suspicion of something worse. Guidelines tie a judge's hands.

Discussing the value of the orangutans, Fagelson stated:

The Sentencing Guidelines provide a base offense level of 6 for offenses involving illegal transactions in protected wildlife. If the "market value" of the wildlife exceeds \$2,000, the court is instructed to increase the offense level as directed by the tables in [the guidelines].

The PSI [Block's pre-sentence investigation] recommended, and the government argued at sentencing, that

Block's final argument, that the court should have been bound by the contractual price of \$57,915 being paid by the Russian purchasers of the orangutans, is illogical...the guidelines do not contemplate that market value is to be predetermined by the actions of criminals...

It was established that there are less than 35,000 orangutans remaining alive in the world. The fact that one offender would pay another \$57,915 for six baby orangutans snatched from their mothers (who were probably murdered when they were abducted) did not circumscribe the court's discretion at sentencing...

Block's ersatz market analysis may have been applicable in a legal transaction but is inapplicable here. That one crook may pay a thief \$1,000 for a \$60,000 Mercedes does not mean the value of the Mercedes was \$1,000.

That one crook may pay a thief \$1,000 for a \$60,000 Mercedes does not mean the value of the Mercedes was \$1,000.

—Prosecutor Marc Fagelson

the value of the six orangutans was \$270,000 (between \$35,000 to \$50,000 apiece). This valuation would have resulted in an increase of 8 offense levels.

Block argued that the orangutans were worth less than \$10,000 each, and that the valuation should have been limited to the amount the Russians [the orangutans were on their way to a Russian company called Prodintorg] were purportedly paying for the purloined orangutans. This would have limited the increase to 5 levels.

After hearing the argument and testimony, the [judge] determined that the market value of the orangutans was \$15,000 each [and added] 6 levels to the offense. [IPPL note: 3 sentencing points difference means a difference of 9 months in the sentence].

The government presented evidence from a Ph.D. specialist in primates that the market value of each orangutan was \$40,000 to \$50,000. US Fish and Wildlife Service agent Picon...testified that the market value was \$30,000 to \$50,000...Block testified that the orangutans were only worth between \$3,500 and \$5,000...Block has shown no clear error in the court's finding.

Osterhoudt's reply to the government's brief started with a hysterical attack by Osterhoudt on the International Primate Protection League — **as if IPPL officers were the criminals not his client.**

The Government has essentially abandoned its earlier claims of dispassionate professionalism in contacts with Appellant Block and has adopted a strident, emotional tone more closely associated with the special interest group whose actions are at the root of much of what has occurred.

IPPL believes that the so-called "dispassionate professionalism" (which Osterhoudt claims was shown by previous prosecutors) resembled more closely a dubious attempt by the government to let Block off with probation for a crime that caused the deaths of four of the six baby orangutans. If IPPL was indeed the "root of much of what has occurred," then we would be very proud indeed. Of course the real reason for his getting prosecuted was Block's vicious and criminal conduct.

The Court of Appeals decision in "**United States versus Matthew Block**" was announced on 16 June 1995. It is likely to be upheld on further appeal.

AMY THE ANIMATRONIC GORILLA

The movie *Congo* was released in June 1995 by Paramount Pictures. Based on the novel of the same name by Michael Crichton, *Congo* is one movie that can be safely viewed by people concerned at the possible mistreatment of performing animals. Because there are no performing animals in the movie!

The gorilla heroine, "Amy" was not a real gorilla, but an "animatronic gorilla" created by Stan Winston.

Amy's facial expressions are electronically manipulated. Several IPPL members who have seen the movie have told us that they would have thought "Amy" was real if they hadn't known. "Amy" is now appearing in TV commercials.

Animatronic primates have been seen in *Greystoke* and *Gorillas in the Mist*, but, in creating "Amy," Winston has reportedly reached a new level of sophistication.

IPPL applauds any development which makes the use of live animals in movies obsolete.

MISSING - ALLY CHIMPANZEE IPPL OFFERS REWARD

Chimpanzees are large animals with a distinctive appearance and there are only about 2,000 of them in the United States. How any chimpanzee could "vanish into thin air," especially one of the "famous" Oklahoma signing chimpanzees, is a mystery. But that is just what happened to Ally Chimpanzee. Because we want to know where he is, IPPL is offering a reward of \$500 for exact information on his whereabouts if he is still alive.

Thanks to the concern of Jim Cronin of Monkey World, Dorset, England, Ally has been offered a safe home if he is found to be alive and well.

Here is what is known of Ally:

Name: Ally;

Sex: male;

Siblings: Onan, Nim, Ham;

Born: Institute for Primate Studies at the University of Oklahoma, around 1970, reared in a human home and reportedly baptized;

History: raised with a human family, then used in sign language studies;

4 June 1982: shipped from Oklahoma to Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates (LEMSIP), New York;

9 June 1982: tattoo number 397 applied at LEMSIP;

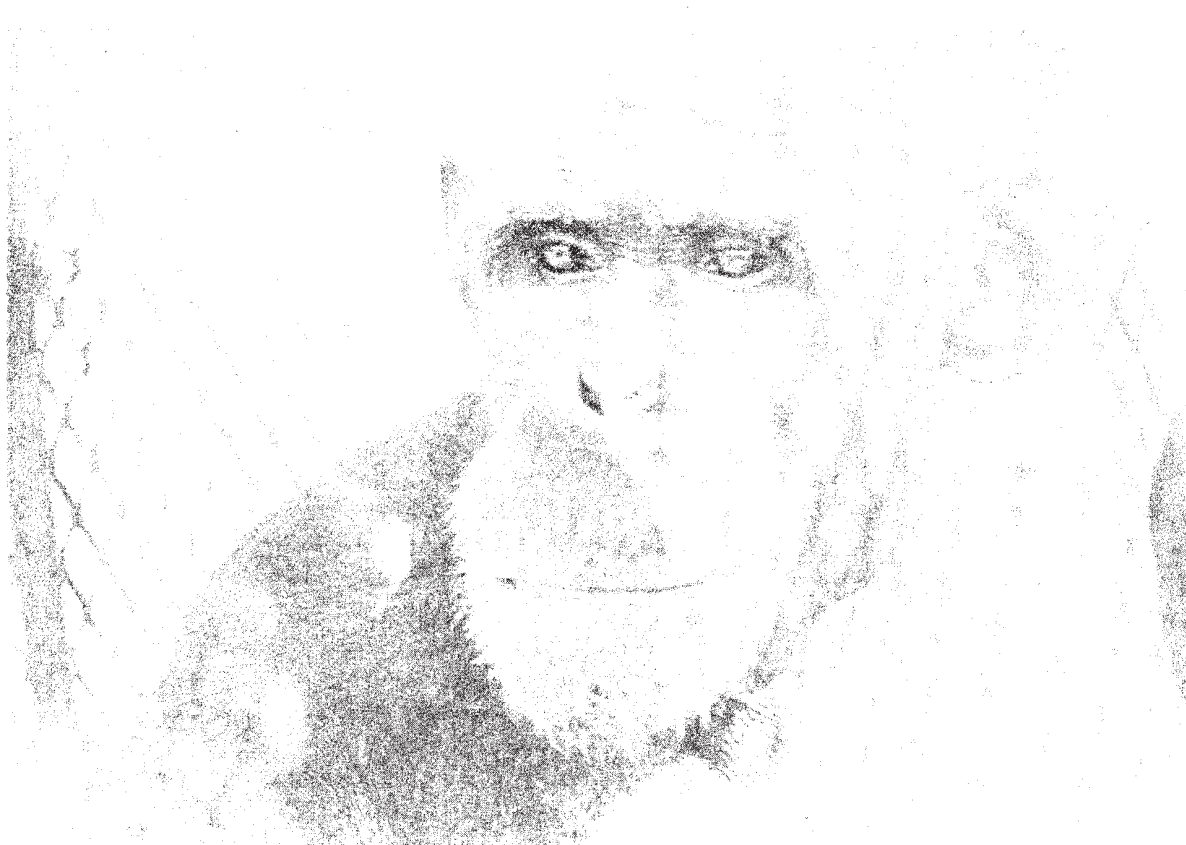
22 June 1982: shipped back to Oklahoma from LEMSIP in 1982 with his brother Nim. Nim was accepted by the Fund for Animals sanctuary in Texas;

Later in 1982: Ally vanished;

I.D. number: 19. International Species Inventory System (ISIS) Code.

In his book *Silent Partners*, Eugene Linden suggests that Ally and another chimpanzee were sent from Oklahoma to the White Sands Research Center in Alamogordo, New Mexico. However, officials at White Sands told Linden that the two chimpanzees they received around the time of Ally's disappearance from a Pennsylvania animal dealing firm called Buckshire, which was involved in shipping the Oklahoma animals, had no tattoos — **and it is now known that Ally did have a tattoo.**

HAVE
YOU
SEEN
ME?



ALLY - A MEMORABLE CHIMPANZEE

Two people who worked with Ally at Oklahoma have kindly shared with IPPL their memories of their days with this extraordinary chimpanzee.

Gary Shapiro, Orangutan Foundation

This anecdote relates to a time when I was conducting sign language training with Ally at the University of Oklahoma. This was before I was given the great opportunity to conduct signing research in Indonesia with Birute Galdikas.

Ally was an able student. He had bright eyes and was sharp as a whip. My study was an effort to document certain aspects of chimpanzee comprehension of sign language: specifically, in the area of referential information.

The basic notion was that Ally would eventually be able to look at a film-loop (before video) and watch himself sign a three sign combination "object-preposition-location", e.g., berry under chair. This was to eliminate the possible cues that critics had been suggesting were part of the signing paradigm.

To get to that point, I wanted to train him by my signing the combinations and getting him to a point where he could move on to the film-loops of a human signing the combinations.

During this training, I had noticed that Ally was doing exceptionally poorly, and I couldn't understand why. He had done the combinations well the day before. Even when I showed him repeatedly, he failed to demonstrate any reasonable degree of comprehension!

It was understood that if the handleable chimps were not doing well, it was probably best to put them back into the pig barn (their home at the time) and try again the next day. Even chimps can have their bad days! As I was leading Ally back to the barn, I noticed that he began reversing roles. He was leading me back to the barn and was pulling hard on his leash.

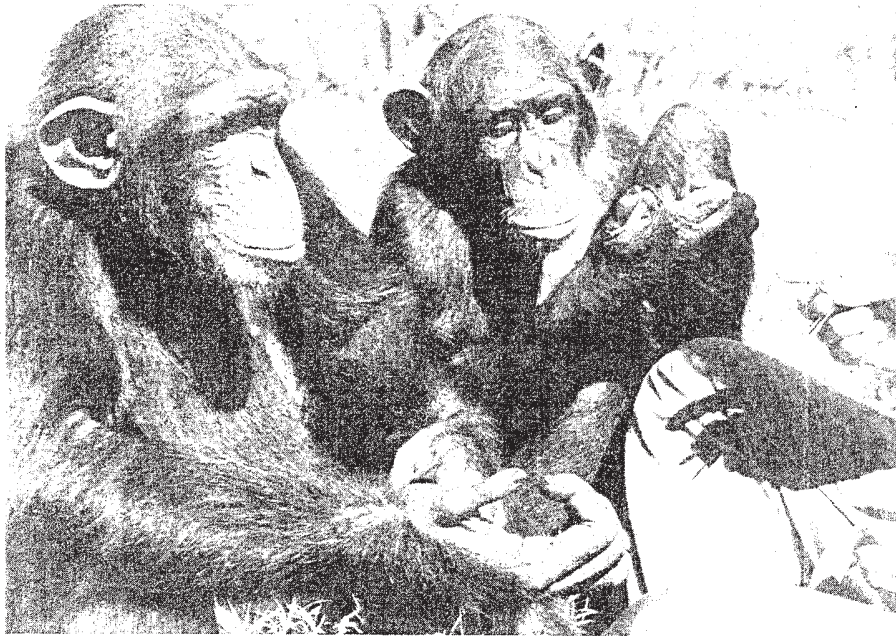
When we finally entered the barn and approached his cage, I immediately understood what was the cause of Ally's poor performance. A pile of apples was waiting for him in his cage.

He must have seen one of the caretakers bring in a basket full and realized that he could get a lot more, a lot faster, if he played dumb. He had turned the tables on his training! I learned that Ally was much more perceptive than I was to changes in my peripheral environment!

Bob Ingersoll, formerly of University of Oklahoma

Ally was the first chimp I met at the chimp farm. He was a big favorite of all of the humans at the University of Oklahoma Institute for Primate Studies.

He was a fun guy who loved to go out on walks, really enjoyed signing and interacting with the humans and other chimps, and was easy to get along with. He loved going out on walks around the chimp farm, and would climb to the very tops of the huge persimmon trees that were all over the chimp farm — he loved to eat the ripe persimmons in the fall.



Ally (right) and Bruno sign "Key"

Ally was father to Washoe's infant, Sequoyah, and another infant, Jacob. Ally and Washoe spent a lot of time together, going out on walks, signing with us humans and with each other. They liked each other. We were trying to get them into signing together to facilitate signing around the infant when he arrived.

Ally participated in the education of Peter Elliott, when he (Peter) spent time at the Institute for Primate Studies preparing for his chimpanzee role in the movie *Tarzan, the Legend of Greystoke*. We worried about the possibility of an aggressive display by Ally when he was confronted with Elliott's "Chimpanzee" — but Ally walked right up to him and stuck an inquisitive finger in Elliott's eye-hole, as if to say, "Hey, what's with the guy in the chimp suit?"

As an infant, he was part of the home-rearing project, raised as a human for a while in a human home. He was one of the first of these chimps to come back to the university. He took part in many of the ground-breaking studies that were held at Oklahoma, including studies utilizing the concepts of "in", "on", and "under".

OTHER NEWS OF OKLAHOMA CHIMPANZEES

Kelly, a chimp formerly of the University of Oklahoma Institute for Primate Studies, died recently at the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates at New York University (LEMSIP), after a diagnosis of lymphoma. She had been at LEMSIP since 1982.

Bob Ingersoll remembers Kelly.

Kelly lived at the University of Oklahoma (OU) for about eight years, from about 1974 until the colony was sold to LEMSIP. She had come to the university from a private home in California, where she had been raised as a human. When she got to the university, she had to relearn chimp behaviors, and become reacquainted with other chimpanzees. She was part of the ape language studies at the university and was a signer.

She also worked in studies of handedness in chimpanzees. She was allowed to go outdoors and go on walks on the grounds of the Institute for Primate Studies. She had one baby at OU before she went to LEMSIP. She was a good mother. She spent the last thirteen years

of her life in a cage, indoors, at LEMSIP.

Booe, another of the Oklahoma "signing chimpanzees" sent to LEMSIP in 1982, was featured on national television in the United States on 5 May 1995. The program, "20/20," is extremely popular and is seen every Friday night at 10 p.m.

After 13 years of separation, Booe was reunited with Roger Fouts, his former trainer at the University of Oklahoma. Booe recognized Roger and became quite excited. The two signed together. But Roger had to leave for home and Booe resumed his normal lab life. Unfortunately, Booe has infectious hepatitis as a result of research and his future still looks bleak. Few facilities are able to handle infected chimpanzees.

