

News

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Limbe staff wearing their IPPL t-shirts, with Shirley McGreal (right) and Dianne Taylor-Snow (left), also on back row gorillas Evindi and Chella

SPECIAL

NEWS OF LIMBE GORILLA AND CHIMPANZEE ORPHANS

MONKEY CLONING

A LETTER FROM SHIRLEY MCGREAL

April 1997

Dear IPPL Member:

Dianne Taylor-Snow and I went to Cameroon in February to visit the Limbe Wildlife Rescue Center to which you, our members, have provided major support. We wanted to find new ways to help this project.

Limbe is an attractive city 60 miles from the port of Douala and 200 miles from Yaounde, the nation's capital. The rescue center is located in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

Limbe is the "brainchild" of Peter Jenkins and Liza Gadsby who direct the **Pandrillus** project in Calabar in neighboring Nigeria. Many of the rare primate species such as drills, Preuss' guenons, gorillas, and chimpanzees are found in both countries and the orphan problem is severe on both sides of the border.

Liza and Peter came to meet us in Cameroon. Although Calabar is not far from Limbe, travel between the two towns is not simple as the roads are impassable. Two rides in "bush taxis" and a four-hour ride on the open ocean in a small boat are needed. Quite an ordeal!

Limbe is currently a bee-hive of activity with a lot of construction, much of it funded by IPPL members' gifts, now going on. The sanctuary is based at the old Limbe Zoo.

The local African staff were hard-working and very friendly.

I was especially struck by the overseas volunteers at the center. Limbe is extremely hot and humid and very uncomfortable. When we were there, visibility was poor due to the harmattan wind blowing sand in from the Sahara Desert. Malaria is always a problem in the Limbe area.

There are preventives for malaria, but there are forms of the disease which are resistant to most preventives. The strongest preventive, mefloquine, known in the US as "lariam," produces adverse reactions in many people, including hallucinations and nightmares. One of the volunteers, Anna, could not take the drug and has endured the miseries of malaria 8 times.

When we read about young people in US newspapers, it is so often because they are committing crimes or doing other awful things! One seldom reads about caring, compassionate, cause-oriented young people like the past and present Limbe volunteers, all of whom are under 30.



Linda and A.J.



Michaela with Jumbo



Anna with guenon

Some of my fondest memories of Limbe are:

- **Linda Percy** working at the computer with a baby chimpanzee clinging tightly to her. Linda had been a tour guide on one of those “Europe to Africa” overland trucks. African staff members being measured for zoo uniforms which Linda was donating.

- **Patti Gleason**, who, in every photo I took of her, wears a big smile—she is truly happy when serving her animal charges. Patti used to be an assistant in the IPPL-UK office. Patti takes primary care of the baby gorilla Benito.

- **Michaela Irvebrandt** of Sweden cuddling **Jumbo**, the baby gorilla she cares for, and telling me she keeps pinching herself to make sure that her being in Africa taking care of a baby gorilla is not a dream from which she is going to wake up. Michaela, aged 21, had been robbed of all her money prior to our arrival but had put the incident into perspective with amazing maturity, her only concern being that she might have to leave the project (which we promised to make sure won't happen).

- **Anna Randall** from England, who has been at the project two and a half years, working long hours seven days most weeks, with no home leave. Anna takes primary care of the baby gorilla **Emma**.

The overall animal protection situation in Cameroon and all of Central Africa is bleak, but some individual animals do get rescued from certain death and they need and deserve the compassionate care which the Limbe volunteers and staff are providing. The work is back-breaking and heart-breaking, and all of us who care about primates as individuals owe them our gratitude and moral and financial support.

Smiley Mc Greal



Patti with Benito

NOTES FROM MY CAMEROON JOURNAL

by Dianne Taylor-Snow

Saturday, 15 February 1997 – Douala

After 32 hours in transit, we finally settled into our room in Douala yesterday night. I'm up early, sitting at a table at the sidewalk cafe of the Akwa Palace Hotel enjoying some café au lait and watching the world wake up.

It smells like the Equator. How I love the bustle of the early morning. People are loitering about, newspapers being delivered, men are rushing by, their robes flying in the humid air. Young children smoking cigarettes, trucks with horns honking, motor scooters. A taxi has just pulled over. The driver gets out to fix a flat tire. A hearse drives by twice.

"Bon Jour, Cameroon!"

Today we make our way to Limbe and the sanctuary. But how? It's possible that no one knows we're here. The phone and fax lines to Limbe haven't worked for two weeks, and we've moved hotels, as the hotel where we had a confirmed booking had lost our reservations.

We had asked a friend in England to try to get word to the people in Limbe or Calabar that we're on our way and where to find us. But did our message get through? Something will turn up, it always does.

Saturday, 15 February 1997 continued – from Douala to the Atlantic Beach Hotel, Limbe

Miracles do happen! Shirley joined me for breakfast coffee on the terrace. Just as we were discussing how to get to Limbe, Peter Jenkins from **Pandrilus** in Nigeria showed up. "Good morning, Shirley." What a welcome sight!

We packed up and headed off for the hour long drive to Limbe. The harmattan wind is still blowing south from the Sahara desert, making visibility poor. The small outcroppings of lava islands just off shore are shrouded in a humid dusty mist.

Around the back, the hotel has three caged chimpanzees. Two males and one female. One male is nice. One will kill you. The female spits. Wouldn't you? The chimps used to be



Atlantic Beach hotel chimps



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Emma, orphan gorilla

an "attraction" here. I understand now that they are just an embarrassment to the establishment.

After we had settled in, Peter Jenkins and Liza Gadsby came to pick us up and take us to the zoo/rescue center to meet staff and animals. We piled into their utility vehicle and drove over a rutted and pot-holed track, hugging the sea on one side and the botanical garden on the other.

The facility is in need of finances. There is a lot of wood, cement, chicken wire and welded wire. Plenty of building going on. I watch Peter and some of the men put up a new strand of electrical wire around the juvenile chimpanzee play yard.

The animals all seem well-fed. They look pretty good. Must get good care.

The place is busting at the seams with chimpanzees and baby gorillas. Clearly the result of the flourishing bushmeat trade.

We meet Anna Randall from the U.K. and Patti Gleason from the U.S. Both volunteers. I remember my volunteer days in Borneo. Difficult life. You must be dedicated.



Photo: Dianne Taylor-Snow

Photo: **Liza Gadsby and Peter Jenkins**

Sunday, 16 February 1997

What a day! We spent the entire afternoon on the lawn at the botanical gardens watching the three baby gorillas. Their mothers, victims of the bushmeat trade. Just imagine seeing your Mom butchered and dressed out in front of you. Imagine being stuffed into an old sack and carted off. These little guys, all under eighteen months old, have known trauma.

Gorillas aren't easy to hand rear. These babies are lucky, because they have surrogate "moms" to take care of them. Little Jumbo is a ten month old female. Her "mom" is Micha, a 21 year old Swedish girl.

Emma is a nine month old gorilla who has Anna for a “mom.” Patti is Benito’s “mom.” Their African assistant, Bama, calls Benito “Small man.” Bama clearly adores all three gorillas.

Monday, 17 February 1997

Peter and Liza want us to go over to Nigeria to see their project, Pandrillus. Liza has offered to accompany us. It's only 40 or 50 miles as the crow flies. Two bush taxi rides and a four hour ride on the open ocean in a small boat! Of course, we'd need a visa. We'll look into it.

There was a staff meeting at the zoo. We met the whole gang and Shirley passed out IPPL t-shirts to everyone.

Still trying to change our money to Central African francs. The rate keeps going down. Oh boy.

The restaurant at our hotel has a chalk-board menu tacked up: today's special offerings are "Civet d'antilope" and "escalope de tortue." No comment.

Been busy interviewing everyone concerned with the project and photographing. At dinner last night when Shirley was interviewing Micha we somehow got on the subject of television and newspapers. The revelation of the evening was that Micha had never heard of O. J. Simpson. "I know beans about things" was her comment! How completely refreshing!

I have black fly bites all over my ankles and arms. Oooh, do they itch! My hair has exploded into what looks like a steel wool pad gone mad. Oh well, just keep taking that lariam, I tell myself. The bites will go away and the hair will settle. Anna Randall has had malaria eight times in the

two and a half years she's been here.

There is an environmental education conference at the Botanic Gardens right now. We met a couple, Roger and Sandy Dawson, who are attending. They are currently living in Yaounde, the capital. They are originally from Illinois and are living in Cameroon for two years doing work for the Wycliffe Society which translates the Bible into written languages and helps get unwritten languages into writing.

Wednesday, 19 February 1997

Yesterday (Tuesday) was a very full day. Peter and Liza set up a meeting with Mr. Joseph B. Besong, Director, Mount Cameroon Project, Limbe Botanic Garden. Mr. Nouhou Ndam, Conservator of Limbe Botanic Gardens and Zoo/Wild life Rescue Center was also there.

We discussed long-range planning for the chimpanzees at the orphanage. An island in the Sanaga River has been proposed as a possible refuge.

After the meeting Liza found a car and driver. We had decided to drive up to Buea at the foot of Mt. Cameroon. There is a Nigerian consulate there. Hopefully, we could get visas to go over to Calabar.

We all piled into the car like sardines in a can and off we went. It was to be an adventure.

It was getting late and we needed to make time. First, the driver had to stop to get a spare tire. Then a short distance out of town, we were stopped at a "taxi cartel" road block, manned by about 7 tough looking men.