The "20/20" program provoked a massive public outcry. Hundreds of people called and wrote letters to "20/20" and a few sent donations, but it has not helped Booe — yet, although it may help in the long run. His life in a small indoor laboratory cage continues — just as it did before the cameras came and went.

FLORIDA ANIMAL DEALERS DISAPPEAR

On 15 June 1995, after receiving complaints about unusually loud bird noises coming from a compound in Loxahatchee, Florida, Palm Beach County sheriff's deputies went to investigate.

They found a horrendous sight: over 400 dead and dying birds. According to the *Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel*:

Beautiful blue and gold macaws, green winged parrots, yellow nape Amazons and toucans, worth an estimated \$500,000, had starved or died of dehydration.

The property was operated by animal dealer Bhagwan "Moses" Lall, aged 31, and his aunt Lila Buerattan, aged 36, both Guyanan nationals who operated an animal import company called Malabar Aviary in New York and the Florida compound. There was no trace of either of them. Bewildered police speculated that they might have staged their own disappearance for financial reasons, that they might have been murdered by competitors, or that they had been killed — either by animal smugglers or by people to whom they owed money.

Investigation of the Lalls' disappearance revealed their ties to smugglers, that Lall had taken a recent trip to Africa, and

that Lall often negotiated cash deals in the tens of thousands of dollars.

In Guyana the Lall family have been well-known and well-connected animal dealers since the 1970s. Lall's mother Mahadei and several other Guyanan animal dealers even attended a conference of the parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species held in Kyoto, Japan, in March 1992, having been approved by the Guyanan Government as "qualified" conservationists! The Guyanan delegation appeared to be under their influence, speaking out against protection for wild birds.

Collections of endangered birds, many of suspect origin, are prevalent all over the United States, with a high concentration in South Florida. Some collections number in the thousands of birds.

Bird dealers interviewed by the *Sun Sentinel* agreed that the Lalls were probably dead. One bird breeder commented:

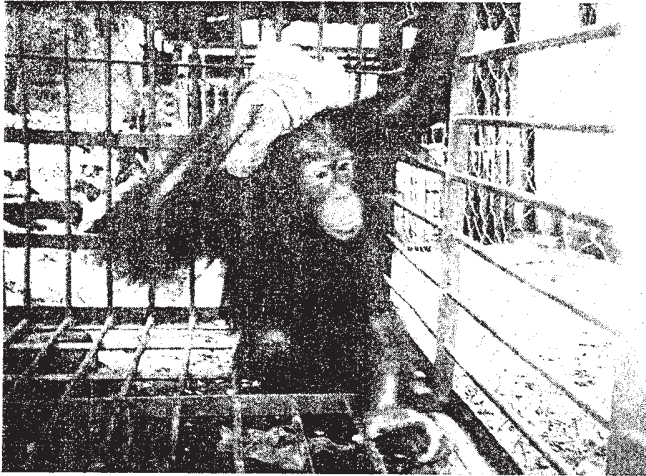
They were killed, there's no doubt in my mind. What happened to them? Well, they were probably just dumped somewhere. Florida has a lot of alligators and bodies don't last very long around here.

WEIRD EXPERIMENT IN CHINA

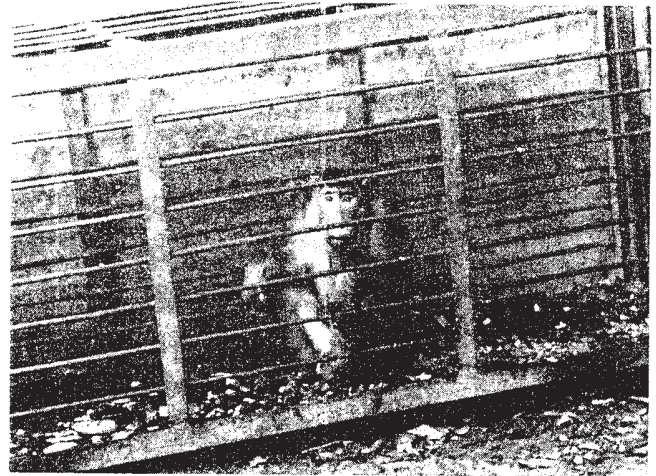
Researchers at the Kunming Institute of Zoology, China, are proud of an "improved penile electro-ejaculation" gadget they are now using as part of their study of "spermatology." In an article in the publication *Zoological Research*, they note:

An improved penile electro-ejaculation device using absorbent cotton and aluminum as electrodes to avoid the small superficial burns or more serious lesions was employed on the rhesus monkey, Tibetan macaque and Assamese macaque and the semen parameters of the animals were compared in the present study.

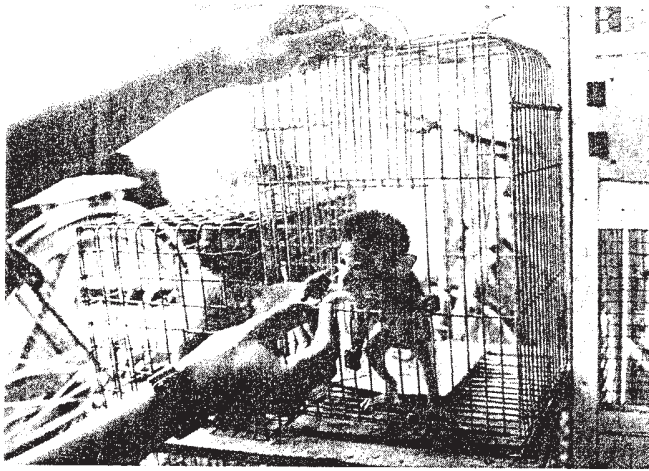
What is not clear is, just who cares about these "semen parameters," and why monkeys have been subjected in the past to burns caused by undergoing electro-ejaculation.



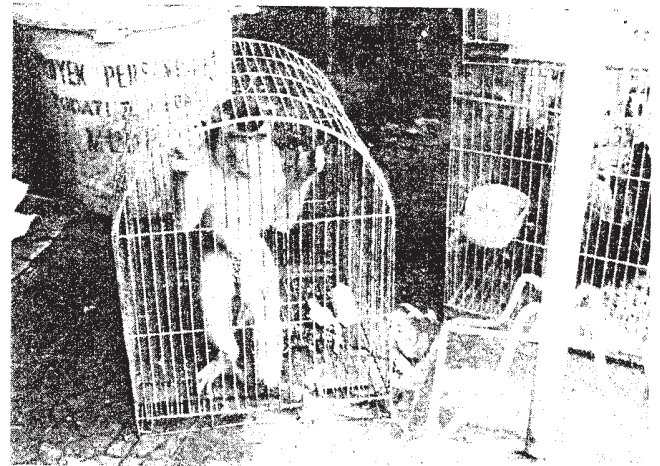
Orangutan at Medan Zoo: plastic bag could kill the animal if ingested



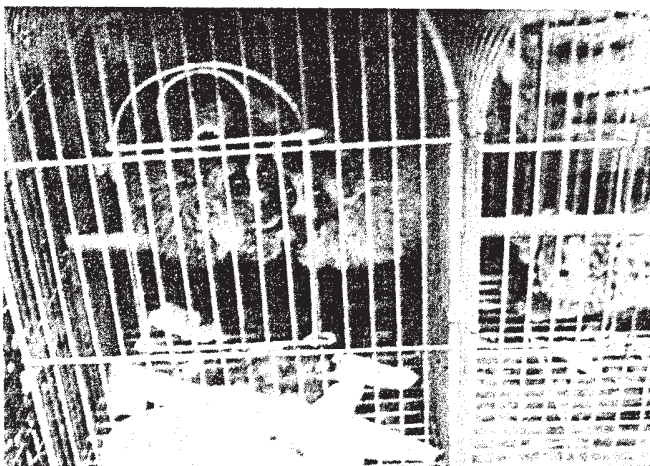
Pigtail macaque at Medan Zoo



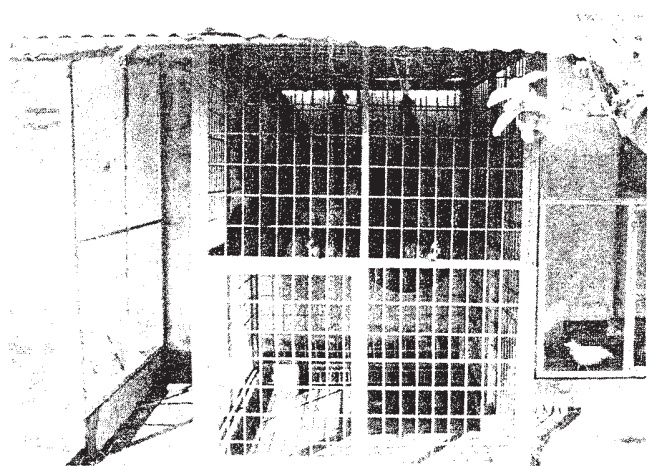
Unweaned baby long-tailed macaques on a Medan bird market; both died within days



Chained and in a cage too: baby pigtail macaque on a Medan market: price US \$15



Slow lorises for sale



Pet siamangs in small cage — many rich Indonesians own animal collections

SUMATRA - NIGHTMARE FOR ANIMALS

This story and the accompanying photos were provided to IPPL by a tourist who recently visited the island of Sumatra in Indonesia.

While travelling through the province of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia, I could not help but notice the abundance of live wildlife for sale on the streets and in the pet markets. Although consisting mostly of birds, many mammals, reptiles and fish are also found in these squalid shops or tied to bricks on the hot sidewalks.

Munias, mynas, lorikeets and many other species of birds are crammed into small, filthy cages. Many die in these horrible conditions and their lifeless bodies are left in the cages to be perched on by others.

Many species of birds, from eagles, owls and wild ducks to cockatoos, pheasants and hornbills, peer out from tiny cages or struggle at the end of chains.

Mammals, such as long-tailed and pig-tailed macaques, slow lorises, leopard cats and an array of squirrels are among the species offered for sale. Many of these die as well. Of eight leopard kittens in one shop, six died before being sold.

Many wealthy Indonesians have their own private wildlife collections, often owning dozens of birds, mammals and reptiles. One particular private collection had over a thousand animals and birds, including many endangered species such as siamang gibbons and green peafowl.

But it is not only the wealthy who own pets. Many households have a cage of birds and often a pet monkey. Because little is known about the proper care of these pets, the mortality rate is extremely high. Monkeys are kept on a short chain, often attached to a ring round their waist. Sometimes, the ring is put on when the monkey is little and as the monkey grows, the ring constricts the animal's waist, eventually killing him/her.

Animals are exported on a regular basis to collectors and dealers throughout the world. One particular dealer said he sold an average of three siamangs per month to a buyer in Singapore. Some are bought and taken out of the country by tourists thinking they have purchased the perfect souvenir. I met a woman from Turkey who had just bought a leopard cat kitten for approximately US \$7. She took it out via public ferry to Singapore.

All the animals and birds are wild-caught, mostly in Sumatra, but many also come from other parts of Indonesia and New Guinea. The dealers say they also import species from Thailand, China and as far away as Africa. This pet trade is seriously depleting the country's wildlife, and in many regions has apparently caused local extinctions.

Very little is being done to change this situation. Many of the species for sale are supposed to be protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES), of which Indonesia is a member.

When I asked animal dealers how it was possible to export these protected species, the answer was always the same. The dealers claimed that all one has to do is pay a little to

Indonesian wildlife officials and they would give you all the necessary permits to export animals.

I also spoke with a wildlife official, and he did not know which species were endangered and protected and, worse, he didn't even seem to care. One particular owl dealer told me he could arrange the permits himself. He also claimed he could supply as many owls as wanted, anywhere in the world.

Government tolerance, lack of enforcement of wildlife management laws, combined with a severe inadequacy of education concerning wildlife, is one of the main reasons for the existence of this lucrative and often illegal trade in wildlife.

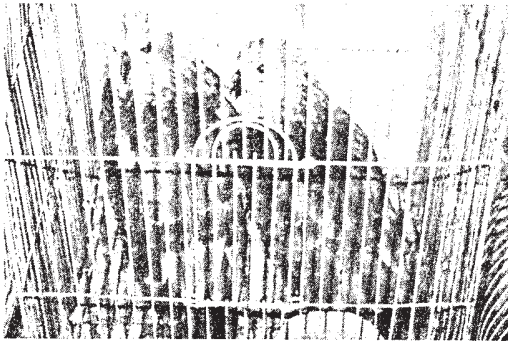
This trade in wildlife needs to be addressed worldwide. Pressure must be put on the Indonesian government to make it enforce and update the existing wildlife regulations. An intensive education program needs to be set up to educate the people regarding the importance of maintaining the country's wildlife in its natural habitat.

Action must be taken **IMMEDIATELY** to protect Indonesia's vanishing wildlife.

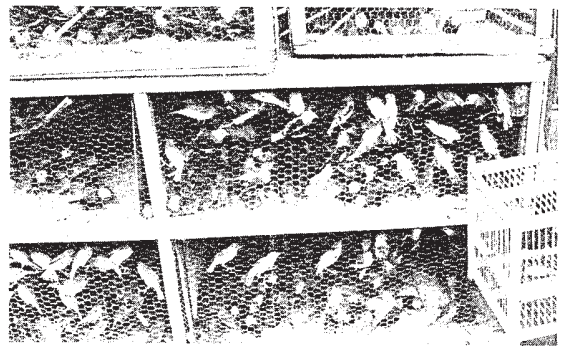
PLEASE HELP

- 1) Please write a letter to the Indonesian Ambassador in your country of residence, requesting that an investigation be made of the appalling conditions under which wildlife is sold on the island of Sumatra, Indonesia. Request that Indonesia establish an Animal Welfare Act to protect animals from being sold or exhibited in cruel conditions. Request strict enforcement of wildlife laws and punishment of violators.
- 2) If you are travelling abroad, do not support the wildlife trade and discourage any other travelers who may be considering buying wildlife or wildlife products. Take photos from a distance (to show cage sizes) and close-up and send them to IPPL.
- 3) Write to Ms. Mollie Beattie, Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington DC 20240, USA, requesting that, in view of Indonesia's lack of effective controls over wildlife exports, all imports from Indonesia should be banned. Otherwise, every single wildlife shipment originating in Indonesia should be inspected for legality and condition of packaging. Request that no wildlife shipment from Indonesia be allowed to enter the United States uninspected.

More photos overleaf



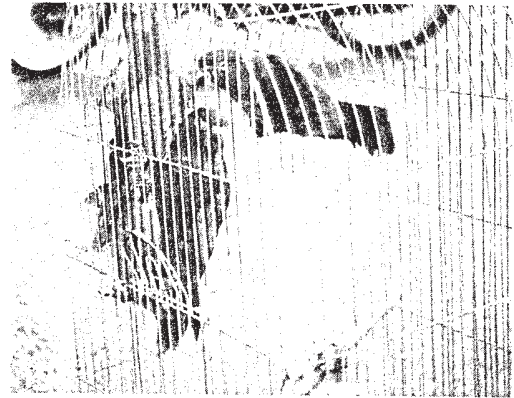
Eagles for sale on a Medan bird market: our observer counted 64 bird species



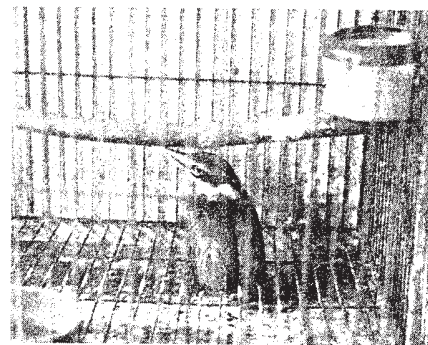
Munias crammed into small cages: many die



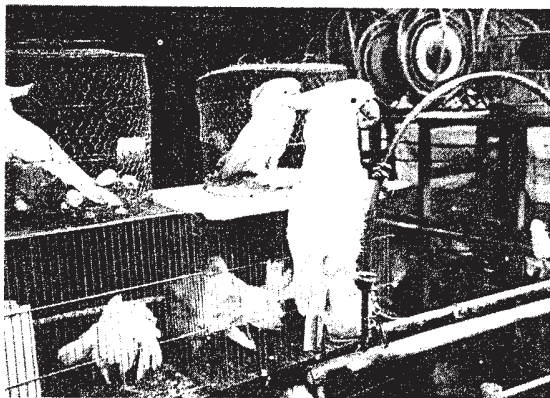
Parrots and lorries crammed in filthy cages



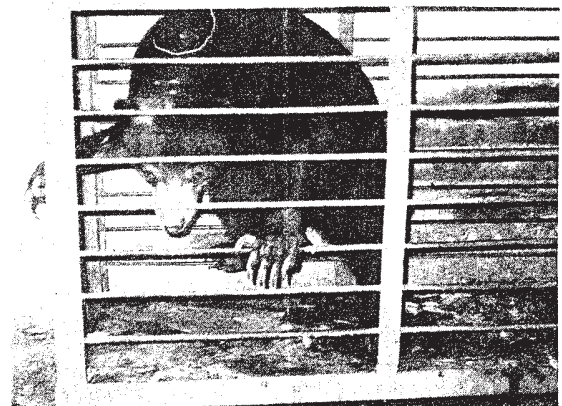
Black-capped lorries



Injured kingfisher



Yellow crested cockatoos (also seen: Moluccan, umbrella and Goffins cockatoos)



Sun Bear, one of 15 at Medan Zoo: they are fed papaya and bananas

REGION 4 OF USFWS REBELS!

The US failure to inspect incoming shipments of wildlife is a major scandal, allowing US smugglers to prowl the world with near-impunity looking for ways to enrich themselves dealing in endangered animals.

In February 1995 the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), embarrassed by IPPL revelations of inspection failures and a devastating report by the General Accounting Office (GAO), and flooded with mail from concerned US citizens and foreign nationals, decided something had to be done, setting inspection rate targets of 25% for 1995 and 50% for 1996.

These rates would be a great improvement over the 7% inspection rate for Miami and 8% inspection rate for New York, which were the inspection percentages reported over a 5-year period at these ports by the GAO. Inspectors around the nation candidly told the GAO that they probably detected less than 10% of smuggled wildlife and complained that, even when they caught smugglers, the cases were not taken seriously, usually ending in forfeiture of the smuggled wildlife or probation for the offender.

USFWS is divided into seven regions. The busiest port in the nation for live wildlife is Miami, Florida, which is in Region 4 (the southeastern United States). Many US and foreign wildlife criminals use South Florida as their base of operations.

Yet Miami has the lowest rate of inspection nationwide. An IPPL study ("A Month in Miami," *IPPL News*, April 1993, free copy on request to new members) found that on 16 days of June 1992, not one single commercial wildlife shipment was inspected at Miami Airport and on 11 days, only one commercial shipment was inspected. What the five inspectors and one supervisory inspector were doing, is not clear.

Amazingly, Region 4 requested a waiver from the 25% and

50% targets. Region 4's law enforcement program is directed by Assistant Regional Director Monty Halcomb. On 31 March 1995, Halcomb sent his waiver request to Tom Striegeler, Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement in Arlington, Virginia.

Although the US Lacey Act and Endangered Species Act obligate the US to control the wildlife trade, and despite the US being a member of the treaty called the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), Halcomb actually told Striegeler that foreign wildlife was less important than US wildlife!

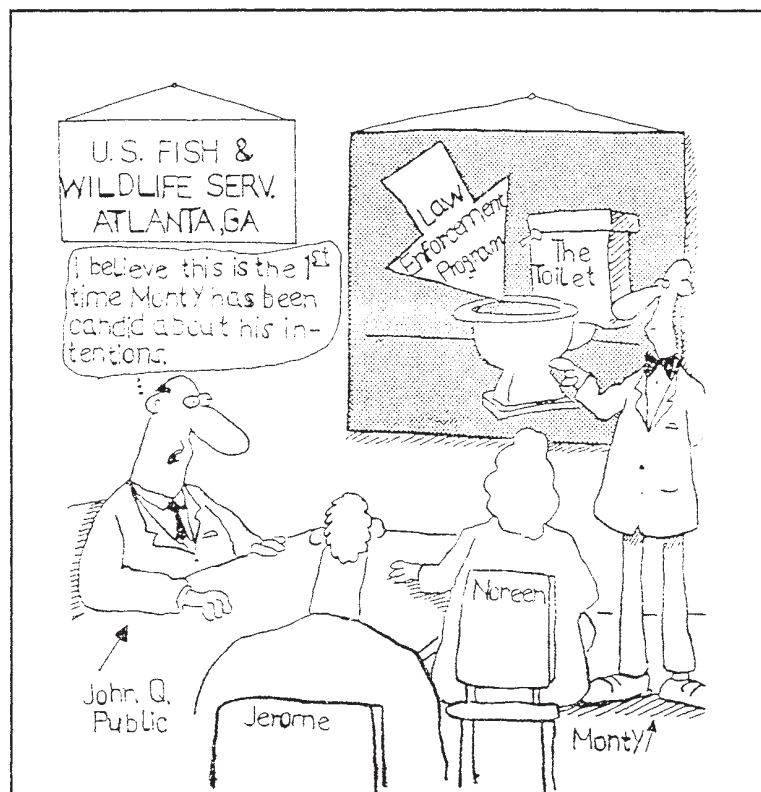
Monty Halcomb's words, reproduced in part below, must have sounded like music in the ears of South Florida's animal dealers.

The Service needs to decide what the primary priority is for DLE [the Division of Law Enforcement]. Currently, we're trying to wage important wars on two fronts: protecting fish and wildlife resources indigenous to North America, as well as trying to protect foreign fish and wildlife resources through implementation of CITES provisions. We cannot do both equally well or effectively, in my opinion.

I am not implying that we should discontinue one or the other activity. We do need to focus our diminishing assets on that priority which is determined to be the most important for this country and its citizens in the short, medium, and long terms. This priority

should be protection of fish and wildlife resources in North America for the following reasons:

** American taxpayers are directly funding the Service's law enforcement activities, and I believe the majority of these taxpayers have a far more vested interest in having us focus on North America's living resources than having*



IPPL GETS AN ANONYMOUS CARTOON!

Shortly after IPPL posted Monty Halcomb's comments on the Internet, we received a cartoon from an anonymous source, possibly a government official who didn't agree with Halcomb! "Noreen" is Noreen Clough, the new Director of Region 4, and "Jerome" is presumably Jerome Butler, an assistant to Halcomb.

Thanks to the "mystery artist!"

us focus on wildlife in other parts of the world.

** We can be more successful in protecting North America's wildlife resources than we can ever be in trying to affect protection efforts in foreign countries, many of which do not have the commitment, legal basis, economy, or other internal structures/capabilities to effectively deal with their internal issues.*

** Leadership in effective wildlife law enforcement should be by example. If we aren't effectively protecting our own wildlife, we are not being the best example possible for other nations. We need to "walk our talk."*

** The Service's relationship with our State counterparts is critical to the public, the living resources and the organizations involved. The States want more assistance from us in addressing the growing trends associated with commercial and non-commercial exploitation of indigenous fish and wildlife resources. We are the best in the world at what we do [some may question Halcomb's boast], and we need to apply this expertise at home.*

IPPL posted Halcomb's comments on the Internet: outraged Brazilian conservationist Jose Truda Palazzo, whose outstanding and courageous investigations of wildlife smuggling in Brazil have been shown on television worldwide, posted these comments:

This individual Halcomb's preconceived ideas on what his job is or is not, regardless of what American law tells him he MUST do is very typical of ignorant individuals who have absolutely no idea on how important US laws and attitudes are for the conservation — or the demise — of natural resources all over the globe.

Although we do not have the traffickers' money to fund a delegation of foreign environmentalists to go to Washington to lobby the Congress, as the Zimbabwean pro-trade creatures did, I am sure there are thousands of citizens the world over that strongly support US "intervention" on behalf of wildlife, against our corrupt and

incompetent local governments.

Fortunately, Halcomb's request for a waiver was not accepted by Mr. Striegeler, and Halcomb was urged to make "every effort" to meet the inspection targets. IPPL intends to follow inspection rates in Region 4.

IPPL questions Halcomb's logic. The American public is not as insular and parochial-minded as Halcomb implies. Many Americans care about both gorillas AND about grizzly bears. They care about endangered parrots AND about American eagles. They care about whales AND they care about manatees.

A recent US television program about the plight of one laboratory chimpanzee brought the producers of "20/20" thousands of letters and phone-calls from concerned citizens.

The weakness and poverty of many third world countries is hardly an excuse for tolerating US dealers plundering their wildlife. In fact, it is a good reason to keep US smugglers on a very short leash and prosecute them if they smuggle wildlife internationally. It is a very good reason to check all wildlife shipments carefully. **Wild animals should not suffer because they happen to live in a country with a government that doesn't care.**

In many cases US smugglers violate not just US wildlife laws but also the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which makes bribery of foreign officials by US nationals illegal. It takes two sides for a bribe to become effective — **and givers and takers of bribes are equally criminal.**

Halcomb's words and reasoning play right into the hands of the many wildlife criminals in South Florida. They may get the subliminal message that the regional law enforcement director will tolerate their shenanigans — **as long as they exploit foreign wildlife and leave US wildlife alone.**

IPPL believes that the weakness of many countries is all the more reason - not the less reason- to help foreign countries and foreign animals by strictly enforcing laws protecting wildlife, especially since our greedy nation imports a billion dollars of foreign wildlife a year.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Please send a letter to **Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, Washington DC 20240, USA**, expressing your concern at Mr. Monty Halcomb's comments about US wildlife being more important than foreign wildlife.

Tell Mr. Babbitt that you care about ALL wildlife and that it is especially important to have someone committed to the protection of ALL the world's wildlife leading Region 4, since this region includes South Florida, where there is a high concentration of international animal dealers, and Miami, where more live wildlife is imported than anywhere else in the nation.

Tell Secretary Babbitt that you agree with setting targets for wildlife inspection, and request that the target be 100% inspection for 1997. Request that all regions, including Region 4 whose director Monty Halcomb has requested a waiver, be required to comply with these targets.

Also, contact your representative (**House Office Building, Washington DC 20515**) and senators (**Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510**) describing the problem and requesting that inspection of incoming wildlife shipments from foreign countries be made mandatory by law to stop smuggling — just as the US Department of Agriculture is required to inspect all plant shipments.

THE LIMBE PRIMATE SANCTUARY

by Kay Farmer

Kay Farmer recently returned to England following a year's volunteer work at the Limbe Primate Sanctuary in Limbe, Cameroon

After being introduced to the work of Peter Jenkins and Liza Gadsby (co-founders of Pandrillus) at the Drill Ranch, Nigeria, in the December 1994 issue of *IPPL News*, I thought that IPPL members would like to learn about a new project of Peter's. This is the Limbé Primate Sanctuary.

For the past year I have been working as a volunteer in Limbé, Cameroon, helping Peter to set up the first wildlife rescue center in Cameroon which has a particular emphasis on primates.

For me, it was the opportunity I had been waiting a long time for. Even as a child I was fascinated with the behavior of various species of monkeys and apes, and would spend hours gazing into the chimpanzee enclosure at the local zoo. I can remember asking my mother if she would buy me a chimpanzee. Not surprisingly, her answer was no! Her reason being that they would swing on the curtains and ruin them. After spending the year in Limbé, frequently sharing my house with infant chimpanzees, I now know that she was right!

Throughout my studies for a degree in psychology, I continually wrote to, and pestered, nearly every animal welfare organization, (IPPL being one of them), which Cyril Rosen (Cyril runs IPPL-UK) may well remember!

I was finally offered the opportunity to go to Barcelona and work as a volunteer for a Spanish group which was campaigning against the cruel Spanish fiestas and bullfights. It was during my stay there that I became acquainted with Simon Templer and his chimpanzee sanctuary just outside Barcelona.

Simon gave me my first opportunity to help look after an infant chimpanzee; Paco, who is now a resident at Monkey World in Dorset, England. Looking after Paco soon shattered my illusions of what an easy job I thought it would be to work with primates. I needed eyes in the back of my head but, un-

deterred, I decided what I wanted to do more than anything was to help them in their natural habitat and go to Africa.

Following an introduction to Liza and Peter by Cyril Rosen, originally for a position at the Drill Ranch in Nigeria, I received a phone-call from Liza who asked, "How would you like to go to Cameroon to help set up a primate sanctuary?"

IPPL paid for my flight (and insurance) to Cameroon, so before I knew it, I was on my way!

Why a Sanctuary in Cameroon?

It was their drill survey work which frequently caused Peter and Liza to cross the Nigerian border to Cameroon, which highlighted the plight of Cameroon's primates. Chimpanzees, gorillas and other primate species are killed for the bush-meat trade, no longer for subsistence means, but for economic gain. Infants are pulled from their slaughtered mothers and become part of the lucrative pet trade. Not only do individuals buy these animals as pets, but commonly they become "attractions" in hotels and bars. Alternatively, they may become an inmate at one of the two dilapidated zoos in Cameroon.

Fortunately, the animals housed at the Limbé Zoo in the southwest Province of Cameroon are the lucky ones, as the existing zoo has become the site for Peter's latest venture. The Limbé Zoo was seen as an ideal place to establish a sanctuary, because the zoo and Limbé itself receive thousands of visitors each year and Limbé is well situated to promote the sanctuary and wildlife conservation in general.

The zoo already houses 37 primates native to Cameroon, including 5 endangered species (lowland gorilla, mandrill, red eared guenon, Preuss' guenon, and chimpanzee).

Meet the Limbé Chimpanzees

Many of the animals in Limbé have been there for quite a few years, long before the site was developed into a sanctuary. The moustache monkey was originally housed in one of the



Kay Farmer with Maxi (gorilla) and Carlos (chimp)

dilapidated battery cages, but is now free-ranging.

He escaped from his cage and there has been no reason to put him back. He stays within the grounds of the sanctuary since it has been his home for many years now, and feeds from the fruiting trees. When the keepers are feeding the rest of the animals, he will often come down from the trees to accept, if not cajole, food from the keepers!