Much yelling ensued. Peter finally got out of the car and put his best “pidgin” to work. OK, we could go, but they took our spare tire! Not happy with the removal of said tire, Peter again jumped out of the car and more “persuasion in pidgin” ensued. The cartel men wanted “dash” and Peter wouldn’t pay up! We were finally allowed to pass without having to pay the dash.

We passed mile after mile of palm oil plantations, originally put in by the Germans and then later restored by the British (who managed part of Cameroon during the colonial era).

Just outside Buea, we were stopped at another road block. This time it was by police in military garb packing heavy



Rescued Putty Nose Guenon

metal (i.e., guns!). They wanted to see our “particulars”. The driver showed the fellow his “particulars” and the guy didn’t seem too happy with it all. Argue, argue, hassle, hassle. The driver was written a “ticket” and we were on our way again.

Finally we arrived at the Nigerian Embassy. A tiny port-hole within a large iron gate opened and a small face appeared. It was just like the Wizard of Oz when Dorothy and the gang finally arrived at the Emerald City. We stated our business and were allowed inside. Liza explained the situation to a woman who appeared to be in charge, who then directed us to a waiting room.

Some 30 minutes later we were informed that the person in charge of issuing visas was not in, so, adios. That was it. No visas. No visiting Calabar and no helicopter ride to visit Pandrillus’ new facility in the Afi Mountains.

Friday, 21 February 1997, Yaounde, Cameroon

Yesterday Patti Gleason, Shirley and I caught a bus up to Yaounde, the capital. Roger and Sandy Dawson, the two Americans we had met at Limbe, were on the same bus. The Wycliffe Society works out of Yaounde. What should have been no more than a five hour trip turned into one considerably longer.

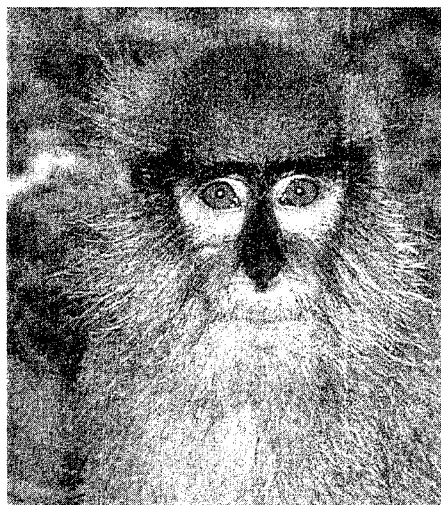
We stopped numerous times for no apparent reason. At one point the bus stopped at the sight of a one car accident and almost everyone on the bus got out to look at the two dead bodies at the side of the road. Later I asked the fellow sitting next to me why everyone wanted to look. He explained that the accident victims could have been relatives or from their village, and, if so, anyone who knew them would be obliged to stay behind and make arrangements to get the bodies back to their village.

At our stop in Douala, the bus driver seemed to like the area. We unloaded passengers and then proceeded, only to return to the same spot two more times. On the third stop, fuel was poured into the tank, so I took the opportunity to fuel up on a fat, sweet homemade muffin a vendor was selling. He had a large platter on top of his head with the muffins neatly stacked on top and he kept circling the bus trying to sell his treats. Quite a balancing act!

We hadn’t been able to make hotel reservations in Yaounde and it was our good fortune that Roger and Sandy were there. We went up to their flat and made some phone calls—only to discover that getting a room would be very difficult.

First, the phone numbers we had for the Yaounde hotels were no longer any good. Second, there is no such thing as a phone book in Yaounde. Thankfully, Sandy had some connections and made a few calls. Unfortunately, we weren’t prepared to pay the astronomical prices hotels were asking tourists to pay. One price for Cameroonians, another, much higher price for tourists. Is this any way to promote tourism?

Roger and Sandy kindly arranged for us to stay the night at the SIL Language Institute’s guest house. The room was sparse but safe and clean and we were very grateful. Patti and Shirley complained that they couldn’t sleep well because someone had snored all night long. I have no idea



**Rescued
Patas monkey**

Photo: Shirley McGreal

what they were talking about. I slept very well, thank you!

Saturday, 22 February 1997, Yaounde

Yesterday the three of us hired a car and went out to the Yaounde zoo. We had heard much about it. About how horrible it was. None of the information I had heard had prepared me for the terrible conditions there. Run-down and dilapidated, the animals were not even provided any water.

There is one hyena there and we understand that when he is fed, he gets papaya and mango. A carnivore! The place is much worse than the Military zoo Shirley and I visited a few years ago in Manaus. Appalling filth. Some of the animals had chains and padlocks around their necks. Why? They sure weren’t going anywhere.

A fellow who seemed to be in charge, if indeed anyone was, took us to see a baboon and started teasing him. He thought it was funny. Said if we went back up to the road to the market and got some bananas, the baboon would “dance” for us. Right.

One male mandrill was so thin I wanted to cry. Until I met a female chimpanzee who handed me a stick she had been carrying around. I know this “sounds” very anthropomorphic, but she wanted her back scratched. She handed me the stick and turned her back to me. I scratched her neck and back. She turned to look at me with such an expression in her eyes. I had to walk away. It was awful.

Our driver took us back into town and dropped us at the



**Rescued
Preuss's
monkey**

Photo: Shirley McGreal

central location so we could walk around and get our other errands done.

First to the Air France office to confirm our return tickets. Then the bank. Then the American Embassy. The person Patti needed to see wasn't in just then, so we went up to the British High Commission on an errand for Anna and then stopped for lunch. It was getting hot and the afternoon was wearing on.

We went back to the American Embassy and met with the Third Secretary, Mary B. Johnson. A nice woman, she seemed to know quite a bit about logging issues and the bushmeat trade. We filled her in on the Limbe project.

Patti then took her leave and headed for the bus station and the return trip to Limbe. Shirley and I checked out of SIL and took a chance on a hotel. We told them at the desk we were working with the Limbe zoo, and bingo: Cameroonian rates. Amazing and true!

Today Shirley and I went out exploring. We wanted to find the bushmeat market. We had been told it was by the rail station, and sure enough, there it was. Yuk.

Here's a partial list of what we saw. Some of the primates were so charred we couldn't identify the species:

Colobus: fresh, fur still on.

Guenons: fur still on.

Monkeys: unknown type. Split down the middle. Smoked.

Pangolin: both "live" (barely breathing) and smoked.

Wild boar's head and parts.

Antelope hind quarters, fur still on. Also smoked.

Fish.

Large roasted sections of snake.

Snake head.

Jars of entrails.

Snake blood.

Monkey paws.

Porcupine quills.

Tortoise shells.

There were other "bushmeat products" that we simply could not identify. I did not take any photos as I was pretty sure that the sellers knew what we were up to and we had been warned by Karl Amman that the possibility of us losing our cameras was very real.

We got into a huge brouhaha with three taxi drivers trying to get back to our hotel. I couldn't imagine why Shirley's French was failing her, or so it seemed, until we were back at the hotel and discovered that she was running a fever. Thank goodness it got no worse and by the next morning she was feeling her fine self again. I actually enjoyed the screaming match with the taxi drivers....we got the fare down to what I considered acceptable. Could I be next on the fever list?

Monday, 24 February 1997

This is our day to board Air France. Douala to Paris.

Sunday we had made our way back to Douala. The bus ride was uneventful and much faster than on the way up.

We had two more arguments with two more cab drivers. I seem to be getting pretty good at that. Never get into a cab without striking a deal first. Unless you're in the mood for some lively debate, that is!

I had fun with a fellow at the bus terminal who kept trying to sell us "insurance" for our baggage in route to Douala. He knew it was a joke and so did I, but we kept at it for about 15 minutes. In the end, we both started laughing as I watched our bags being loaded. I kept an eye on them out of the bus window though, just for good measure.

The ride back took only about 3-1/2 hours. We passed truck after truck hauling huge logs out of the forest. It's the logging roads that are opening up the deep forest to hunters. This country will be a desert in a few more years if logging keeps up at this rate. All down the road we saw slash and burn. The smoke from the fires and the dust from the harmattan combined to make the day miserable.

Good luck was with us as we got a room at the Akwa Palace in Douala with no reservations. We had to argue with housekeeping to get two towels. It was "no deal" on pillow cases though. There weren't any as it was a weekend and the laundry people weren't working. Shirley gasped when I pulled out a satin pillowcase from my bag. Why I packed it is beyond me, but I cackled hysterically at the look on Shirley's face. We'll chalk it up to my years as a girl scout: be prepared! (But satin?)

Au revoir, Cameroon.



Photo. Shirley McGreal

Baby gorilla exhausted after play session

YAOUNDE ZOO

by Shirley McGreal

Dianne and I visited the Yaounde Zoo about which we have received frequent complaints. Our taxi-driver had never heard of the zoo. Apparently it is seldom visited. Eventually we arrived there safely.

The sign at the gate identifies the "zoo" as a project of the Central Provincial Delegation of the Minister of Environment and Forests.

On entry, one's first impression is of the large quantities of junk and debris strewn around the premises, including abandoned vehicles. The heat was stifling. The cages did not have watering systems and many of the animals looked seriously under-nourished.

An African zoo employee offered to make the monkeys "dance" for us. We declined. Among the animals at the zoo was one lonely hyena. He was a pathetic sight wandering around amid the rubbish in his cage.

There were three chimpanzees, one pathetic mandrill, one baboon, and several small monkeys. Many of the cages were hazardous with projecting wires. All the zoo animals seemed totally miserable.

The only good thing about the place was that we counted a total of only 18 animals at the "zoo."