"Man-alone" is an adult male mandrill and another long term resident. He is a most magnificent creature who strides proudly around his enclosure, displaying the vivid coloration of his body. His name depicts the solitary confinement he has experienced since being at Limbé.

"Man-alone's" history is sketchy. No records were kept at Limbé when it was a zoo, but we know that when he first arrived at Limbé he was kept in a very small cage; the same one he was brought to Limbé in, which was so small he could not even turn around.

Now "Man-alone" is in a larger cage, provided with tree bark to gnaw at, and foraging materials to re-introduce him to those skills long since dis-used. Eventually "Man-alone" will go into a much larger enclosure, and we hope to find a female friend to keep him company.

Since the project started at Limbé, there has been a large influx of animals to the sanctuary, indicating the need for such a facility in Cameroon. The number of infant chimpanzees has increased from 4 to 14.

My favorite is Mikey; probably because we picked him up on my first day in Cameroon. Mikey was being kept as a pet in a Chinese restaurant in Yaoundé, but with a bit of persuasion, his owners realized that they could not provide him with the care that he needed.

On the long drive from Yaoundé to Limbé, Mikey was very quiet and withdrawn, but the transformation upon arriving at Limbé was amazing. As soon as I sat down with him, his confidence grew. It was not long before he started chasing the resident cat around the house and wanted to be tickled. Mikey is now a very dominant social character in the nursery, and is the one who shows the most interest when a newcomer enters the group.

It is the best reward that you can get; to see a previously disturbed and frightened animal gradually come around and become the social being he should be.

A New Recruit at Limbé

One of the newer recruits to Limbé, who arrived when I was there is Nyango (pronounced Ne-yan-go), a female low-land gorilla, aged about 4 years old. She is quite a character. She was bought by an American missionary family for their children to "experience" a gorilla.

Unfortunately, the family did not visualize that this "experience" may encompass aggressive behavior. Nyango ate at the table with the rest of the family, demanding toast and jam for breakfast, along with her morning cup of coffee! Not surprisingly, it wasn't long before this very spoiled gorilla started to become a bit of a handful!

Nyango was brought to Limbé and she now roams freely around the sanctuary in the company of Chris, one of the

Cameroonian keepers, who was specifically employed to look after her. Originally a chef by trade, Chris has turned out to be a natural keeper and manages to keep Nyango in-line when she is roaming around with mischievous behavior in mind, which is most of the day!

Progress to date

The project has only been in existence for little over year, but already a lot has been achieved. The first thing to be established was a new feeding and cleaning routine; radically improving the diet and hygiene of the animals. Every enclosure has benefited from environmental enrichment, and new



Nyango

enclosures have been built when funds allowed. Rob Maroni, a US Peace Corps volunteer, has been helping to build new enclosures at Limbé in his spare time. Rob teaches construction at a Cameroonian school in Bamenda, north of Limbé.

He brought his group of school children to the sanctuary not long after I had arrived, and he came down to Limbé to help. He spent the whole of his summer vacation, which coincided with the rainy season, up a ladder, getting very wet, building a new enclosure for the guenons.

His latest venture is the almost completed Education Center for the sanctuary, for which he also raised the money. Joseph and Frederick, two of the Cameroonian animal caregivers, have become very efficient with a hammer and nail since they have become Rob's apprentices!

There are now eight Cameroonian caregivers working at the sanctuary and two English volunteers: Anna Randall, sponsored by IPPL, and Jackie Groves.

Anna was on holiday visiting a friend in Calabar when she visited Liza and Peter's project in the hope that they would

need an extra pair of hands. After gaining some experience at the "Drill Ranch", she was sent to Limbé where, upon arrival, she was immediately adopted as the surrogate mother of a young Blue Duiker, a small deer-like animal.

Future Plans

Ultimately, Peter hopes to release as many of the primates as possible. Two islands along the Sanaga River are having botanical surveys conducted on them to assess their suitability as chimpanzee release sites. Islands make ideal sanctuaries for chimpanzees because chimps cannot swim.

In the meantime, there is a lot of work to be done at the Limbé sanctuary; the halfway house to a hopeful future release. A new enclosure with an electrified perimeter, (equipment donated by Monkey World and the British Embassy in Cameroon) will soon be ready to accommodate more

chimpanzees.

Next on the list is to expand the indoor and outdoor ape nursery facilities, and to build a larger enclosure for the drills. New food stores are required, and a much needed veterinary center. Rob is going to be busy!

As for my future, I hope one day to return to Limbé to continue to care for my extended primate family, who may be thousands of miles away, but never far from my thoughts!

HOW IPPL HAS HELPED

Besides sponsoring volunteers at Limbé, IPPL has provided a \$1,000 grant for ongoing care of the Limbé primates. Anyone wanting to make a "restricted" donation to Limbé should send an "earmarked" check. Please let us know if you know of any foundations that might like to help this valuable project.

NEWS FROM MEXICO

Spider Monkeys Confiscated

On 29 May 1995, Mexican wildlife authorities based in Xalapa, Vera Cruz, confiscated 29 baby spider monkeys being transported in violation of Mexico's wildlife protection laws. According to Mexican officials, the babies' ages ranged from 20 days to five months.

Two men were arrested, a veterinarian named Isaias Borjas Garcia and Crescencio Hernandez Santos. The spider monkeys, reportedly acquired from a man in the town of Las Choapas in Vera Cruz, were to be sold as pets in the notorious Sonora Market in Mexico City. Local buyers and foreign animal dealers also prowl Sonora Market.

One of the baby spider monkeys died immediately after confiscation, and two more were reportedly moribund. The animals were turned over to the Parque Ecologico Educativo "Nanciyaga."

According to the Mexican prosecutor, *"Due to the age of the monkeys and the excessive heat, and the conditions in which they were transported, they were in very bad condition and, if not given immediate care, certainly would have died."*

Connie Scheller, IPPL's Mexican Representative, has requested the government to punish the offenders severely and take away the veterinarian's license.

Mexico's Market of Misery

The 29 confiscated spider monkeys were on their way to Mexico City's noisy Sonora Market. Shirley McGreal, IPPL Chairwoman, visited the market in January 1995 and found animals kept in horrific conditions.

On 12 June 1995, Nancy Nusser of the *Palm Beach Post*, Florida, USA, described what she saw while visiting the market.

Graciela de la Garza, a conservationist, strode through the market jabbing a furious finger at the sickly animals — toucans and peregrine falcons listless in cages, rare snakes trapped in cardboard boxes.

Her sturdy figure cut a swift path through the filthy aisles, past a crowd gawking at baby spider monkeys. "Forty percent of the animals here are endangered or rare," she fumed. "They're supposed to be protected."

The place was Mexico City's Sonora Market, where

birds and animals that survive capture are sold for a few dollars apiece.

It's a bargain basement of a high-profit international animal smuggling network through Mexico that threatens to wipe out endangered species...

The trade thrives on weak conservation laws and government corruption. De la Garza, a former director of Mexico's federal conservation agency, tried to crack down on two suspected smugglers, the sons of government ministers.

She was beaten up twice, and a colleague mysteriously disappeared. The two men received fines that De la Garza says amounted to little more than a slap on the wrist. Both are reputedly back in the animal trade...

Mexico's wildlife has declined severely in recent years. Unfortunately Mexico is a gateway to the United States, where there is a massive demand for exotic pets. The Tony Silva parrot smuggling indictment describes how endangered Brazilian parrots are flown to Mexico City and then moved by road across the borders to the United States.

Mexican Politician's Son Caught Smuggling

In another development reported by the *New York Times*, Jorge Hank Rhon, son of Carlos Hank Gonzalez, a Minister in the Government of former President Salinas de Gortari, was arrested on 22 May 1995 when he arrived in Mexico City on Japan Airlines Flight 027, with twelve suitcases loaded with ivory articles, an elephant tusk, jewelry, etc. Jorge Hank has a small private zoo near the Aguascalientes racetrack in Tijuana which he also owns, as well as a string of off-track gambling shops.

Jorge Hank was jailed overnight after his arrest.

The Mexican press gave the story massive publicity and Mexican politicians were quoted demanding that Jorge Hank not receive "special treatment" from the justice system, as "well-connected" Mexicans have tended to get in the past.

US wildlife agents have alleged that Jorge Hank Rhon was involved with former Toluca Zoo Director Victor Bernal and others in the 1992 "Mexican Sting" gorilla deal.

REPORT SLAMS ANIMAL WELFARE ACT ENFORCEMENT

Each cabinet department of the government of the United States has its own office of "Inspector-General." The office is supposed to investigate alleged agency waste, fraud and abuse. In 1994 the Office of the Inspector-General of the US Department of Agriculture issued its report on enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act.

Enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act is conducted by the Regulatory Enforcement and Animal Care Division (REAC) of the Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

The Animal Welfare Act was established to protect captive animals in research laboratories, on exhibitors' or dealers' premises, and animals in transportation.

The report summarized the team's findings:

APHIS does not have the authority, under current legislation, to effectively enforce the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act. For instance, the agency cannot terminate or refuse to renew licenses or registrations, even in cases where serious or repeat violations occur, such as the use of animals in unnecessary experiments or failure to treat diseases and wounds. In addition, APHIS cannot assess monetary penalties for violations unless the violator agrees to pay them, and penalties are often so low that violators regard them merely as a cost of doing business...

We also determined that APHIS could make more effective use of its existing enforcement powers — monetary penalties were not always aggressively collected and were in some cases arbitrarily reduced.

APHIS also generally accommodates facility operators who routinely refuse APHIS inspectors access to their facilities, instead of issuing suspensions or taking other available enforcement actions. As a result facilities had little incentive to comply with the requirements of the Act. We identified several instances in which facilities continued to commit violations even after the violations had been identified by APHIS.

The report recommended that APHIS:

Initiate legislation which would allow the agency to revoke, or withhold, renewals of licenses and registrations -and implement procedures requiring that inspections be performed at all facilities prior to registration and that registration be withheld from any dealer which is not in compliance. We also recommend that

APHIS strengthen its enforcement of the Act by holding dealers responsible for their full monetary penalties and by suspending the licenses of dealers who refuse to give APHIS access to their premises...

Animal Welfare Act enforcement by REAC is administered through its four regional offices: Annapolis, Maryland; Sacramento, California; Fort Worth, Texas, and Tampa, Florida. Each office has a staff of animal care specialists, veterinary medical officers, and inspectors. In 1993, APHIS performed 17,593 inspections at 9,411 locations on a minuscule budget of \$9.2 million (US).

The inspection team learned of 28 facilities in the northeast and southeast sectors that had their licenses renewed, despite the facilities' being in flagrant non-compliance with the Animal Welfare Act.

Unfortunately, animal dealers have learned that they can thumb their noses at inspectors by refusing them admission to their premises - and get away with it. Regulated entities are supposed to have their premises open on all normal working days. This should not be a problem because captive animals must be fed and cared for daily so there should be somebody on the premises daily. However, the report noted 3,186 unsuccessfully "attempted inspections" in 1993. In some cases the inspectors will have travelled a long way from their regional headquarters to the premises they are to inspect - only to be forced to leave without doing their work.

The Inspector-General found this situation totally unacceptable, stating:

A facility operator's refusal to allow access to APHIS inspectors is a direct challenge to the agency's enforcement authority, and failure to take timely action in such cases could undermine APHIS' overall ability to enforce the Act.

The report also checked 26 research facilities to decide whether their institutional animal care and use committees (IACUSs), which are supposed to monitor research projects and care of research animals, were functioning properly, and found that at 12 of the 26 facilities, they were not.

A full copy of the Inspector-General's detailed report on APHIS is available for the cost of copying and postage, which amounts to \$10.00 (US). Please send all requests to our US address.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Please send a letter to the Secretary of Agriculture expressing concern about the lax enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act exposed by the Inspector-General's audit report No. 33600-1-Ch. State that any facility which refuses access to APHIS inspectors should have its license immediately and permanently suspended. Send your letter to:

**Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
14th St. and Independence Av., SW
Washington DC 20250, USA**

THE PRIMATES OF NAMDAPHA NATIONAL PARK

by Dr. Anwaruddin Choudhury

I visited the Namdapha National Park of Arunachal Pradesh in the far eastern corner of India in July 1989, January 1993 and August 1993, to observe the wildlife of the area, and especially the primates. The pristine glory of untouched primary forest and the magnificent landscape are worth observing.

I first heard of the area while going through E.P.Gee's well known book, *The Wildlife of India*, in which he mentioned a large wild and unexplored tract called the "Tirap Frontier Tract National Park." After Arunachal Pradesh became a separate state, the area was declared a wildlife sanctuary. It was called Namdapha, after the river. In 1983 it was upgraded to a national park and then a tiger reserve under Project Tiger.

Spread over 1,985 square kilometers of area, Namdapha is one of the largest protected areas in India. For primates, especially the endangered forest-dwelling ones, it is a haven. Because the forest-dwelling primates are hard-hit almost everywhere due to wanton felling. Habitat in Namdapha ranges from tropical lowland rain forest to subtropical broad-leaf and alpine scrub. This diversity is due to the great altitudinal variation, (200 meters near M'pen to 4,500 meters in Dapha Bum).

Since Namdapha is in a heavy rainfall area (annual average more than 2,300 mm), the best time to visit is the winter months (November–March).

The most conspicuous primate of the area is the hoolock gibbon, India's only ape. It is here that its future can be termed close to 100% secure! Come morning, the jungle becomes alive with the loud "**Whoku, Hooku,**" audible as far away as two kilometers! Hoolocks, like other gibbons, live in small monogamous family groups consisting of husband, wife, and children. The black male and buffy female are conspicuous among the greenery of trees and bamboos.

However, younger animals are variable in color. For example, infants resemble their mothers, being buffy. Then their fur becomes black, after approximately one year. The hoolocks also maintain distinct territories. Except for howling and threatening at the borders, actual physical attacks on each other by hoolock gibbons have not been observed anywhere.

In my last visit in August 1993, I found that hoolocks have become more numerous, as some even ventured within the Forest Lodge campus at Deban. Poaching of gibbons in most of Namdapha is almost nil, although there may be a few cases in the extreme east and west where the Lisu and the Chakma tribes respectively live.

My observations elsewhere in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh showed that natural predation on hoolocks is very insignificant. Thus, more and more new groups are being formed and they are occupying areas earlier avoided by gibbons.

I still remember that, when I visited Deban in July 1989, I had to trek at least 3 kilometers to see the gibbons, but now one group and a lone male live near the Deban Forest Tourist Lodge.

On 25 August 1993, I saw a male hoolock with interesting eyebrows, at an elevation of about 700 meters above sea level. There was no gap between the brows - the white brow markings were joined. This may be an individual variation. It may be mentioned here that hoolocks are also known as white-browed gibbons.

The Assamese macaque is usually seen in medium to large bands of 15-20. One group often comes near the Lodge at Deban. However, they are very shy and difficult to observe from close range. It is doubtful whether any rhesus monkeys live within the national park area. I never came across a single rhesus macaque during my visits. Similarly, the status of the pig-tailed macaque is also not known and so far there is no record of sightings. All these three species of macaques are fairly common in the adjacent district of Assam (Tinsukia).