Sheri Speede, a veterinarian who works for In Defense of Animals (IDA) as well as maintaining a veterinary practice in Portland, Oregon, travelled to Cameroon in January 1997 to help provide medical attention to the Limbe Rescue Center animals. IPPL had provided a \$1,000 grant to help with the costs of Speede's trip and for purchase of vaccines and medications.

While in Yaounde to collect a surplus chimpanzee from the Institute Pasteur and deliver him to Limbe, Speede visited the Yaounde Zoo. She comments:

I stopped off at a street market on the way to the zoo and bought eggs and bananas. When the animals saw I had food, they were pushing their arms through the cages, scratching their arms on the rough bars to get some food.

One baby baboon could not reach Speede's hands but finally managed to get hold of an egg and cracked it open. Then he dropped his egg and:

The yoke was dripping down the excrement that covered the concrete wall. And this baboon was down there, licking the egg off the excrement. The thought of those animals being there haunts me. I have to get them out.

In Defense of Animals and IPPL are trying to raise funds so that the Yaounde Zoo animals can be moved to better homes. For this to succeed, we have to work with the government officials who control the zoo which is why we are not at this time calling for protest letters. We want to rescue these animals if there is any way on earth to do this and would welcome any comments and suggestions.



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Zoo entrance



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Trash strewn around Yaounde Zoo

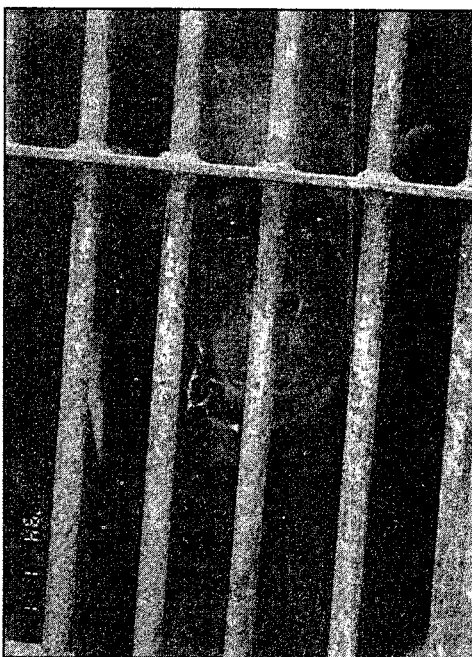


Photo: Shirley McGreal

Sad-looking chimpanzee – chained and caged



Photo: Dianne Taylor-Snow

Skinny depressed mandrill

YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Ongoing projects at Limbe include housing construction and development of the education center and production of educational materials. Regular costs include buying food for 70 animals and paying some of the African staff. IPPL donations are helping with all these activities.

In January 1997 Portland veterinarian Sheri Speede visited Limbe to help with veterinary care. Dr. Speede's trip was funded by her employer, In Defense of Animals, a US animal protection organization. IPPL donated \$1,000 to Dr. Speede for purchase of vaccines and medications. IPPL has also sent funds to help Michaela remain at Limbe. The photos on this page show your dollars (or pounds) at work.

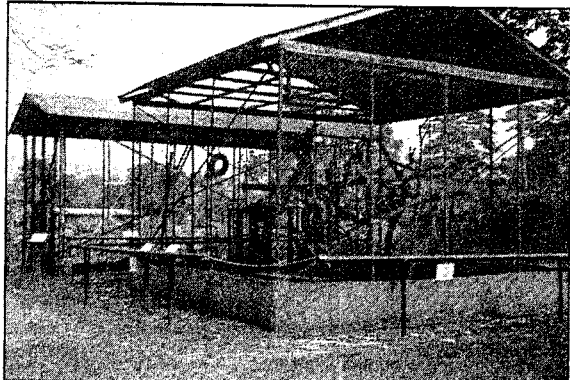


Photo: Dianne Taylor-Snow

New Limbe housing

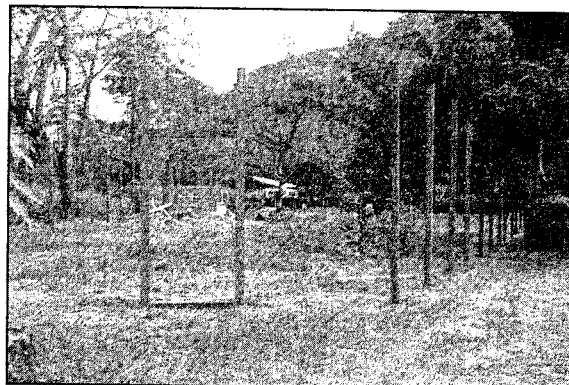


Photo: Dianne Taylor-Snow

Ground broken for new enclosure



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Anna Randall in the Education Building with Limbe poster

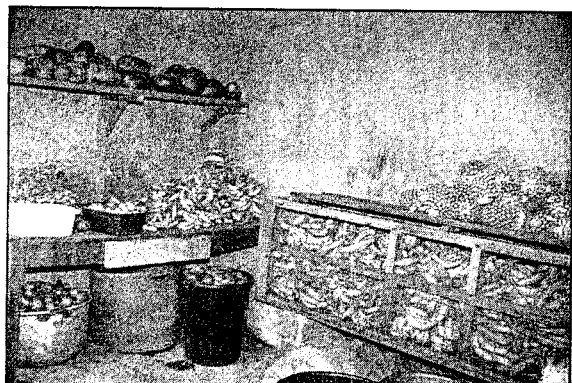
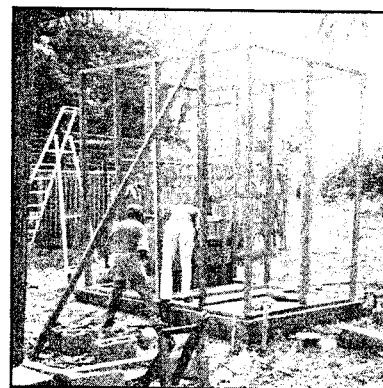


Photo: Dianne Taylor-Snow

Food for 70 primates



Dr. Sheri Speede with an armful of chimpanzees



New mangabey enclosure

Anyone wanting to make a donation to Limbe should send a check to IPPL, POB 766, Summerville SC 29484, USA or IPPL, 116 Judd Street, London WC1H9NS, England. Please mark your check "IPPL for Limbe." IPPL consolidates donations and sends them by bank draft into the project's account in Douala. This is for safety reasons and to save on costs of sending multiple small donations separately (each bank draft costs \$40).

Thank you for any help you can provide. Every gift helps. So far IPPL donations to the project have exceeded \$20,000. The Limbe officials, the African staff and the volunteers all expressed their gratitude for your help!

THANKS TO IPPL FROM LIMBE STAFF

Limbe Zoo
17/2/92

To Shirley & Diane IPPL

We want to thank you for all your help in the raising of Limbe Zoo and Wildlife Rescue Centre. We also want to thank you for the generous gift of the t-shirts. May you have safe travels home.

Limbe Zoo & Wildlife Rescue Centre
Keepers

1. Tem Chris Wri *[Signature]* (12) Ndame T. Dibe *[Signature]*
2. Fon Emmanuel *[Signature]*
3. Kang Jonathan K. *[Signature]*
4. Jeter Veseko *[Signature]*
5. Francis Ngeh *[Signature]*
6. Mboni Andreas *[Signature]*
7. Ateh Wilson *[Signature]*
8. Haretan Manah Tabor *[Signature]*
9. Stephen *[Signature]*
10. Jacob Tebo A. *[Signature]*
11. Vicki pars *[Signature]*



Bama Alfred with Emma (in arms)
and Jumbo (on leg!)



Andreas with new infant
gorilla Jumbo

PROFILES OF SOME OF THE LIMBE PRIMATES

prepared by Jacqui Groves, former Limbe volunteer

Name: Maya
Species: Chimpanzee
Sex: Female
Age: 33 months
Date of arrival: June 1995

In June 1995 Petra Korver of the Dutch Embassy, Yaounde, discovered baby Maya lying at the back of a filthy rotting cage in the Yaounde Zoo. Petra contacted us immediately to advise us of the situation and we quickly arranged through the Government of Cameroon to have the infant transferred to our facility in Limbe.

Upon her arrival we were appalled to see the extent of her injuries. She was extremely dehydrated and malnourished, having refused all food and milk offerings from Petra while in Yaounde. She was also suffering from immense depression.

Maya had huge gaping wounds each side of her groin from where she had previously been kept trussed up by a piece of wire. Her hand was severely damaged as the result of a gunshot wound which probably hit her at the same time her mother was shot. Maya's body was generally covered in small abrasions and upon closer inspection we discovered she also had a small infestation of maggots under her skin. Besides all these injuries she was suffering from a gut parasite, Giardia.

Understandably Maya was extremely distrustful of humans

which made treating her very difficult. Even though she was seriously ill, she would still exhibit highly aggressive behavior towards us.

Cleaning her wounds was a painstaking and painful task. The groin wounds were over 3 centimeters in diameter and at least 2 centimeters deep. The gun shot wound through her hand had shattered the bone, leaving a number of fragments within the hand. These had to be removed and the wound completely washed through. All her wounds were cleaned and treated 2-3 times a day.