The capped langur is also fairly common in Namdapha. It is also shy. A normal group of these langurs consists of 12-13 animals, however, in Namdapha no studies of group



Photo: Thomas Geissmann

Hoolock gibbon

composition have yet been done. These animals are also shy.

Among the rare primates, there are the stump-tailed macaque and the slow loris. For the stump-tailed macaque, Namdapha is its most important homeland within the Indian sub-continent. It is also the rarest primate of north-east India. In fact, it is the only primate of north-east India which I failed to observe in the wild during the course of my long field study since 1986.

For the slow loris also, Namdapha is its largest sanctuary in India. It is also very safe here, with virtually no poaching at all. Primates are well distributed throughout the national park except for the northern high altitude areas.

Among other wildlife, there is the tiger (Namdapha is an important tiger habitat and is a part of the Project Tiger), elephant, gaur (the "Indian bison"), serow, goral, takin, sambar, muntjak, hog deer, Himalayan black bear, leopard, clouded leopard, and possibly the red panda.

A new species of squirrel has been described from Namdapha. Among the rich bird life, there are the hornbills, pheasants, tragopans and the rare-white-winged wood duck. A new bird, the Namdapha shortwing, has been described from this area. A few more undescribed birds may still be there.

Namdapha does not have the problems of encroachment and large-scale tree-felling. There are some isolated cases of poaching of small mammals and birds, including primates, in the eastern and western fringe areas where the Lisu and the Chakma tribes respectively live.

The Chakmas were inhabitants of the Chittagong Hill Tracts of what is now Bangladesh. They were settled here as refugees in the late sixties by the Government of India.

Among conservation problems, proposed construction of a tourist complex at Deban seems to be the only one. This complex with a large tourist lodge should be constructed outside the park, maybe at M'Pen on the banks of the scenic Noa-Dihing River.



Photo: Anwaruddin Chowdhury

Female Hoolock in Namdapha Forest

Namdapha was closed to foreign visitors until 1992 and a large number of tourists are expected in the near future. Besides providing thrilling adventures to the visitors, the flow of tourists means more revenue.

With development of eco-tourism, the locals, mostly various tribes like the Nocte, Tangsa, Singpho and also Chakma settlers will realize the value and importance of conservation. Because, for many of them, (as is the case with native peoples all over the world), a national park or wildlife sanctuary is just an area where the Government denies them what they view as their right to cut down trees and kill animals!

To visit Namdapha or other parts of North-East India, foreign visitors are required to obtain a Restricted Area Permit from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi. Indian government tourist offices overseas can provide information.

Friends of primates throughout the world are welcome to visit Namdapha!

MEET A RESCUED GIBBON

This adorable gibbon is a young Agile gibbon and he lives at the new Rescue Center for Endangered Wild Animals in Pingtung, Taiwan.

The center was established after Taiwan passed a new Wildlife Conservation Law in June 1990, banning trade in endangered and threatened species of wildlife, both native and non-native.

Because of previous laxity, there are endangered animals in private hands all over Taiwan. These include hundreds of orangutans and gibbons. Confiscated animals or animals given up by their owners are being held at the temporary Rescue Center until permanent shelters are built.

At present there are four agile gibbons at the center: two adults (one male and one female) and two juveniles, including the delightful gibbon seen here.



SARA, THE MONKEYS HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE HOUSE AGAIN!

or

HOW TWO HUMANS FROM THE NORTH HAVE ADAPTED TO SOME OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE AMAZONIAN SOUTH

by Thomas R. Defler

Dr. Thomas Defler and his wife Sara live in the forests of Colombia.

Their first article for IPPL News was published in August 1990.



No! I suddenly thought, and shot out of my seat, rushing from my study room while screaming loudly, "Sara! The monkeys are in the house!"

A short run to the wide open door of the kitchen produced a chaotic scene, while Mafafa, the oldest woolly monkey, sat on the "monkey shelf" outside the yawning door, with the tip of the tail in her mouth and a twinkle in her eye. She thinks this sort of thing is funny, and she exhibits a great deal of satisfaction from figuring out door mechanisms, which because of her, we frequently must change.

"Get out! Get out! Get Out!" I screamed like a demented madman. This was part show to demonstrate that I was not happy and in order to get across to our wards that this was not an acceptable situation. The door vomited monkeys as they ran for the trees, some with milk bags in their hands, handfuls of sugar, snatched bananas and other interesting possessions they had happily snagged in the chaos that was our kitchen and dining room. "Another day in paradise!", Sara commented half sardonically to me as we began the clean-up.

But at this late stage of my life, I cannot imagine doing anything else that would not involve monkeys in one way or another. I have delivered myself up to a life completely surrounded by, inter-penetrated with, and dominated by, neo-tropical primates in one guise or another. I spend my life caring for, studying, teaching and writing about monkeys, some of our closer relatives in the animal kingdom. This forum allows me to tell some of you what this life is all about.

Writing in the August 1990 issue of *IPPL News*, I described some of these important beings in my life, including my artist-biologist wife Sara, as well as Hua'acu', Runcho, Mafafa, Nomi

and various other orphan monkeys that we have received through one source or other over the years. Since, as is usual with displaced and orphaned animals, it is often a huge problem for the responsible authorities to know what to do with them.

A civilized society cannot just throw away animals that appear, confiscated, as orphans or otherwise on the scene, and most of you probably feel that we have some responsibility to try to do something to address the problem.

Well, I know that I can't receive every small orphaned monkey in the Colombian Amazon, but situations confront us that are difficult to turn down and, at this writing, we have 19 individual, orphaned, healthy and (I think) happy primates which live uncaged around the installations of the research station (Estacion Biologica Caparu) that we have developed and maintained for the past eleven years, in the middle of dense lowland tropical forest and hours from the closest human beings.

However, we have lots of other work as well as Caparu, since my "real" work was supposed to be field studies of Colombian primates. For example, I studied woolly monkeys in the surrounding forest during several years, and during the past few years I have concentrated on the ecology of the endangered black uakari.

Additionally, I receive at Caparu, and help search for support for, Colombian biology students as they complete their required bachelor's degree, mostly in primate or other endangered species research.

I also maintain an interchange with a local Indian settlement (several hours away from us), helping them acquire some needed materials for the construction of a first aid station and other elements in exchange for permission to study a small unknown primate with the ugly English name of the "mottled-faced" tamarin (*Saguinus inustus*), and more attractively named by the Yucuna Indians who live in that community as "pijeru" (the "j" is a Spanish "J", pronounced in the back of the throat).

Sara has concentrated on painting and drawing, although she is also a Ph.D. biologist, and recently she has produced some very nice posters for several Colombian organizations as well as ink drawings which





Hua'acu' the widow monkey

will be published in a book I have been writing about Colombian primates. She has also become the official monkey feeder at Caparu, as she says that I give them too much and they get fat. She is undoubtedly correct on that score.

Most of the same personalities inhabit our world as I described previously. There are some changes, mostly having to do with the changes (subtractions and additions) which occur during any lifetime. One reader was particularly interested in the saga of Hua'acu' our hand-raised *Callicebus torquatus* ("widow monkey" or "white-handed titi" in English), who, when last heard from in these pages, was holding off a suitor who had arrived from the forest and was attempting to form a pair relationship with our female.

But Hua'acu' was stubborn about this. She had, after all, been hand-raised by Sara and me and our assistants, Olga and Thomas, and this monkey did not identify strongly with others of her kind. It was a bit sad to see this patient young male follow Hua'acu' around from place to place, causing her often to displace again, since *Callicebus* prefer — like many primates — contact and grooming, and Hua'acu' would have none of it.

Still, we had hopes for this persistent and calm male. Some of you might remember that he arrived as if having been habituated by people. He had no fear of us, while other males who had arrived from the forest were very wary of the humans, at least at first. His tameness led us to conclude that he was one of the young of our local troop, which we call the "vecinos" or the neighbors. This would explain his bold behavior in front of human beings, since he had probably known us from infancy, though we did not recognize him as an individual.

With time we became very accustomed to the presence of "El Novio" or the "boy-friend", as he came to be called; but every night, Hua'acu' would line up at the bedroom door to be let into the bedroom where she had slept since she was a tiny baby. She would allow nothing else. The time stretched on for three years.

The poor "Novio" even went through cycles of looking good and looking bad, since he spent little time foraging and it was impossible to supplement his diet during the difficult time of

the year from September-December, since the others of our multi-species group would steal anything we might hang up in a tree, and the "Novio" would not take a hand-out directly from us.

The poor fellow would lose fur around November-December from his inadequate diet, although I have noticed that this happens to some other natural groups as well. Then he would recuperate as the food supply increased from December to March.

All of this ended rather abruptly and jarringly one day, about three years later. We had a young Letuama Indian woman helping us around the house and Hua'acu' was her "friend". Hua'acu', for some unknown reason to us, always accepts Indian women. Indian men, white men she automatically hates. Sometimes she accepts a white woman. I think that she likes the calmness and the long hair that these Indian women often exhibit, since Hua'acu' has a strong need to groom.

So, often Hua'acu' would accompany the young woman to the creek to wash laundry or to bathe. But one day the woman decided to go into the forest away from the house to look for forest fruit, on the other side of the creek, and she forgot about Hua'acu'.

Hua'acu followed her along the forest floor and the woman, unconcernedly, returned to the clearing via another long route, losing Hua'acu' in the process. Later, when the woman realized what she had done, she lied to Sara and blamed the loss on a young Colombian man who was visiting, confusing the search for Hua'acu', which was unsuccessful.

During all of this, I was in Bogota and had no idea that my lovely little *Callicebus* had been lost in the forest. Sara was devastated. The Novio was also devastated, since he generally did not join in these excursions with the girl, and after a couple of days, sadly, he too disappeared, surely looking for Hua'acu' as well.

I remember what I felt when my assistant,



Mafafa, a woolly monkey



Nana, a young woolly monkey

a young Yukuna Indian, who also cared very much about monkeys and other animals (even though Hua'acu' had attacked and bit him many times), told me about Hua'acu's disappearance, as I got off the plane.

This monkey had been part of my intimate life for several years, and I was unprepared to have that part of me cut out. And yes, it was like that to me. The trip home on the river was not the usual happy affair; I walked up our forest trail with a terribly heavy heart, because I couldn't believe I would never see this small, vivacious monkey again. She had given me so much. She had taught me intimate details of the species and had chosen me as one of the two beings in the universe that were necessary for her own well-being and happiness.

I walked quietly into the clearing, unwilling to announce myself yet to Sara, since I didn't know how I was to control what I was feeling. But quickly, each monkey of our group became aware that I had arrived and hurried to me and surrounded me for a hug or a greeting, and I sat down onto the ground and gathered some of them up to me.

The old monkeys' dog Yahui, stuck her cold nose in my face and wagged her tail, whining her doggy greeting, all of this activity alerting Sara that I had arrived. She ran out of the house happily, calling "Tom, Tom! Hua'acu' just arrived from the forest yesterday. She's alright. She's fine".

Talk about having your head jerked around. From devastation to this in one second! Hua'acu' had lived by herself in the forest for 26 days before finally discovering her way home. She arrived in prime condition. I'm certain she had been lonely, but she had also eaten well during that time, for she was not skinny by any means. When she arrived, she seemed to Sara to be a bit shy (as anyone would be after being lost for 26 days), but she was quickly becoming accustomed to sharing her space with ten other monkeys of several species again, and there she sat in the crotch of a tree, waiting for me to finish the rambunctious greetings of many of the other monkeys.

After the craziness calmed, I walked slowly over to this lovely black monkey, and tilted my face up, which she did as well. She slowly rubbed her throat and chest over my throat, just as greeting wild *Callicebus* monkeys do, I drinking in her musky odor, secreted from a chest gland and used in social interactions. I assume she recognized my odor as well, though she has no trouble distinguishing me from any other human male from a good distance away.

We never saw the Novio again. Hopefully, he finally found a female who could respond to his advances, something that Hua'acu' apparently would never be able to do. But she still had her human pair, dedicated to her health and as much of her happiness as possible.

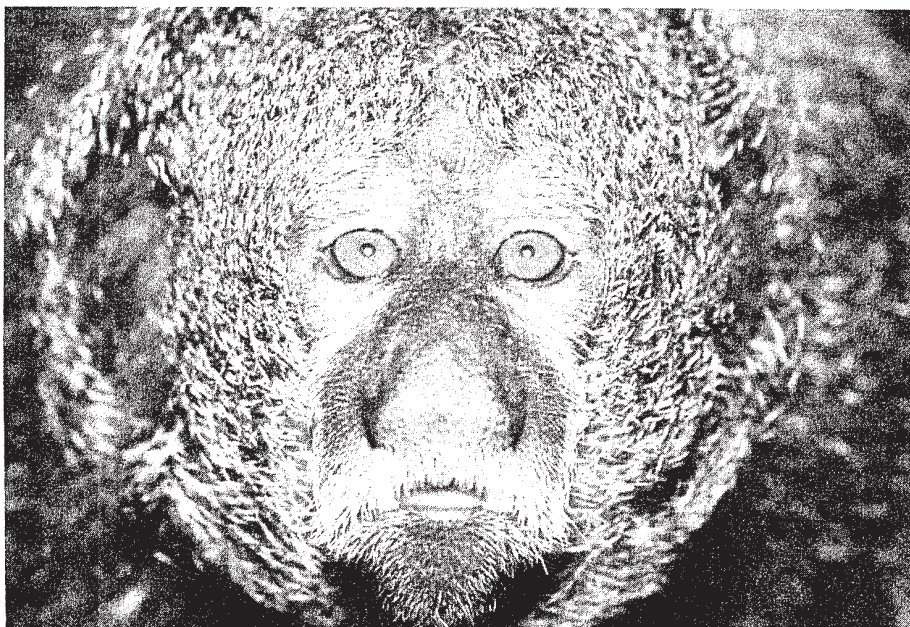
These free-ranging and orphaned monkeys have each offered something to us that we would not otherwise have experienced, as we have attempted to provide them with some alternative to dying in a cage, tied to a line, killed by dogs or starvation with an inadequate diet or whatever other eventual fate awaits the vast majority of primates taken as pets in Colombia.

Each of these presently 19 (as I write this) primates of seven species are an inadequate solution to an impossible situation, since each time someone kills a primate for its young, an unacceptable problem is created, usually resulting in the death of two primates, the parent and the eventual death of the young. This diverse collection at Caparu' at least is free and healthy, although they remain removed for the most part from the breeding population.

Presently, the group consists of:

- eight woolly monkeys (5 adult females, one juvenile female and two young males);
- two long-haired female spider monkeys (one adult and one two-year old);
- two male black-headed uakaris (one adult and one young);
- one adult male monk saki;

Monk Saki



- two female widow monkeys (Hua'acu' and a year and half old);
- one *Saguinus nigricollis* or white-mouthed tamarin.
- three night monkeys (two males and one female);
- and one female coatamundi.

The female coatamundi is considered an honorary long-nosed monkey by all. Supporting (literally) some members of the group is an elderly German shepherd, who doubles as a mom for the little ones.

The original idea was to be able to reintroduce these animals into natural populations whenever possible. Not an easy proposition. Our woollies know the local woolly monkey troop, which often passes by, but even though it seems that in this species the females immigrate to other troops, ours have yet to show any interest in going off with the wild ones, even though the troop males show great interest in our five adult females, and the females are obviously attracted to the wild troop. Still, they are reticent to join them, even though they show far more interest than does Hua'acu'.

Our only success so far has been the reintegration into the local natural population of two squirrel monkey males which were raised here at Caparu'. Their reintegration was a sink or swim

situation I'm afraid, as I shall describe here.

As these young males matured, they became unpredictable and "bitey". They would often fly off the handle for no identifiable reason and bite us or another monkey as we passed by.

Many of these species are capable of being quite aggressive when they feel the need, and this is one of the many reasons why monkeys should not be pets. One too many seemingly un-



Ya'ari, white mouthed tamarin

provoked bites one day, and I directed my Indian assistants to grab them, put them in a box and carry them one kilometer north, along one of our trails. This they did, and I immediately felt guilty. What if I had condemned them to starvation? What if they could not take care of themselves?

Nevertheless, we had the example of Hua'acu', a monkey that I never dreamed would be able to take care of herself for a month on her own. About two months later a troop of squirrel monkeys swept pass the clearing with two members of the group lagging. I immediately focused on them, since neither showed the least fear of our presence.

To cap the identification, the two males climbed down from 20 meters to about 3 meters, looking at the dog (whom they had often jumped on and ridden) and at us, as if in greeting, then rushed off with their new-found friends. We have not seen them since, but we feel a great sense of satisfaction to know



Runcho, member of a rare Colombian species of titi

that a re-introduction worked for these two flighty males.

But, such a wonderful solution is not easy to come by for some of these monkeys, since survival in the forest is by no means all instinctive. Yet some species when adult can be dangerous for the human beings around them.

Woolly monkey males are an excellent example of a dangerous interface with humans. There are several examples which I know where a maturing or mature woolly attacked and bit the human closest to him, and male woolly monkey canines are terrible to behold, being much longer than the females'.

Additionally, this species, which may weigh as much as 10 kg, are tremendously strong and tough in a fight. I sometimes barely hang on to my dominance to our females, while one of the females clearly dominates Sara and enforces her dominance with hard bites. Fortunately that female has rather dull teeth.

Interestingly, well over half of the orphan woollies I have examined are females rather than males. It was quite a long while before we were given a male, something I had agonized about, knowing too well from incidents of others how dangerous an adult male could be. But when they are babies and in need, it is impossible not to accede to the challenge of saving their lives.

From the very beginning a baby male woolly is a species apart from the females. The males are boisterous, aggressive and extremely physical. They jump, they fly though the air, they play bite (hard) and generally they make themselves into a pest for the other woollies, who are irresistibly drawn to these babies but often are not willing to put up with the uncomfortable duty of constantly caring for these little brats. You know, it takes a mother to be able to stand some young males and even some females (the same rule obtains with the human species).

Later, as they begin to mature, the females notice something else about the males, which is attractive to them, and our females have initiated the males into sex quite early, so that is obvious that these monkeys would reproduce in this situation, given a chance.

But the males also have the custom of going off a bit, by themselves, and interestingly this must be the first development of the peripheral behaviors of non-dominant woollies in

the forest, which exhibit a sort of guarding behavior and they may actually confront danger more directly than the females, putting themselves at risk, assumedly while others flee. This behavior has consequences.

We have raised two other male woollies for a short time before they disappeared. Because they are so independent, it is my belief that they fell to predators. This forest has many ocelots and occasionally others (not I) sight a large boa in the forest near the house.

My reaction to a large boa so near would be to roll it into a tight ball and carry it about ten kilometers away, but I haven't gotten the chance and don't know really who snatched the previous young males, which were, after all, only about 2-3 years old. At any rate, if our current males make it up to an age where their canines begin to grow in (about 3-4 years, I believe), my plan is to banish them together, deep in the forest. I know of no other alternative, since all of these monkeys are free and do not know cages or any sort of confinement. Given our limited experience with others, we think that it will be far kinder to give them both any opportunity to make it on their own, even if they fail.

But meanwhile, I take them into the forest every day, and they also go accompanied with some of the adults, so that the forest is a natural part of their daily activities. If there is a fruit crop nearby, we all go to eat it together, and the males are completely at home in the highest trees. They have no trouble travelling from tree to tree, and they are wary of any strange animal that they see. With any luck, they may be able to join up with a local troop, this is, if the local males do not take umbrage.

We accept that there will be many problems in the future as each of our charges matures and exhibits its own mix of natural and "unnatural" behaviors which were, after all, not evolved for being around human beings or for living in such close contact to so many other species.

Meanwhile, we have learned so many intimate details especially of the more instinctual behaviors, that we feel grateful. Many of these things are so subtle that it would not be recog-

nized observing them from afar. As well, many of our individuals have given me ideas about the use of such behaviors in a natural context, and in the manner, they help teach me about their species.

Our plan is to continue living at our research station for the years ahead, although I am travelling further and further afield to accomplish my research and conservation plans while Sara usually stays home to feed monkeys. Ahead is a book about Colombian primates that should be finished this year.

In fact, I finished another book about living in these tropical wildernesses, but have had no time to find a publisher! Anybody know one?

If the stars are aligned correctly, the President of Colombia should soon declare the Caparu' National Park, and we can feel proud that we played a seminal role in its creation. We shall continue working through our Colombian partners, the Fundacion Natura, which represents us to the Colombian government and who will become the legal owners of Caparu' after the park is declared.

Our hope is that we can change just a few more people's minds about the beauty and the importance of these forest creatures, and in that way the overwhelming and world-wide negative influence of forest and animal destruction will be opposed a bit more strongly.

As ever, I am very grateful to the groups that have supported our scientific work, especially the National Geographic Society, Conservation International, and Colciencias of the Colombian government. Our role is made easier by our professional colleagues at the Fundacion Natura (Columbia).

Because our support comes to us explicitly for our work in ecology and conservation, we are still left with the problem of paying for the care which we extend to the primates that live with us. For the past few years this concern has been somewhat alleviated by Dr. Brent White and the Woolly Monkey Foundation, which have provided help in keeping these primates fed, an expensive proposition since there is very little agriculture in our part of the Amazon and the majority of the food is flown out from Bogota.

HOW YOU CAN HELP HUA'ACU' AND FRIENDS!

We hope you have enjoyed this delightful article. IPPL has just sent \$1,000 as a gift for monkey care to Tom and Sara. This surprise gift was delivered by graduate student Melinda Franceschini who is studying with Tom in the summer of 1995. We would like to challenge our members to match this sum! All gifts to IPPL are tax-deductible. Be sure to mark your check "For Hua'acu" in the bottom left corner and mail it to:

IPPL
PO BOX 766
Summerville SC 29484
USA

IPPL
16 Judd Street
London WC1H 9NS
England



Hua'acu

TROPHY HUNTERS EYE NOUABALE-NDOKI

Nouabale-Ndoki in the Congo Republic is one of the few areas on earth where wildlife lives relatively unmolested. Many readers will have seen the wonderful television program showing the contrasting situation for wildlife in different parts of the Congo: first the program gave viewers a tour of the appalling city markets where primates, often smoked, are sold as bushmeat, and gorilla and chimpanzee heads and hands are sold for fetish reasons.

The program then changed locale. With great difficulty the TV crew crossed swamp terrain until they found a remarkable area where wildlife roamed blissfully, with no fear of man. This was the first time ever that lowland gorillas, who have learned to be elusive elsewhere, could be filmed living in open clearings called "bai."

TV viewers who love to see animals living in peace and harmony with nature were transported to a truly idyllic area. However, others may have been viewing the program: people with designs on the animals for exploitative reasons. In the modern world, animals are supposed to earn human tolerance of their presence by "paying their way," which means at best being observed, or at worst being slaughtered or captured for local or international trade.

In the May 1995 issue of its publication *Safari Times*, Safari Club International announced that:

Safari Club International's Resource Ecologist André de Georges, along with government officials from the Ministry of Water and Forests, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the German Development Agency, and several professional hunters combined efforts in March to develop a conservation and development program, sustained by revenue generated by tourist safari hunting, in the Nouabale-Ndoki Complex of Congo.

The area is situated in northwest Congo, near the border with the Central African Republic. Typically it is a tropical lowland forest teeming with bongo, sitatunga, forest buffalo, yellow-backed duiker, red river hog, giant forest hog, and various species of duikers. It is also home to the lowland gorilla, chimpanzee, and the renowned hunter/conservationists, the Baka Pygmy, who will serve as your trackers.

Hunting in the Nouabale-Ndoki area will take place by driving logging roads and looking for fresh signs of solitary males. This will be followed by either stalking or using Binzinjy hunting dogs, a voiceless dog developed throughout Central and West Africa for the purpose of hunting in tropical forests. Pygmies will bring in duiker and cephalophe using traditional nasal calling.

Huntible species in the Odzala area include large herds of buffalo, harnessed bushbuck, bongo and the above-mentioned forest species. Depending on the area,

hunting will take place by pirogue (dugout canoe) along a river with forays into the forest, or by stalking in savannah areas.

The future may hold an opportunity to open up hunting for forest elephant in this area. Professional hunter Eric Stockenstrom has observed 80-pound tuskers in this area, which is considerable for forest elephant.

It is anticipated that this pilot program will serve as a model for organization of the safari industry in Congo. Some experimental hunts are expected in 1995. Tourist safari hunting will be in full swing by 1996.

It is hoped that with the successful implementation of this pilot program, this team approach to conservation and development will encourage rapid expansion of tourist safari hunting. This will include the opening of elephant and leopard hunting in areas where their populations support a sustainable offtake.

According to *Who's Who in American Hunting*, the Safari Club International, which is based in Tucson, Arizona, USA, was founded in 1971 and has 22,000 members, of whom 55% earn more than \$100,000 per year and 16% more than \$250,000 per year. The annual budget was reported to be \$7.5 million (US), with 54% spent on membership services, 23% on general and administrative costs, and 23% on programs.

Sixteen years ago the Safari Club became embroiled in controversy. On 25 January 1979, the *Detroit Free Press* reported on an Endangered Species permit application filed by the Club. According to reporter Tom Hennessy:

Safari Club International's proposal calls for the annual killing of 1,125 animals from 40 species. The animals would be hunted throughout the world and would include (a partial list):

- 100 cheetahs*
- 40 bobcats*
- 5 gorillas*
- 70 deer of various species*
- 35 gazelles*
- 15 impalas*
- 40 jaguars*
- 20 jaguarundis*
- 10 snow leopards*
- 5 clouded leopards*
- 150 African leopards*
- 50 ocelots 5 orangutans*
- 10 white rhinoceros*
- 25 tigers*
- 100 mountain zebras*
- 50 African crocodiles*

The permit application was published in the *US Federal Register*, as are all applications to import endangered wild-

life. It drew negative comments. In a letter to the Federal Wildlife Permit Office, Peter Pritchard of the Florida Audubon Society commented:

My initial reaction to the proposal was that it had to be an elaborate practical joke. Finding this not to be the case, I then assumed that the trophies in question were from animals killed and made into trophies years ago. However I was appalled to learn that the Club actually intends to kill the animals...the argument that an endangered species can be "saved" by killing it is both logically and morally bankrupt...

Orangutans are not game species: they are a slow-breeding species whose populations have already become seriously endangered by over-collecting by irresponsible zoos and collectors. Their populations will

suffer in direct proportion to the number of individuals killed by safari hunters...the same argument refers to gorillas: ANYONE who wants to kill one of these magnificent anthropoids for a hunting trophy evinces a psychopathology that suggests that he would be dangerously maladapted for membership in human society.

The Fish and Wildlife Service requested further information from the Club and the application apparently disappeared into limbo. This incident happened long ago and one hopes that the club has lost interest in sport-hunting apes: it is not referred to in the *Safari Times* article.

Part of the Nouabale-Ndoki area was declared a national park in December 1993 and presumably this area will be unavailable to international trophy hunters.

PRIMATES LOSE FRIEND

by IPPL Advisor Colin Groves

I had been corresponding with Dao Van Tien since about 1970. He had described a new species of Slow Loris, which he called "*Nycticebus intermedius*." It was my somewhat unpleasant duty to tell him that unfortunately the species had been described 60 years earlier, as *Nycticebus pygmaeus* (pygmy slow loris), but from a young specimen.

What Dr. Dao had done, in effect, was to make known for the first time what the adult looked like, and something about its biology. He was very understanding about this, and we remained friends-by-correspondence thereafter, exchanging publications and sharing information about Indochinese fauna.

In the intervening years, I gradually came to understand something of the qualities of the man. For so many years he virtually WAS wildlife conservation in Vietnam. French-educated, and maintaining wide international contacts, he dedicated himself to surveying his country (then North Vietnam) for the distribution of its mammals, and working for their preservation.

His overseas visits were, naturally, restricted to a rather narrow range of countries: East Germany for example, and Algeria (where he taught for a while).

My wife Phyllis and I finally got to visit Vietnam in August 1994, courtesy of WWF. Dao Van Tien and his wife, Nguyen Thi Hong, invited us to their simple apartment. In my wonderful colleague and his wife, I found a gentle, hospitable couple, who laughed a lot and filled us full of tea and cake. He invited me to collaborate with him on a book on the Mammals of Indochina, and he showed me what he had written of it so far.

Miss Hoa, from WWF, interpreted for us. But when two people have so much in common, they hardly need an interpreter. We understood each other perfectly, in fragments of French, German, English and sheer meeting-of-minds. The following day, my last in Hanoi, he met me again in his office at Hanoi University, which he shared with his younger colleague, Professor Ha Dinh Duc.

Early in May, I got faxes from his son and from Shanthini Dawson of WWF, telling me that he had died. He had been ill for a short while after a heart attack; his second heart attack killed him.

"The funeral and memorial service was on Sunday", wrote Shanthini on May 9th, "attended by several hundred people; an indication of his standing and popularity". He was three months away from his 70th birthday.



Drs. Dao Van Tien and Nguyen Thi Hong

*Dr. Dao Van Tien served as IPPL contact for Vietnam for over two decades, since 1974.
Everyone at IPPL extends their sympathy to his family.*

TRINIDAD WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES IN PERIL

by Govindasamy Agoramoorthy ("Moorthy")

*The author is presently Assistant Director of the Rescue Center
for Endangered Wild Animals (Taiwan).*

Rugged mountains, fern covered forests and mangrove swamps comprise the background. Calls of bellbirds penetrate the grumble of the rain forest streams. A group of howling monkeys in the morning sun, emitting a prolonged roar, can be heard through the air. It is a warm and humid afternoon in the mangrove vegetation, and an anaconda creeps through the mud gently. Hundreds of colorful scarlet ibis emerging from the mangroves canopy can be seen. Far away, an agouti carefully crosses a forest trail. As night falls, an ocelot is on the move, leaving few tracks on a stream bed. This is a typical Trinidadian jungle. Most of it is threatened with extinction now!

I was invited by the Wildlife Section of the Forestry Division of Trinidad to survey monkey populations in Trinidad. There are two species of monkeys currently in Trinidad; red howlers and white-fronted capuchins. Once these species were distributed throughout Trinidad, but in recent years the monkey population has declined drastically due to the increase in human population growth, forest destruction, mining, hunting, agricultural and industrial threats.