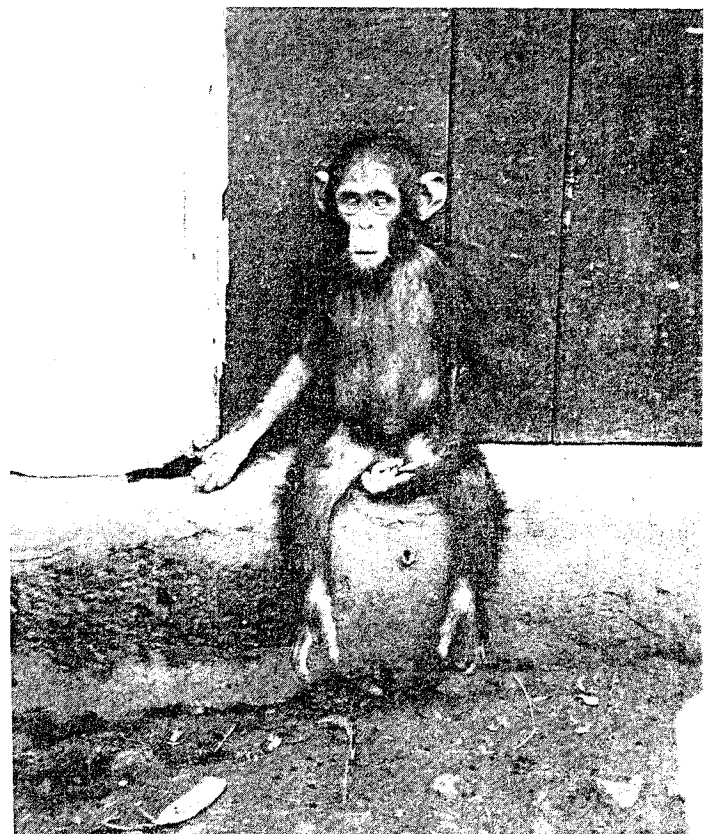
Having begun to treat the physical side of Maya we now had to deal with the psychological aspect. Because she was still refusing to eat or drink, we were forced to insert a feeding tube so as to ensure that a sustainable amount of liquid was taken.

This obviously did not improve relations with us as far as Maya was concerned. Over the next six weeks Maya would stay with one of us in the house and slowly her condition began to improve. She found friends in the two squirrels who were also residing with us at the time.

Although usually we do not encourage this type of friendship, Maya had decided she should be allowed to bend the rules and would throw huge tantrums if we dared to remove the two infant squirrels from her gentle hold! Often she would fall asleep with one squirrel under each arm. As the weeks went by Maya came to trust and accept us. When her wounds



Maya with feeding tube in place



Maya, looking better

were completely healed we began to take her to the zoo for a few hours a day.

She became happy and settled in her new environment and, after having completed the routine TB testing, was allowed to interact with our other infant chimpanzees in their nursery area. However her first introduction to the nursery was not successful as she contracted malaria. After many weeks of intensive care Maya recovered and was re-introduced to the nursery successfully where she remains to this day.

Name: Rambo Chella
Species: Western Lowland Gorilla
Sex: Male
Age: 2 years
Date of arrival: February 1996

The infant gorilla, Rambo Chella, arrived at the center wearing a red T-shirt, a nappy (diaper) and a waist belt. His eyes were swollen through dehydration and bad diet, and his stomach was vastly distended. Although his outward appearance was calm and tolerant, he would become aggressive towards people without warning. At every opportunity he would move away from people regardless of their intentions.

Chella was initially discovered by Cameroonian officials during a vehicle search at a road block in Bertoua, in the South East Province of Cameroon. The owner was in the process of transporting him from Yokadouma in order to sell him into the pet trade.

Not knowing what to do with this infant after confiscation, officials took Chella to the wildlife office in Bertoua where he spent the next three weeks.

Fortunately an expatriate, who was working in the area, was advised of the situation and arranged to bring him to Limbe. He had suffered a tremendously stressful ordeal and as a result had become extremely depressed. The depression was one of the hardest things to conquer. He would often lie down facing away from us and hug himself for comfort.

Since he had no name on arrival, we decided to call him after the wildlife official who brought him to us, Rambo Chella (or Chella as he is called for short).

The first few days were spent trying to keep his liquid intake steady. Due to his lack of trust in us, he ignored our first attempts to entice him with various liquids. After two days he began to drink milk on his own and we were slowly able to increase the amount he took.

He was extremely ill for two weeks and as always with infant gorillas, it was "touch and go" as to whether he would survive the various parasite problems he had encountered, not to mention the depression he was going through. Chella's problems increased with time and during his first six months with us he continually suffered with ailments including pneumonia and a staph infection.

After months recuperating in the Pandrillus volunteers' house with 24 hour care Chella has finally been given a clean bill of health! He no longer suffers from depression and has

become an extremely happy, if not mischievous, youngster.

Name: Suzanne
Species: Chimpanzee
Sex: Female
Age: Unknown
Date of arrival: 1986

Susie is our oldest chimp at the zoo, estimated at about 10 years old. She has been at the zoo for the majority of her life and her only companion, another chimpanzee called Jacob, died of starvation several years ago while the zoo was suffering from financial troubles. During these critical times, the animals did not get adequate nutrition, being fed mainly coco-yams.

Susie lost most of her hair due to poor nutrition but, once the diet was improved on the arrival of assistance from **Pandrillus**, her hair grew back. Now she has a distinctive "ginger" coat and freckles.

At some point in her early days, Susie fell heavily and broke one of her legs. Due to lack of veterinary care, although the

bone healed, it has left her with a very rigid leg. But she has learned to make allowances and is still a very active animal.

Susie is a very intelligent chimp, and good natured in spite of her increasing age. She is housed with two other juveniles, who are put to shame by their bad behavior! We hope that she will show maternal instincts when introduced to some of our younger chimps who could still benefit from close contact with an older animal.



Rambo Chella eating yogurt

SAVING COLOBUS MONKEYS IN KENYA

by Paula Kahumbu, Secretary, Friends of the Colobus Trust

On the 15th of September 1996, I was thrown irretrievably into a campaign to save the sub-species of Angolan colobus monkey in Diani, 30 kilometers south of Mombasa, a city on the coast of Kenya.

Two of these monkeys had been run down on a beach road. Because of my reputation as a wildlife/conservation type, I was called on to "do something." An injured adult female and a dead sub-adult male had been moved to a private home by Mr. Van Velzen, who was visibly shaken.

Removing them from the scene of the accident was most heart-wrenching, the colobus troop was distraught and in a very uncharacteristic manner aggressively tried to prevent him from removing the bodies by rushing him with threatening barks and growls.

All of us who offered assistance were horrified and very upset. The injured female seemed to be in fairly good shape as she sat proudly, allowing us to stroke her while she gazed questioningly into our faces. At the time it was not obvious that she was suffering from severe shock.

Being Sunday, no veterinarians were available so we called the Nairobi based Kenya Wildlife Veterinarian at home. She talked us through a physical examination. Our worst fears were confirmed, she had broken her spine near the tail. The



Monkey road-kill victim

vet would have had her flown back to Nairobi had there been any hope.

As we stood discussing the terrible task of humanely euthanizing her, she began to collapse, put her head down, started wheezing and within an hour had died. We stood paralyzed, helpless, and very angry. It was this event that catalyzed the "Save the Colobus" campaign, and prevents us from ever turning back.

The Angolan Colobus monkey

The Angolan colobus monkey is a large conspicuous handsome black monkey with white shoulder flashes, cheek hairs and tail tip. It has an extraordinarily gentle nature and unusual habits. Mothers allow their strange looking woolly white newborn infants to be handled by other troop members.

Although colobus are extremely shy in the wild, they can become very trusting when habituated. These quiet leaf eating monkeys become captivatingly playful garden guests in the homes and hotels of the seaside resort area of Diani, on the south coast of Kenya.

They have become an expected component of a successful garden, and the sound of the morning chorus of growls, or the banging of a troop displaying on the roof, have always been appreciated. Habituated colobus troops are extremely entertaining as they cavort through the gardens playing games of tag, chasing each other and Sykes monkeys, and playfully swinging on one another's tails.

I never tire of watching them, especially when "catch the white cat" is on—the colobus think the white cat is an infant and they run through the garden trying to catch and hold her. The white cat thinks the colobus are crazy and runs dodging them in a mock escape effort—I think she enjoys the attention!

Diani is home to some 200 of these wonderful monkeys, a significant proportion of the species in Kenya. The colobus however are declining at an alarming rate as a result of habitat loss and road kills.



Photo: Los Angeles Zoo

Colobus monkeys

The Diani colobus conservation movement began as an emotional outcry against forest clearing and high speed traffic on the main road, and led to a publicity campaign to "Save the Colobus." It has resulted in the acceptance of the monkey as the official Diani mascot. We have now registered a conservation trust, "Wakuluzu, Friends of the Colobus", which is a charitable organization determined to save the Angolan colobus monkey in its natural habitat.

Although not currently listed as threatened, the Angolan colobus monkey is at a minimum susceptible to extinction as result of habitat loss. This sub-species is now restricted to forest fragments in the northern Tanzanian highlands and southern Kenyan coastal forests, having already disappeared from much of its former range.

In Kenya, it is officially protected only in the Shimba Hills while other populations in Diani, Shimoni and Chale forests are already declining and will almost certainly disappear unless ongoing forest clearance is checked. In Diani loss of 75% of the forest cover has caused the disappearance of lion, leopard, hyena, bushbuck, small cats and elephants in the last 50 years.

Nevertheless, many other mammals survive in these fragmented forest patches, including three monkey species (Sykes, vervets and baboons), two species of bushbabies, colorful red bush pigs, dwarf antelopes such as duikers and suni, genets, an assortment of mongoose, and civet cats.

Two mammals, the golden rumped elephant shrew and bushy tailed mongoose, and one bird, the Uluguru sun bird, are rare and threatened with local extinction. Diani Forest still has a wealth of biodiversity and boasts over 127 bird species. The forest is on private property and is not open for public access.