Accompanied by forester Glenn Seebarsingh and game warden Philip Cummings, we set out for Trinity Hills Wildlife Sanctuary in search of monkeys during March 1994. Trinity Hills is the largest wildlife sanctuary in Trinidad, covering an area of 4,577 hectares. The sanctuary is currently under a mining lease to the Petroleum Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago, Ltd.

We hiked through the undulating hills of Trinity Wildlife Sanctuary, sighting several species of birds, including the magnificent crested oropendola, channel-bill toucan, and a bearded bellbird, all in an impressive rainforest habitat.

We ran across several tributaries of the Canari and Maruga Rivers, inside Trinity Hills Sanctuary, and that's where the surprise began. I was shocked to see oil pollution in the river. Apparently, there had been oil leaks in the pipelines and allocation wells. We saw many dead fish and frogs in the water.

Several tracks of wild mammals, such as deer, agoutis and monkeys, were seen on the river banks. The animals were apparently drinking the oil-polluted water. A month before my arrival in Trinidad, the Forestry Division's staff conducted an aerial survey and found that all streams and rivers inside Trinity Hills had been polluted with oil. There is no doubt that the delicate rainforest ecosystem has been drastically altered by the oil pollution.

We continued our hike, heard a group howling, and tracked them successfully. It was a small group of four red howlers; they panicked after seeing us, and were almost frozen in the tree from fear. Based on my previous experience in watching

red howlers in Venezuela for over six years, I have always found them to exhibit aggressive displays such as shaking branches, producing alarm barks, and defecating when encountered by people.

Contrary to this, the red howlers in Trinity Hills were silent after spotting us. These howlers may have learned to stay quiet to escape from potential danger, mainly hunters! We were able to count only a few groups of howlers and capuchins in the sanctuary.

Philip showed me many roosting trees where he recently saw monkeys; but we only saw either the tracks of hunters or the remains of monkeys (skull, bone, skin, etc.). The empty cartridges on the ground indicated the intensity of hunting pressure. I interviewed several security guards at the oil company base in Guyaguayare. They told me that they have seen people hunting monkeys on many occasions in Trinity Hills, but they declined to stop them.

They added that they did not have instructions from their superiors to take actions against hunters or squatters inside the sanctuary. It is essential that the Ministry of Agriculture (Forestry Division), with the help of qualified biologists, conduct a survey to investigate the present population status of wild animals, not only in Trinity Hills, but also throughout Trinidad, to determine whether or not to impose a total ban on hunting.

This ban is vital for the future preservation of wildlife in Trinidad. Intensive hunting pressure was previously known to wipe out several species of wild animals from the face of the earth.

Dealing with the oil pollution has to have the highest priority. I urge the oil company to discuss this issue with the Ministry of Agriculture, then form an environmental task force to deal with the ecological disaster in Trinity Hills. Local biologists, environmentalists, foresters from the wildlife sections, and the general public can be included in this task force.

The task force has to be responsible for advising the state-run oil company and the Ministry of Agriculture in conservation and management related to issues of Trinity Hills. Furthermore, the oil company must consider providing funds to conduct field research so that an estimate of the extent of oil pollution, its impact on the flora and fauna, and the current population status of wildlife in Trinity Hills can be investigated.

Also, the oil company's security staff at Guyaguayare must cooperate with game wardens and foresters of the Forestry Division in patrolling the sanctuary regularly in order to control illegal hunting of protected animals, and to guard against logging and squatting in the game reserve. If the forestry of-

ficials and the oil company's security staff work together, they would contribute significantly to the future protection and conservation of Trinity Hills Wildlife Sanctuary.

When I landed in Port-of-Spain, I was first introduced to the State Prosecutor, Mr. Ranjee Dolsingh. Ranjee warned me to watch out for trap-guns (booby-traps) and marijuana fields in the forest. In fact, we ran into several old marijuana fields in Trinity Hills, but luckily, not into a trap-gun.

We traveled through a forest road called "Main Field", and saw several hunting camps along the road. Those unauthorized hunting camps were located inside the sanctuary and forest reserve. When we tried to check one of the hunting camps out, we were fired upon by a hunter at close range. Fortunately, none of us were hurt, despite the fact that the pellets from the shot gun came very close to us.

Apparently, the hunter was illegally logging and hunting in the sanctuary. The shooting incident gave me the impression that Trinity Hills Sanctuary will not be a safe place for biologists or foresters to carry out their work, until and unless the oil company and the Ministry of Agriculture, which oversees the Forestry Division and Wildlife Section, take serious actions against illegal loggers, hunters and marijuana growers.

Twenty-five years ago, Professor Neville conducted a survey of red howlers in Bush-Bush Sanctuary. During that time, the sanctuary had an area of 1,550 hectares with more than twenty groups of red howlers and several groups of capuchin monkeys. But I was surprised to see that more than half of the forest is now replaced by farming lands where farmers grow rice, watermelon and other vegetables.

I counted only five howler groups, each numbering 3-4 individuals. I also saw only two groups of capuchin monkeys with only a few individuals. When I interviewed the farmers who were living around Bush-Bush sanctuary, they told me they use rodenticide to kill pests, and sometimes have seen dead capuchins.

As the forest is sinking rapidly, the monkeys apparently have no place else to go except to raid agricultural crops. The forest destruction at Bush-Bush and the adjoining mangrove swamp continues, and I am afraid that the wildlife sanctuary may disappear eventually.

Moreover, it is disappointing to see other protected areas such as Southern Watershed Wildlife Sanctuary denuded by squatters and Valencia Wildlife Sanctuary destroyed by mining companies. Thus, the wildlife sanctuaries of Trinidad are nearing extinction.

MOORTHY SAYS — "PLEASE HELP!"

I urge IPPL members please to write letters to the Ministry of Agriculture requesting:

- * that the oil company be made to clean up the oil-mess inside Trinity Hills:**
- * that a total ban be imposed on hunting of wild animals, especially monkeys,**
- * that the government eliminate illegal marijuana growers from the jungle and,**
- * full protection be given for all wildlife sanctuaries of Trinidad.**

Address: Mr. Winston Ruddler, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, St. Clair, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, West Indies

Please write the Managing Director of the oil company asking that the company clean up the mess inside Trinity Hills and take steps to prevent employees hunting wildlife.

Address: Mr. Keith Awong, Managing Director, Chief Executive Office, Petroleum Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Ltd., Admin. Bldg., Point-A-Pierre Trinidad

New US rates for overseas letters are 60 cents (half-ounce) and \$1 (one ounce).

DON'T MOVE!

WITHOUT LETTING IPPL KNOW!

*you'll keep getting IPPL News regularly!
and we and the Post Office will thank you!*

MORARJI DESAI DIES

In April 1995, Morarji Desai died in Bombay at the age of 99. Desai was a former Prime Minister of India and had been a hero in the non-violent struggle for Indian independence.

Less well-known was Desai's devotion to animals. He was a lifelong vegetarian, eating primarily vegetables and nuts. This diet kept him superbly fit. He never took Western medicines and refused vaccines.

Desai instituted the Indian export ban of monkeys in 1977 after IPPL informed him of the appalling cruel radiation experiments conducted on monkeys at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland.

In these experiments monkeys were trained by electric shock to run in a huge treadmill and keep it rotating. Each time the treadmill slowed down, the monkey got zapped. Once a monkey was trained, he or she would be exposed to a massive lethal dose of neutron radiation and placed back in the treadmill. The desperately ill vomiting monkeys would be forced by electric shock to run.

IPPL believed that such treatment of monkeys violated the US agreement with India that exported monkeys would receive "humane treatment" and "shall be used only for medical research or the production of anti-poliomyelitis vaccine." The research was clearly military in nature. IPPL, which was small and just three years old when it learned about these experiments, first tried to get these experiments stopped at the US end — in retrospect rather a naive approach.

Our next step was to contact Morarji Desai, then Prime Minister, through a mutual Indian friend who made sure our message got through. We also contacted the Indian press and a typical response was an editorial in the *Times of India*.

According to the International Primate Protection League, these animals have been subjected to appallingly cruel radiation experiments by military scientists in their diabolical efforts to study the effects of the neutron bomb...they wanted to learn how long it would take a monkey to die after a massive dose of radiation and how many times it would vomit before it doubled up and died.

The details are gory enough and would shock even a

half-wit but there is more to this non-research. The monkeys were obtained from this country under false pretenses — in the normal course they were to have been used for research aimed at benefiting humanity and for preparing polio vaccine. The whole procedure was also illegal because one of the conditions of export was a guarantee by the American companies to give the animals humane care and treatment. New Delhi must take up the matter with Washington and, if necessary, stop further export of rhesus monkeys.

On 3 December 1977, the Indian Government announced a ban on export of rhesus monkeys. Animal dealers and their clients and political allies "went ballistic" and tried to get the ban lifted. However, India stood firm and the monkey export ban, which is totally consistent with the teachings of most of India's religions, continues to this day.

The ban saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of monkeys. The dealers turned their predatory attention to the monkeys of Bangladesh, which began to export monkeys but almost immediately withdrew from the trade, and still refuses to export. The United States was fuming at the Bangladesh ban and even threatened to cut off humanitarian aid unless the impoverished nation started exporting monkeys. Plucky little Bangladesh stood up to US bullying and still does not export monkeys!

The animal dealers then turned their attention to the hapless crab-eating macaque, and started decimating the monkeys of Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Malaysia quit the trade in 1984. It was not till 1994 that Indonesia and the Philippines banned export of wild-caught crab-eating macaques. Both countries still allow export of captive-born animals.

It was fortunate for the monkeys of India that they had such a good friend in the Prime Minister's office at the time when IPPL uncovered the appalling cruelty with which they were treated at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute.

The monkeys of India have lost a wonderful friend with Desai's passing and so have IPPL and our Chairwoman Shirley McGreal.

UPDATE ON MARRAKECH MONKEYS

In May 1995, an IPPL member paid her second visit to Morocco and checked on the monkeys being used by entertainers at the Djemaa-el-Fna Square. Our member's findings on the first visit were reported in *IPPL News* (April 1995).

Sadly, nothing had changed:

Following my visit to Marrakech last year I returned there earlier this month. On May 16 in Djemaa-el-Fna Square, I saw Barbary macaques dressed in skirts and being made to dance, tumble, and do tricks for the tourists. The handlers controlled them with short whips. Other monkeys were chained by the neck in tiny crates.

We would appreciate updates from any IPPL members travelling to Morocco.

I protested to the owners of the animals.

I was spat on, sworn at, and threatened in broken English and had to leave quickly.

Elsewhere, on the same square, I saw hundreds of wild birds being offered for sale in tiny individual cane cages which were so small the birds could not spread their wings. The birds looked so miserable and were rocking their heads to and fro.

In similar small cages tortoises, lizards and chameleons were also being sold. Some stalls also had crates piled high with live tortoises.

SCANDAL AT WASHINGTON PRIMATE CENTER

The Washington Regional Primate Center, located in Seattle, Washington, USA, houses close to 2,500 monkeys. It is funded primarily by a "core grant" from the National Institutes of Health.

Now the center is in trouble. According to the 25 March 1995 issue of *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*:

A University of Washington (UW) internal investigation has discovered falsification of payroll and travel records, improper uses of federal money, and other financial irregularities.

These problems, along with a previously-disclosed embezzlement of \$38,352 from a petty cash fund, are confirmed in a preliminary state audit, University of Washington administrators said yesterday.

Auditors also found several irregularities not cited in the UW's own investigation. In one case, a federal grant was improperly used for \$1,262 in catered dinners to recruit new faculty.

The embezzlement case has been referred to the state Attorney-General's office...

In August [Center Director] Douglas Bowden re-

signed by mutual agreement with the UW as center director and was replaced by acting director William Morton.

In a follow-up story on 13 April, the *Post-Intelligencer* commented:

University of Washington employees submitted fictitious claims on federal grants, falsified payroll and travel records, and stole money from various funds, according to a 66-page state audit released yesterday. Seven of the 23 findings relate to the Regional Primate Center, which was cited for misusing nearly \$90,000 of federal funds and for the embezzlement of \$38,352 from a petty cash fund.

The investigation was started by a "whistle-blower" contacting auditors. According to the news story:

Auditors discovered an electronic mail message sent to the UW Controller by UW audit director Max Whisler. The message said that the director of the Primate Research Center "padded the payroll and falsified travel...it looks like more false claims to federal programs."

IPPL CHAIRWOMAN ATTENDS MURDER TRIAL

In June 1995, IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal was in Chicago, Illinois, USA, attending a symposium on change in Madagascar (island home to the lemurs) when she learned that a murder trial was under way at the nearby federal courthouse. The murder victim was animal-lover Helen Vorhees Brach.

February 17, 1977 was the last day 65 year Helen Brach, a resident of Glenview, Illinois, was seen alive. Mrs. Brach, who had inherited the Brach candy fortune when her husband died, had left the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota after a health check-up, stopped at a gift shop — and then disappeared without a trace.

Suspicion fell immediately on Richard Bailey, a 45 year old con man known to make his living by worming his way into the affections of rich lonely women — and then defrauding them by selling them poor-quality racehorses at inflated prices. In 1978, a year after Brach's disappearance, a message had appeared in red paint on the road running alongside Bailey's horse stable:

Richard Bailey knows where Mrs. Brach's body is.

Please stop him.

At a 1979 deposition in a civil case, Bailey took the 5th Amendment against self-incrimination in response to every single question, including his address! There was strong suspicion that he was involved in Brach's disappearance,

but no proof.

The Helen Brach case was not reopened until 1989, over a decade later. The FBI found out that, besides cultivating rich widows, some of whose names he found by scouring obituary columns, Bailey and his associates were killing valuable race-horses for the insurance money.

The horses died appalling deaths by a variety of means: electrocution: having ping-pong balls stuffed up their noses: or by burning to death when their stables were set on fire by arson. In 1994 Richard Bailey and 22 others were indicted on a variety of charges.

Bailey was tried in Chicago in May-June 1995 before Judge Harvey Shadur. Now 65 years old, Bailey was found guilty and sentenced to 30 years jail. Beside him in the court-room throughout his trial was a wealthy plastic surgeon who had married him in 1994 after a whirlwind romance in Las Vegas!

IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal attended two days of Bailey's trial and was appalled at the cruelty of Bailey in heartlessly abusing the trust of a string of lonely women, some of them extremely ill.

Like many animal protection organizations, IPPL has been helped by the foundation Mrs. Brach had set up to help animals, and we are pleased to see our benefactress' murderer in jail.

CROOKS SMUGGLE PARROTS AND PRIMATES

An ongoing wildlife smuggling case in Chicago, Illinois, USA, reveals the links between bird smuggling and primate smuggling. The case is United States versus Tony Silva. Until exposed as a crook in 1994, Silva was considered a world expert on parrots and was idolized by parrot fanciers. The ugly reality is that Silva had been a wildlife smuggler since at least 1986, smuggling some of the world's most endangered species from their homelands to the United States.