Establishing the status of colobus in Diani

On the 30th of November, we conducted the first colobus census in Diani, an event that drew 30 volunteers and generated a wealth of information regarding the primates and habitats in Diani.

As we suspected, the Diani colobus population is not very big at only 200–230 individual monkeys in an area of almost 10 square kilometers. We can say with confidence that the



"Colobridge"

colobus population has declined significantly since 1989.

Half of the population survives in an area of 1.5 square kilometers of relatively undisturbed forest. This is also the area with the highest rate of road kills where 18% of the resident monkeys died in 3 months. This forest has recovered significantly from degradation since 1989, but renewed clearing is a serious threat.

Ironically, the private ownership of this property, which guaranteed protection to this date, represents the greatest threat today: property owners seeking financial benefit are sub-dividing their properties and selling land.

The lowest density of colobus monkeys was in private gardens and hotel grounds where most of the forest cover and natural food plants have gone. Surprisingly the tiny "protected" sacred forests or kayas, had small populations of monkeys, amounting to only 10% of the total population of colobus. We suspect hunting was the cause for the colobus monkeys' timid behavior. They are often killed for their skins, which are still used in traditional dances.

Dealing with road kills

Colobus monkeys are unusually handicapped when it comes to crossing the high speed beach road and they are more prone to road kills than the other monkey species. Over a period of less than three months, we recorded 17 road killed colobus monkeys along a two kilometer stretch.

This road bisects the forest habitat with the highest concentration of these monkeys and unfortunately, movement to the other side of the road is essential for the primates to access the different parts of their home range.

Since we cannot stop the monkeys from crossing the road, we decided to offer them an arboreal means to do so. Four "colobridges" have been erected to link trees on each side of the road at known crossing points and accident black spots. Though still regarded with suspicion by some colobus troops, they are used by all primate species.

Sadly, we still have had some road kills near the bridges. For reasons we do not understand, the bridges are not used consistently. Regardless, the road kill rate has declined sharply and we are now working on redesigning the bridges to be more "colobus-friendly" by adding a vertical aspect, and by baiting them with fast growing vines—colobus delicacies.

Vines will take months or years to grow so we are also looking at alternatives to get rapid results. Since Sykes and colobus frequently socialize and travel together, by baiting the bridges for the Sykes monkeys (a very simple task), we hope that the colobus will follow suit.

Implementing speed control is one of our main goals, and we have already secured the necessary government permission to put in road signs and speed bumps. Work is already underway. To change peoples' attitudes, we have been distributing posters, press articles, questionnaires, information sheets, stickers and posters around Diani and the positive response has been very rewarding.

The future

Our plans for the future include an environmental awareness campaign, continued lobbying for speed reduction on the roads, research studies and further censuses, fund raising events and proposals for managing the remaining Diani forest patches for the conservation of the local flora and fauna.

There are other conservation issues we intend to approach, including:

- Preventing primate injuries from illegal antelope snares and high voltage wires.
- Stopping wood poaching and garbage dumping on vacant plots. This has had a serious impact on forest condition. We want to rehabilitate the forest, replant vegetation consumed by colobus monkeys and remove any choking weeds).
- In the hopes of reducing the importance of colobus skins for cultural purposes we are exploring the possibility of using artificial black and white cloaks.
- Finding a means of coating high voltage electric wires.



Busy road to beach leads to monkey road-kill

- The Kenya Wildlife Service is excited about our plans and has offered to organize a workshop for our benefit, in order to bring all interested parties to the table.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

IPPL has provided a \$1,000 grant to the Wakuluzu Friends of the Colobus which is a registered Trust in Kenya. The Trust is interested in setting up a colobus adoption scheme for monkeys in well habituated troops in the near future. Anyone interested in further information should contact the **Wakuluzu Friends of the Colobus Trust, POB 5380, Diani Beach, Kenya.**

If you wish to make a donation to this wonderful group, please send a check marked "For the Diani monkeys" to IPPL and we will consolidate checks and send them safely to Kenya.

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

IPPL-Australia run by Lynette Shanley has been busy working on a variety of issues, despite being busy moving. Among them:

Notre Dame Zoo

Australia has several private zoos. Since 1994 Lynette Shanley received complaints about the facility which held many primates. In an effort to learn who was supplying Notre Dame with primates, Shanley contacted all major Australian zoos.

One zoo, Sydney's Taronga Park Zoo, responded, stating that it had the following animals on loan to Notre Dame.

- 1 male and 3 female mandrills*
- 2 male and 3 female spider monkeys*
- 1 male and 1 female De Brazza guenons*

The zoo stated that the animals had been sent out because "Taronga has no current use for them." Despite getting no direct response, Shanley learned that other Class A zoos had placed animals with Notre Dame and other

private facilities.

Meanwhile the zoo was ordered by Australia's Department of Agriculture to improve the exhibits. Later it lost its license. In November 1996, Shanley learned that Notre Dame was selling off hundreds of animals, including 30 primates. Because of the lack of strong laws, government agencies could do little, so she contacted Richard Jones M.P. who was able to get a major story about the problems with Notre Dame Zoo into the **Sun Herald**, a major newspaper. Jones also raised the issue of private zoos in Australia before Parliament.

Buxton Private Zoo

The Buxton Private Zoo in the state of Victoria is supposedly training pigtail macaques to help disabled humans. Lynette and Jim Roberts from Animal Liberation-Victoria visited the zoo and found 8-10 primates. Some of the water bowls were covered in green slime. Both wrote protests to the state government which stated that charges have been filed against the zoo.

The West Australian Greens

West Australia's Green party platform has issued a proposed National Code for Animal Welfare. The document states:

Owners shall not leave an animal without food or water without a reasonable excuse.

Shanley has contacted the West Australia Greens pointing out that there can be no excuse for letting an animal go thirsty or starve.

Thanks to Jemma Lane

Lynette thanks IPPL-Australia member Jemma Lane who is raising funds for primate protection in Australia by setting up stalls at beaches and public events.

Ridgeways Circus, New Zealand

IPPL-Australia has received reports about the Ridgeways Circus in New Zealand having killed two chimpanzees, a father and one of his sons, and that a female Lola, aged 32, was likely to be killed. An inspector advising the New Zealand government had claimed that Lola was obese and was a possible candidate for "euthanasia." It turned out that Lola was pregnant!

IPPL-HQ was able to confirm that two sanctuaries would be willing to accept Lola and her new daughter (Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in Zambia and Primarily Primates in Texas). However the owners of the chimpanzees now say they will not release the animals.

New Zealand organizations including Zoo Check (NZ) and SAFE (NZ) have also been working on the Ridgeways' Circus problem.

NEW ADDRESS FOR IPPL-AUSTRALIA

**IPPL-Australia has a new address. It is GPO Box 60, Portland 2847, Australia.
The phone/fax number is 61-63-554-026.**

PIGTAIL MONKEY BABY IN PERIL

The state of Florida, USA, allows people to own pet monkeys. The result is frequent biting and escape incidents.

In September 1996, "owner" James Beekman of Palm Beach took his pet baby pigtail monkey "Ringo" for a walk on nearby Worth Avenue. Worth Avenue is a street usually crowded with people shopping in the fancy shops selling luxury goods to the super-rich inhabitants of Palm Beach.

Naturally the baby monkey wearing a diaper attracted a lot of attention. One of those attracted was a 4 year old girl who apparently got scratched by the baby monkey. The girl's mother contacted town officials, who ordered Beekman to hand over the monkey. Beekman did not do this and state game officials served a search warrant on his apartment.

But there was no sign of "Ringo." However, eventually Beekman turned the monkey in and she was sent to Pembroke Park Animal Clinic in Pembroke Pines. Clinic veterinarian Terri Parrott commented:

She's like a little baby, she's real sweet.

Unfortunately Ringo tested positive for the herpes B virus. The herpes B virus affects many monkeys, who co-exist with it. When transmitted to humans, it is almost always fatal. Fortunately the child victim tested negative for the virus, although she had to undergo rabies shots.

Initially it looked like "Ringo" would be killed. However, the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission decided to allow her to be placed in a "low-risk environment," where she would not be exposed to humans.

Palm Beach County Health Director Dr. Jean Malecki told the Fort Lauderdale **Sun Sentinel**:

It certainly would be the most humane thing to do—to let her live a long happy life while posing no danger to humans.

However, as evidence in a court case, Ringo has to remain at the clinic until after the trial. Dr. Parrott's assistant, Cindy McAvay, commented:

We try to give her as much attention as possible. Outwardly she doesn't appear at all ill and she is doing very well. Some young monkeys have the virus and then it disappears. That would be the best possible outcome in this case.

The monkey's owner James Beekman faces trial in May 1997 on charges of failure to protect the public from injury by wildlife, possession of wildlife without a permit and failure to maintain documentation on the source of wildlife. He faces up to 60 days in prison on each count.

TEXAS SNOW MONKEYS MOVED

by Jean-Gael Emptaz-Collomb

I am a recent graduate from the George Washington University aspiring to a career in primatology. I am thankful to Dr. Shirley McGreal for pointing me towards my first experience with primates, as well as to Dr. Geza Teleki for his continuous support and advice.

From August 1996 until November 1996, I volunteered with the Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary (TSMS). I spent much of my time helping them get ready to move their 400 Japanese snow monkeys from a private ranch to land belonging to the Sanctuary which is to become their permanent home.

The TSMS is home to two free-ranging groups as well as several monkeys undergoing rehabilitation. The free ranging groups are composed of descendants of a troop of 150 Japanese snow monkeys. The troop was imported from Japan into the US in 1972 to save them from extermination as they were raiding crops.

Since then, the monkeys have successfully adapted to the Texan environment. The population is up to 400 and their natural behavior and social structure is intact. The "rehab" monkeys come from labs, zoos and homes where they were kept as pets. The goal is to have these animals learn the proper social behaviors of their species in order to reintroduce them into the free ranging groups.

Due to various outside pressures, the monkeys had to be relocated one last time. This was accomplished at the end of 1996. This relocation took several months of preparation and attracted volunteers from around the world. The United States, Canada, Bermuda and France were all represented in the volunteer crew.

Months before the actual move, a trap was built on the ranch where the monkeys then lived. This trap was made out of three large cages connected with cattle panel and could hold up to ninety animals. To get the animals comfortable with the trap we placed part of the daily feed inside it and covered part of the roof with wooden boards, providing shade often sought by the monkeys in Texas.

There were three different ways in and out of the trap and these were never shut until the first trapping day. Therefore, the troop quickly became accustomed to this new structure on their territory. They were not afraid of entering it because they had several ways to get out and it provided them with food and shading.

Once the new enclosure was ready, the trick was to carry out the relocation without too much disturbing the social structure of the troop. The alpha male and alpha female were

captured and placed in individual cages near the trap to minimize the risk of troop dispersion during the following trapping days.

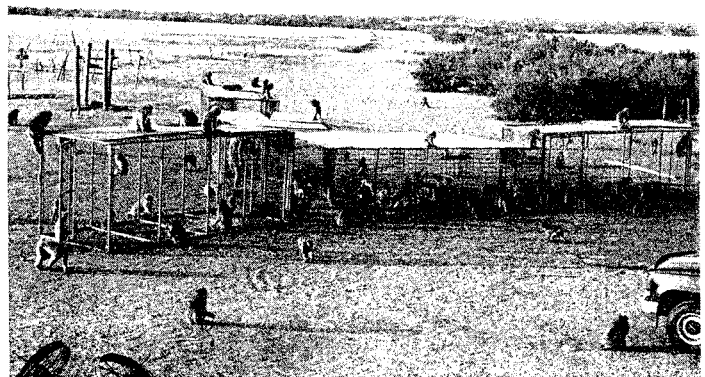
Then the large trap was used and most of the high ranking animals were captured and moved to the new location. The trapping was carried out by placing the feed in the trap as usual and shutting

the doors when an optimum number of animals had entered it. A caged trailer was then backed up against the trap and the animals were channeled into it.

They were then driven to the new location (a 30 minute ride) and released into a processing cage. There, each animal was examined, and tattooed if necessary, before being released in the new enclosure. After six major trapping sessions,



Photo: Karen Dickey Johnson



Traps at the old location

most of the animals had been moved.

At that time, a coyote started to show up frequently near the trap. For that reason, the remaining animals moved to another section of their territory. Individual self-trapping cages were placed out where the monkeys had now settled.

The alpha male and alpha female were taken to the new location. Upon release, the alpha male immediately asserted his position by beating up a lower ranking male! He was supported by other high ranking males, showing that the general hierarchy had not been disturbed by the relocation. By January 8, 1997 all the monkeys were in their new home.

The monkeys now live in a 65-acre electrified enclosure. There they are protected from the cruelty of man, while enjoying a better quality of life. They can swim in water tanks, forage through the vegetation, sleep in the trees and evolve as free monkeys within a sound social unit. Scientists will be

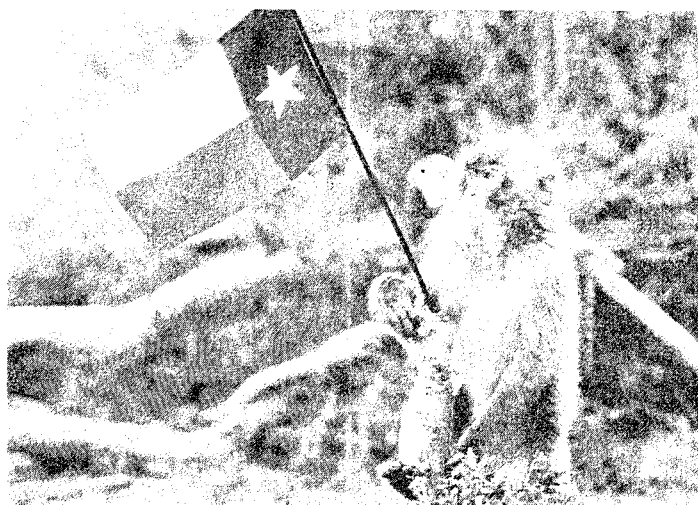


Photo: Karen Dickey Johnson

Monkey holding Texas state flag

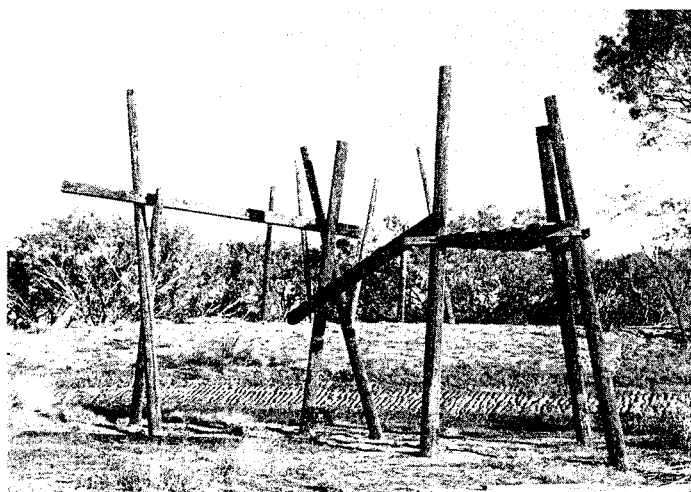
able to continue the work of others studying the natural behavior of these wonderful animals.

In addition, the sanctuary staff work hard to offer a better life to unfortunate snow monkeys coming from labs, zoos and pet homes.

What I have witnessed in Texas appears to be the closest thing to a wild situation. Unfortunately, the sanctuary is under-funded and their daily operations are always at risk of a financial crisis.

It would be a terrible loss for the animals, and for caring humans, if this wonderful sanctuary for snow monkeys could not continue its work. If you are interested in learning more about the Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary or want to make a donation, please contact IPPL for further information.

On behalf of everyone at the Texas Monkey Sanctuary, I would like to thank IPPL for its support throughout the years. Personally, I would like to thank Lou Griffin, Tracy Wyman and the monkeys of TSMS for letting me be a part of their world. I will never forget this experience and I hope that the monkeys can enjoy peace and tranquility forever in Texas.



Climbing structure: IPPL member Bob Ingersoll helped build several such structures

ARE YOU ON THE INTERNET?

If you are on the Internet, please let IPPL know if you are interested in receiving by E-mail news items or action alerts about events that occur between issues of **IPPL News**.

Please send an e-mail to ippl@awod.com requesting to be added to the IPPL E-mail alert list. Be sure to include your name and street address as IPPL alerts are solely for IPPL Members.

Also take a look at IPPL's revised Web page which is located at:

<http://www.sims.net/ippl>

IPPL WILDLIFE INSPECTION RESOLUTION

The International Primate Protection League presented a resolution to the First Session of the World Conservation Congress (organized by the World Conservation Union which is also known as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature—IUCN).

The congress was held in Montreal, Canada, in November 1996. IPPL was represented by Chairwoman Dr. Shirley McGreal, attorney Dr. Ronald Orenstein, and Dianne Taylor-Snow.

The IPPL resolution was co-sponsored by the Wildlife Society of Bangladesh, Primarily Primates of the USA, and the Chilean conservation group CODEFF. The first draft of the resolution targeted the United States for the nation's inspection of only 25% of incoming wildlife shipments, with the inspection rate being as low as 7% in the notorious port of Miami.

It noted that the US had only 84 inspectors nationwide to check over 70,000 wildlife shipments reaching the United States annually and that it spent only \$3.4 million on inspecting wildlife valued at close to a billion dollars. It also noted that wildlife inspectors told a government investigating committee that they felt they detected less than 10% of smuggled wildlife entering the United States.

When debate opened on the entire package of resolutions, an irate German government official announced that there were two resolutions that criticized specific govern-

ments, and that he thought it was wrong to criticize governments. He identified the IPPL resolution targeting the United States and a resolution condemning Nigeria for the hangings of Ken Saro-Wiwa and other Nigerian environmentalists, and thought both should be rejected because they criticized governments!

Unfortunately IUCN resolutions are hard to pass because each resolution must be accepted by a majority of the governments attending AND a majority of the non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Without government support, no resolution can be passed—even if every single NGO supports it.

As a result of the certainty it would not pass unamended, IPPL and the US government negotiated a compromise resolution that would apply to all governments. However Dr. Shirley McGreal was able to make a detailed statement from the floor criticizing the United States inspection program. McGreal was on the committee that worked on amending the resolution regarding Nigeria. Even the watered-down resolution failed because many governments opposed it (most NGOs supported it). This suggests that the world conservation community will not protest—even when environmentalists get hanged, a rather disgraceful situation.

The final resolution on wildlife inspection was adopted unanimously and is presented below.

INSPECTION OF WILDLIFE SHIPMENTS

AWARE that the trade in wildlife and its products is increasing throughout the world, estimated at \$5 billion to \$8 billion annually, according to a report issued by the United States General Accounting Office in December 1994 ("Wildlife Protection: Fish and Wildlife Service's Inspection Program Needs Strengthening")

NOTING that governments often lack resources or fail to place emphasis on the monitoring and control of trade in wildlife and its products;

RECOGNIZING that the lack of inspection of wildlife shipments contributes to wildlife smuggling;

RECALLING that the inspection of wildlife shipments is part of a mechanism to effectively implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES).