The fact that Silva continued his career with impunity until he was finally indicted in 1994, in the meantime smuggling hundreds, if not thousands, of birds shows the tragic species destruction and suffering that results from the deplorable state of US wildlife law enforcement.

One of the tasks of US wildlife agents is to develop contacts in smuggling circles and learn what is going on. Why it took so many years for the US government to unmask Silva is unclear. Meanwhile, unscrupulous buyers of smuggled wildlife, who should themselves be jailed, instead built up with total impunity their sometimes huge private wildlife collections — as birds and primates suffered and died in trade, and species careened towards extinction.

[CI-1] stated that to his knowledge, Tony Silva, of the Chicago area, is the largest smuggler of psittacine birds in the United States...he stated that from early 1986 until about December 1987, he received approximately 400 psittacine birds from Tony Silva. These birds included hyacinth macaws...The species is likely to become extinct within the next decade without continued protection...

[CI-1] stated that in 1986, Silva delivered to him in Miami, Florida, two golden lion marmosets [the golden lion tamarin, a highly endangered species] and five other monkeys referred to as "black-handed marmosets"...

Another informant (CI-2) informed Marks that Silva told him that birds were stuffed into PVC tubing for "packaging" and that closed leg bands were forced on to the legs of smuggled birds so that they would appear to be captive-born. Silva showed CI-2 a resin glue used to catch hyacinth macaws and dyes used to conceal the species of birds by changing their colors.

In a particularly revolting incident:

On January 30, 1990, a Miami, Florida, veterinarian, Dr. Thomas Goldsmith, told Special Agent Jennifer English, US Fish and Wildlife Service, that he was present

Meanwhile, unscrupulous buyers of smuggled wildlife, who should themselves be jailed, instead built up with total impunity their sometimes huge private wildlife collections.

In April 1995 the original charges against Silva, his mother Gila Daoud, Hector Ugalde of Miami, and Gisela Caseres (also known as Ann Koopman) were followed by a new indictment. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) determined that Silva got paid in cash for smuggled wildlife and that he had failed to pay taxes on the income from his criminal activities.

Court records also show that Silva, claiming poverty, was able to obtain the services of a "Public Defender" to pay for his legal defense. They show that Hector Ugalde, the Miami animal dealer involved (represented by Ben Kuehne, the same Miami lawyer who represented Matthew Block for part of the "Bangkok Six" case until replaced by Michael Metzger) had already obtained a plea bargain.

Ugalde's sentencing was postponed till after Silva's trial. He could easily get probation for testifying against Silva.

In early 1992, a search warrant was issued for a search of Silva's and his mother's homes in Chicago. An affidavit submitted by Special Agent Richard Marks of the US Fish and Wildlife Service was used to justify issuance of the search warrants. This affidavit is on file at the Federal Courthouse in Chicago. Extracts follow:

In December 1987, the former owner of Zoological Imports of Miami, Florida, a major bird importation firm, was arrested for murder, RICO [Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations] violations, and narcotics trafficking [this person became known as Confidential Informant CI-1]. He was ultimately convicted and sentenced to 100 years in prison.

In July 1989, the government interviewed this individual regarding his involvement in the smuggling of exotic birds into the United States.

when CI-1 received approximately 35 smuggled hyacinth macaws from Tony Silva. **DR. GOLDSMITH SAID ALL OF THESE BIRDS WERE DEAD ON ARRIVAL AND THAT HE HELPED DECAPITATE THEM** [Emphasis added]. *The birds needed to have their heads cut off so that the carcasses could fit into the freezer.*

CI-2 told Marks that smuggled birds would be shipped from Brazil to Asuncion, Paraguay, then on to Mexico City. They would then be taken to Tijuana, and by road into the United States. CI-2 also claimed that Silva had worked with the Mexican animal dealer David Ibarra, who was not indicted. He also stated that, when he expressed concern to Silva about some smuggled birds possibly getting apprehended, Silva stated:

Don't worry. Well, listen, neither you nor I are going to be anywhere near those birds when they land.

People at the top of the smuggling pyramid often leave the dirty work to "couriers." That way the cowardly "Wildlife Lords" get their dirty work done by others and have an "alibi" if their couriers are ever caught. Couriers without criminal records who "leave a clean path" are the best. Silva reportedly told CI-2. CI-2 alleged that smuggled birds were also being flown from Mexico to Chicago, where they were cleared by a corrupt Customs official, who was not identified in the indictment.

A third informant (CI-3) told about bribes allegedly paid to foreign government officials by Silva and his associates and about the role played in the smuggling by Horacio Cornejo of Argentina, who also allegedly supplied Silva with hyacinth macaws and Amazon parrots. Any bribes paid by or for US nationals to foreign officials would probably violate the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

Silva's trial is scheduled for October 1995.

HANS MANNHEIMER - SMILING OR ROLLING IN HIS GRAVE?

Hans Mannheimer was a brilliant inventor whose patents on tearless baby shampoo and many other ingenious products earned him millions of dollars. He lived in Toms River, New Jersey, USA, where he died of lung cancer in 1973. A bachelor, Mannheimer gathered 200 pet primates at his home, including chimpanzees. Friends of Mr. Mannheimer recall his deep love for his primates. According to Lee Bernstein of Associated Humane Societies of New Jersey:

I remember Mr. Mannheimer as being extremely close to all of his monkeys, and he provided them with the best food possible. He brought fresh fruits and vegetables daily and hired people to prepare them properly and feed them to the animals. Mr. Mannheimer had a 24-foot boat that his staff took the chimps out for rides on whenever the weather allowed. Each chimp wore its own life-jacket. In the winter, special vans took them for rides. Under no circumstances would Mr. Mannheimer ever allow one hair on the back of any monkey to be used for experimentation.

Others who knew Mr. Mannheimer, including experimenter Sy Kalter of the Virus Reference Laboratory in San Antonio, and Lesley Sinclair of the Animal Care Sanctuary in Pennsylvania, agree - Mannheimer was passionately devoted to his primates and certainly none were ever harmed while he was alive.

Mannheimer's will left millions of dollars to a parent trust that would fund his primatological foundation and the Animal Care Sanctuary. The first clause of the foundation's by-laws stated:

The principal purposes of the Foundation are for the study of, and conducting of research with respect to, the physical and behavioral structure and pattern of nonhuman primates and related fields and areas of knowledge, and the application of the results of such study and research to the advancement of knowledge with respect to human behavioral, sociological and psychological structure and patterns, and the encouragement, sponsorship, and promotion of such study and research by cooperating with and assisting

organizations engaged in similar or related study and research: the acquisition, by purchase or otherwise, of nonhuman primates for such purposes and otherwise: the establishment and maintenance of zoological gardens for the care, maintenance, and exhibition of animals and, in general, the conducting of research and related activities in zoology and related sciences.

At no place is the conduct of invasive experimentation mentioned as a purpose of the foundation: nor, unfortunately, was it specifically excluded. Presumably it was viewed by the lawyer-trustees as permissible under the vague expressions "such purposes AND OTHERWISE" and "RELATED sciences."

Its 1983 tax return showed the Mannheimer Foundation controlling over \$6.7 million in assets, with income of \$513,048 and expenses of \$478,260.

The trust has been controlled since Mannheimer's death by the two New Jersey lawyers who drew up the trust documents. After their client's death they decided that the Mannheimer Foundation should move in the direction of becoming an experimental laboratory, over the objections of the third trustee, Lesley Sinclair, an animal-lover who was later removed from the Board because she opposed the direction the foundation was taking.

Mr. Mannheimer was dead, and his brother Walter had always loathed both Mannheimer and his primates, so there was no family member to question the lawyers' interpretation of



Hans Mannheimer and friend

Mannheimer's intentions, i.e. that the primates were to be used in experimentation. That would be fine with Walter.

Just before Mannheimer's death, monkeys were moved for temporary holding in Florida while their permanent home on a large rural property outside Homestead was being built. Some of the animals disappeared. Before his death, Frank Dumond, owner of Monkey Jungle, Goulds, Florida, told Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of IPPL, that he had unwittingly purchased two "stolen" Mannheimer primates.

The Mannheimer Primatological Foundation's primate holdings increased from around 200 animals at Mannheimer's death in 1973 to 1,830 in 1993. The foundation is a regis-

tered research facility closed to the public. It is surrounded by high fences. Considerable damage was caused by Hurricane Andrew and hundreds of monkeys escaped, most being recaptured but many shot by the National Guard.

A 1993 Department of Agriculture inspection reported the presence of:

- 1,574 crab-eating macaques
- 187 hamadryas baboons
- 3 sooty mangabeys
- 14 pigtail macaques
- 52 capuchin monkeys

On 25 October 1993, Dr. Sylvia Taylor, a Department of Agriculture veterinarian, commented on the situation at Mannheimer:

I'm pleased with the progress they've made...they and the University of Miami found a way to cut total chairing time [the inspector is referring to primates held in "restraint chairs"] from 7 days to 4 days, a significant reduction...also they followed up on some of the enrichment suggestions I discussed with them last time...the baboons that had exhibited such pronounced abnormal behavior were dramatically changed...

I watched two chaired baboons (on their third day) for a while and was satisfied that they had reasonable social enrichment (two always chaired simultaneously, adjacent to each other and across from a few cages of females and juveniles)...

*I feel that their IACUC [Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee] still lacks the sophistication that I think will be needed in the future to oversee the complexities of their relationship with the University of Miami and Charles River Laboratories [Charles River has leased some of the foundation's land to breed monkeys for research], as well as **THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO HIGH-PROFILE AND CONTROVERSIAL PROTOCOLS USING PRIMATES** [Emphasis added].*

A question not addressed by Dr. Taylor, and unfortunately outside the scope of her work, is how Hans Mannheimer, the great lover of primates, would feel if he knew that the institution built on his multi-million dollar fortune and lifetime of hard work could be performing "high-profile and controversial protocols" on primates and keeping monkeys in restraint chairs. **One thing is certain -Mannheimer never did anything like that to any of the hundreds of monkeys he kept at his home in Toms River.**

An article by Cathy Grossman entitled "Miami's \$5 million monkey business," which appeared in the 28 July 1994 issue of the Miami Herald's *Tropic* magazine, may shed light on Mannheimer's relationship with his primates. Grossman wrote:

It must have been quite a sight to behold: five chimpanzees, decked in blue pants, white sailor caps and orange life jackets, cruising every day down a picturesque river on their private yacht, eating chocolate and lollipops. And it actually happened: for these were the

darlings of an eccentric millionaire named Hans Mannheimer. And when they disembarked from their 26-foot "African Queen," they would scamper into a waterfront resort home, one of two they shared with a collection of monkeys and apes - the envy of any zoo.

Mannheimer, slowly dying of lung cancer, lived there too, oblivious to the animal stench, whispering to his monkeys, feeding them broiled chicken, and sleeping in an armchair to prevent the fluids from bubbling up into his lungs...

It all began 15 years ago, when a capuchin, a small monkey like the ones that dance for organ grinders, danced for Mannheimer. The millionaire bought the capuchin, named him Chimp, and soon decided that the monkey needed a friend. There were 40 monkeys by 1967, 90 in 1970, 150 in 1972, and 200 in 1973...

Walter [Mannheimer, Hans' brother] speaks of Hans ("a complete nut and not a very truthful man") and the Foundation ("You mean the Florida Taj Mahal for those stinking monkeys?") with a derision tempered only by humor and the constant reminder that "Hans was a very smart man"...

For the monkeys these days [in Toms River] were the luxury years. Along with their bananas and pellet food, they dined on grilled chicken and hard-boiled eggs, bread and milk, apples and grapes. A chosen few had blue carpeted cages, rocking horses, and other children's toys. There were 14 people tending to them...

Jill Walton, who is now a game warden at a New Jersey safari park, recalls Mr. Mannheimer talking to the monkeys. "He spoke to them in monkey sounds - 'Oooooos' and 'Eeeeees.'"

In a 29 July 1979 article in the *Miami Herald*, Allen Levy wrote that:

Mannheimer left about \$5 million of his fortune to his primate foundation with the proviso that nothing can be done to the monkeys that will be harmful or painful.

However, IPPL has been unable to find any such proviso in Mannheimer's will or the trust documents.

Would Hans Mannheimer be pleased at his millions being spent on such things as monkeys in restraint chairs? He isn't here to tell us. Dr. Sy Kalter, himself an experimenter, doesn't think he would be pleased, telling IPPL in a 6 July 1984 letter that:

Old Hans is probably turning in his grave as a result of the current activities done in his name.

IPPL would like to see the University of Miami, with which the Mannheimer Primatological Foundation is now affiliated, study the will and trust documents carefully and talk to people who knew Mr. Mannheimer in order to determine what the man who made the millions would have wanted.

If, after a careful review, it is determined that what is going on is not what Hans Mannheimer intended, then the university should try to bring the facility into alignment with its founder's intentions by emphasizing non-invasive studies of primate social behavior.

LABORATORIES FACE CHARGES

On 7 April 1995, the US Department of Agriculture filed an Animal Welfare Act case against the New York University Medical Center alleging negligence during experimental surgery. The alleged neglect caused the deaths of three monkeys. The laboratory uses monkeys in research into the effects of inhaled toluene and crack cocaine on monkeys.

The experimentation has outraged animal defenders — but also that of two scientists at another New York University Laboratory (Drs. Jan Moor-Jankowski and James Mahoney of LEMSIP) who resigned from the university's animal care committee to protest the mistreatment of the monkeys.

On 10 July 1995, the US Department of Agriculture filed charges against the Coulston Foundation, Alamagordo, New Mexico, USA, for alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act. The Foundation was accused of:

** failing to ensure that 14 nonhuman primates received water, resulting in the deaths of four monkeys from dehydration,*

** failing to observe signs of distress in monkeys dying slowly from thirst and dehydration,*

** failing to ensure adequate temperature control in an incident where three chimpanzees died when temperatures in their housing area reached 140 degrees,*

** keeping up to 37 chimpanzees in cages that failed to meet the minimum requirements under the Animal Welfare Act.*

At the present time the Coulston Foundation is trying to

acquire the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates (LEMSIP) from New York University. This laboratory houses over 200 chimpanzees as well as hundreds of monkeys. The Foundation may also acquire 150 chimpanzees now owned by the US Air Force, along with a \$10 million facility built at taxpayers' expense.

Thanks to the vigilance of the California group In Defense of Animals, a plan to hand the Air Force chimps over to Coulston, which was tucked away in a 100+ page bill before the US Congress, was identified and removed from the bill.

The Coulston Foundation currently operates two primate facilities: the White Sands Research Center and the former New Mexico State University Primate Research Institute (PRI). Together these two facilities hold hundreds of chimpanzees and monkeys. Research areas include toxicology.

Dr. Coulston appeared on the ABC television program "20/20" on 5 May 1995. He described for viewers his opinion of the movement to protect chimpanzees by according them legal rights:

It's an animal in every sense of the word. They have misinformed the general public as to what is the true nature of these large animals. They're dangerous, they're unpredictable, they don't just sit there and talk to people by hand signs. I don't know any chimps I would trust and I don't know anybody in their right mind who would trust them. It's not what they would have in the jungle. It's better, perhaps.

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