CONCERNED that smuggling of wildlife threatens the future survival of many species protected by CITES, the World Conservation Congress at its 1st session in Montreal, Canada, 14–23 October 1996:

- 1) **CALLS** upon all non-governmental members of IUCN to urge their governments to strengthen their law enforcement efforts to protect CITES-listed species;
- 2) **CALLS** upon all governmental members of IUCN to take whatever steps are necessary to curtail the illegal trade in wildlife and its products, including physical inspection of entering and departing wildlife shipments, and
- 3) **CALLS** upon all governmental members of IUCN to provide the needed funds and resources to accomplish these goals.

SCOTCH PLAINS ZOO CAMPAIGN UPDATE

by Sherryl Volpone and Peter Hnath

Reports of a wave of animal deaths in January of this year prompted the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife to inspect the Scotch Plains Zoo in Scotch Plains, New Jersey, once again. The dead animals included a cotton top tamarin, a baby wallaby, a black jaguar cub and two deer.

On January 28, 1997 the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife told the owner, Harold Kafka, that they would not renew his permits for exotic and non-game species along with his zoo exhibitor's permit. The Division cited failure to remedy problems affecting "public safety and animal welfare" despite repeated warnings.

The zoo's permits expired December 31, 1996, but it has been allowed to remain open while attempting to correct the problems. Kafka has requested an administrative hearing in an attempt to appeal the decision.

In February 1997 Frank and Louise Terry, who hold the mortgage on the six acre zoo, began foreclosure procedures, due to lack of payment. They are not only concerned for their investment, but also for the welfare of the animals. Kafka is also being sued by creditors for non-payment of bills totaling more than \$45,000.

On 25 February 1997, Superior Court Judge Frederick C. Kentz, Jr. in Elizabeth, New Jersey issued a restraining order prohibiting Kafka from selling any of the zoo's animals and granting permission for an independent veterinarian to inspect them. On 5 March 1997 the judge also appointed a temporary custodian to oversee the operation of the zoo and the welfare of the animals.

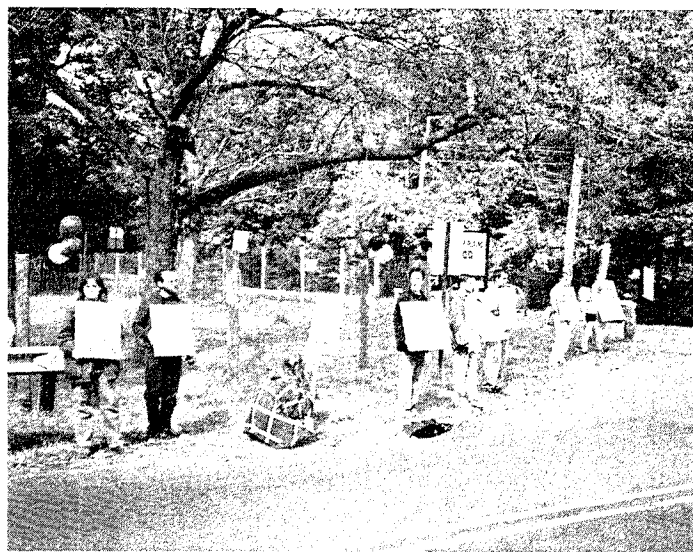
Even though these are major victories, the animals are still living in unpleasant conditions until this is settled. The biggest concerns are the chimpanzees, the orangutan, the mandrills and the other primates that are housed in prison-like cells made of cinder blocks and iron bars. The zoo also houses a giraffe, a pygmy hippo, a sick-looking lion, two tigers, two jaguars, two mountain lions, and an assortment of birds and hoofstock.

The latest actions against the zoo include a billboard in Scotch Plains warning of animal welfare violations. Among those paying for the billboard were the New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance, Coalition for Animals, People for Animals, concerned individuals and people living close to the zoo.

A mail-in of stuffed animals was directed towards the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Daniel Glickman. Glickman was asked to help the Scotch Plains Zoo's animals. Although he received over 60 stuffed toys, Glickman has not replied.

In contrast, the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife was extremely concerned at the situation.

These two actions are in addition to monthly protests at the zoo and massive letter writing campaigns aimed at various Federal, State and Town officials.



Scotch Plains Zoo protestors

A MESSAGE FROM IPPL TO SHERRYL AND PETER

The Scotch Plains Zoo animals are fortunate to have such determined and dedicated friends as both of you!

In situations like this, national groups working on a wide range of issues are not and cannot be as effective or focussed as local people like you who can work single-mindedly on an issue, demonstrate, put up billboards, and keep up the local pressure. IPPL is always ready to provide advice and support—but there is nothing like grass-roots activists and groups which are there all the time and can focus on an issue for months and years.

DON'T MOVE!
WITHOUT LETTING IPPL KNOW!
you'll keep getting IPPL News regularly!
and we and the Post Office will thank you!

ANIMALS LOSE A FRIEND

Clive Hollands, former Director of Advocates for Animals, an organization based in Scotland, died on 16 November 1996 of complications following a ruptured aorta. Hollands was 67 years old and he had worked on behalf of animals since 1966. He was an advisor to many groups including the Marchig Animal Welfare Trust, the World Society for the Protection of Animals and the Jane Goodall Institute.

In his book **Compassion is the Bugler** Hollands gave his definition of animal welfare.

Dignity—according to animals the natural dignity which is due them as living, sentient creatures...If we could learn to respect and accord to animals the dignity which is due to them as living beings, suffering, pain and torment would end.

GORILLA SCORNS POLITICIANS!

According to a 30 January 1997 story run on United Press International, a gorilla at the Franklin Park Zoo, Boston, USA, showed his total contempt for politicians!

A group of "pols" had assembled outside Kubandu the gorilla's cage for a news conference to discuss the facility's future. The gorilla reacted "by hurling straw and feces bombs at the group, hitting a number of politicians." Among those hit were Boston mayor Thomas Menino—and also zoo director Brian Rutledge.

MONKEY AND SHEEP CLONING

On Saturday 22 February 1997, Scottish embryologist Ian Wilmut stunned the world with his announcement that he had created a lamb using DNA tissue taken from the udder of a pregnant Finn Dorset ewe at the Roslin Institute near Edinburgh. The cloned sheep, seven months old when her existence was announced, instantly became world-famous as "Dolly."

Wilmut took DNA from a 6 year old sheep and fused one of these cells with a sheep ovum from which the DNA nucleus had been removed. The resulting embryo was implanted into a Scottish blackface ewe who gave birth to Dolly.

In a report published in **Nature**, Wilmut reported that he had fused 277 udder cells with an equal number of eggs but that only 29 eggs had grown into embryos. Only one of 13 pregnant sheep delivered a live lamb.

Britons were divided on the cloning issue. Donald Bruce of the Church of Scotland told the **Glasgow Herald**:

The imagination runs riot. History suggests we could never rest assured that no human being would dream of exploiting genetics or embryology to evil ends.

Richard Dawkins, Professor of the Public Understanding of Science at the University of Oxford, England, told the **Evening Standard**:

Certainly cloning is unnatural. But unnatural isn't necessarily a synonym for bad. It's unnatural to read books, or travel faster than we can run, or scuba-dive, or fly. It's unnatural to wear clothes, but we do.

British philosopher Mary Midgley pointed out that cloned humans would be different because:

Different upbringing necessarily produces a different person. Human beings take 20 years to grow up.

London Times columnist Libby Purves expressed concern about artificial change to animal species:

It is not for us to end evolution. The history of living

creatures is a story of change and adaptation. Normal reproduction ensures that the genetic kaleidoscope is shaken every time...Diversity in all living things is our best hope.

Politicians on both sides of the Atlantic reacted to the news of the cloning of Dolly.

On 22 February the British Ministry of Agriculture announced that it was cutting off funding to the sheep cloning project. The government had been funding the research for eight years. The project also had funding from PPL Therapeutics, a Scottish biotechnology company. The company's stock rose after the announcement that a sheep had been successfully cloned.

The British government also set up a Human Genetic Advisory Commission which held its first meeting on 27 February. On the day after Dolly's existence was made public, US President Clinton asked an existing bioethics advisory commission to review the implications for human beings and report back to him in 90 days.

The European Union, which already had a ban on human cloning, asked a panel to evaluate whether other forms of genetic manipulation should be regulated. The Council of Europe, a 40-nation human rights organization, called for a formal ban on human cloning.

The Pope, head of the Roman Catholic Church, denounced the experiments as dangerous and harmful to human dignity. The Vatican newspaper urged the world's governments to pass laws banning the cloning of humans.

CNN (the USA-based Cable News Network) took a poll on Americans' opinions of Dolly's cloning. Two-thirds of 1,005 respondents said that the government should regulate the cloning of animals. But a whopping 89% said cloning of humans would be morally unacceptable, most of them citing religious grounds. 29% of respondents were so concerned that they said they would participate in a demonstration against cloning humans.

Only 7% of those polled said they would clone themselves if they could!

Soon after the announcement of Dolly's cloning, scientists at the University of Oregon Primate Research Center (OPRC), Beaverton, Oregon, USA, told the press that they had produced two rhesus monkeys by duplicating primitive embryos. The Oregon scientists inserted cells taken from two monkey embryos and inserted them into monkey egg cells from which the DNA had been removed. The embryos were then implanted into surrogate mothers through *in vitro* fertilization.

According to Associated Press Science Editor Matt Crenson:

The monkey cloning is less technically impressive than last week's sheep shocker mostly because of the type of cell that was cloned. In the case of the sheep, a mammary cell was taken from an adult ewe, and its genetic material used to direct the creation of a new sheep. It is literally as if researchers had chopped off a piece of a sheep and created a lamb. In the monkey cloning, however, researchers cloned cells from an eight-cell embryo. There was no adult animal copied: no living breathing thing reproduced with

perfect genetic fidelity.

Susan Smith, director of the center, told the press:

Everyone is really excited about the potential of this and I think it's going to make for much, much better science, and much better experiments...where you once needed 20 or 30 animals, maybe now you'd only need 3 or 4.

At a press conference OPRC scientist Donald Wolf told reporters that with genetically different animals, results can be due to differences among animals, whereas genetically identical monkeys would produce more reliable research. The Associated Press quoted Wolf as saying:

The downside is that this is one step in the direction suggesting that nuclear transfer can be done in human beings. Of course we have absolutely no interest in even cloning an adult monkey, let alone cloning a human being.

Ian Wilmut was apparently less than impressed with the Oregon work, commenting that the development was "an important step, but the material they used is fundamentally different and easier to work with."

COMMENTS FROM ANDREW GACH

IPPL member Andrew Gach of California, USA, is cynical about justifications presented for animal cloning experiments. Here are some comments from Andrew.

I am skeptical that cloning will reduce the number of experimental animals. The rationale behind the assertion is that with genetically identical animals, a small sample will suffice. On the flip side, the number of animals used in a particular project (for instance, testing a prescription drug) may be reduced, but the range and quantity of experimental projects will be boosted, thus canceling out any reduction in conventional animal use.

The main factor, as always, is money. Wall Street loves "concepts" and novelty. The Dolly story appeals to the imagination of venture capitalists, motivating them to channel more money into the vivisection industry, thus practically guaranteeing more activity.

Another point is that the ability to clone will inevitably increase the interest in genetically altered animals, opening up a whole new and very ugly dimension to animal exploitation both in agriculture and laboratory. The prospect of producing millions of copies of poor freakish creatures, apart from anything that evolved naturally over millions of years, is the stuff of which nightmares are made.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The issue of cloning is being studied by a committee of the US House of Representatives. Members interested in expressing their opinion on human and animal cloning may contact:

*Rep. Connie Morella, Chairperson
House Science Subcommittee on Technology
2319 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515, USA*

IPPL AND PACE FIGHT BSE CHIMP EXPERIMENTS

People Against Chimpanzee Experiments and IPPL-UK are campaigning against the planned use of chimpanzees and other primates in bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) research. BSE is also known as "mad cow disease."

IPPL-UK is circulating petitions and has published a pamphlet entitled "Don't give Heidi BSE." Heidi is a young chimpanzee. The IPPL pamphlet points out that:

The stated aim of the experiments is to establish the risk of transmission of the disease to humans. However, transmission of BSE to chimpanzees will not provide proof of susceptibility in man. Scientists propose injecting BSE infected tissue into chimpanzee brains. This method would be flawed as infection is transmitted orally in humans and any results would be difficult to interpret. An alternative method of starving the chimpanzees until they are forced to eat BSE-infected meat is ethically unacceptable...Large numbers of humans have already been exposed to potential infection, providing the basis for a far more relevant study...

A large proportion of the [British] human population have already consumed infected beef between 1986 and 1989 and are now involuntary participants in the largest primate study now taking place.

British Channel 4 has a "real life courtroom drama" program called "Nothing but the Truth." A "mock trial" on the proposed use of chimpanzees in BSE experiments took place on 28 October 1996. Janey Reynolds, President of PACE, Molly Badham, Director of Twycross Zoo, Professor Richard Lacey and chimpanzee sign language expert Roger Fouts

opposed the use of chimpanzees. Lacey is a medical doctor with decades of experience studying BSE and associated diseases.

"In the dock" was US scientist Richard Crawford, a former employee of the Department of Agriculture, who was trying to defend his plans to infect six chimpanzees with BSE. At the start of the program Crawford put his foot in his mouth by referring to "chimpanzees and other monkeys." Chimpanzees are of course not monkeys — they are apes. Among those defending chimp use was P. J. Heidt of the Biomedical Primate Center in the Netherlands which owns over 100 chimpanzees.

At the end of the program a "jury" chosen from the audience voted 10-2 against the plans and for the chimpanzees. Janey told IPPL:

I was relieved when the jury announced their decision...I knew that animal experimentation was a very tough issue amongst the general public who often, on the one hand hate to see animals suffering, but, on the other, have been fed so much dis-information by the drug companies that they genuinely believe they have to be used if there is to be medical progress...I was proud to have been on the winning team!

Janey reports that it is not yet clear whether chimpanzees will be infected with BSE as government officials are being evasive and their letters are "full of ifs, buts and maybes!"

IPPL congratulates Janey Reynolds and her colleagues at PACE and Cyril Rosen of IPPL-UK on their hard work on the campaign to protect chimpanzees from cruel and potentially fatal BSE experiments.

IPPL HELPS UGANDA CHIMPANZEES

by Ellen Messner Rogers DVM

In the past few years, the International Primate Protection League has made several significant contributions to the health and welfare of the captive chimpanzees at the Uganda Wildlife Education Center. Most of this support has been in the form of grants to Tufts Veterinary School students working there in the summer.

This year, through the IPPL Small Grant Program, money was donated specifically to help procure medication essential to the veterinary treatment of the chimpanzees.

I first spent time at the Uganda Wildlife Education Center in 1994 when I established a parasitology laboratory for the Center, sponsored in part by IPPL. At that time, the Center was struggling to establish its independence from the Ugandan government and the number of confiscated chimpanzees threatened to overwhelm the Center financially and physically.

Since that time, a great many improvements have taken place there. Over ten chimps have been moved to an island

sanctuary and plans are in progress to acquire another island large enough for the rest of the chimps.

In addition, the entire Center is being renovated using a grant from USAID (isn't it nice to see our tax dollars being used for something positive?) The Center has hired a full time veterinarian/curator and has increased its Conservation Education Program.

In the summer of 1996, my trip to Uganda involved working for Tufts Veterinary School of the USA in conjunction with the veterinary school of Makerere University, Uganda. At the request of the Ugandan veterinarians, both at the school and at the Center, I brought over several veterinary drugs that are essential for working with wildlife, but difficult to obtain in Uganda.

Without the IPPL grant, I would not have been able to afford to purchase these drugs. And, as a result of providing the veterinarians in Uganda with these medications, the care of the chimps at the Uganda Wildlife Education Center has improved.

THE RUSSIAN SMUGGLING "CONNECTION"

On 9 March 1997 the London, England **Sunday Times** carried a story with the title "Rich Russians Fuel Black Market in Exotic Pets."

The article describes a shipment of parrots reaching Sheremetyevo Airport in Moscow, Russia, from Nigeria. Officials noticed "something odd about the shape of the box." Close inspection revealed a hidden compartment into which a baby chimpanzee had been stuffed. The animals had reportedly been "squashed, tied up and drugged with alcohol for the long journey from Africa."

The chimpanzee was confiscated and taken to a holding facility which also housed birds, reptiles and 16 survivors of 21 small monkeys (species not identified) recently confiscated on a flight from Equatorial Guinea.

Valery Orlov, a Russian official working to enforce the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, told the **Sunday Times**:

It's a very serious problem and getting worse. Newly rich Russians with money to spend want something more exotic than a cat to show off to their friends. They want parrots and crocodiles and they're ready to pay. [What we seize] is the tip of the iceberg.

Orlov identified other patrons of the black-market as circuses and street photographers.

WORLD

Brrrrrr ... even pets need help to keep warm



FF Was where used in Moscow, but this street photographer had nothing but warm clothes for his monkey called "Mama" last week. He was waiting for tourists to be excited to have their picture taken instantly with the animal. Meanwhile, in St. Petersburg, there's Russia, a woman, who's trying to keep her English bulldog warm too — with the clothes. — Better pictures.

Chilly monkey in Russia makes headlines

Confiscated animals are currently being sent to an animal holding center near Moscow Airport. The center is run for profit by a company called "The Zoo Association." IPPL is trying to learn more about this organization.

Wild animals including primates, often smuggled, are sold every weekend at Moscow's "Bird Market." According to the **Sunday Times**:

The police generally turn a blind eye.

PET MONKEY OWNER GOES TO COURT

In 1992 the US state of New Hampshire set up a requirement that a permit be obtained prior to bringing a monkey into the state. Permits would also be required to possess or exhibit monkeys. Monkeys held prior to 1992 could be kept by their "owners."

In September 1996 the state Fish and Game Department initiated action against Debra Green, a resident of Penacook, New Hampshire. Green was accused of illegally importing a capuchin monkey into the state to be kept as a personal pet, and of having no permits for the animal.

Green had purchased her monkey from a Florida dealer for \$3,500. She claimed the dealer assured her that New Hampshire law allowed the keeping of monkeys as pets.

Green might well have stayed out of trouble if she had not taken her pet to public places. Although the monkey named "Angel" was only one and a half years old, he had allegedly bitten five people, several of the victims being

children. In a court filing, Green's attorney claimed that Angel's teeth have been removed to prevent further bites.

In court papers, the state of New Hampshire requested permission "to take custody of the monkey and to remove it permanently from the state or otherwise to dispose of the monkey in a manner which will protect the public from further bites."

While the case is in court, Green agreed to a restraining order which would require her to keep "Angel" at home and to place him in a carrier when taking him off her premises.

According to the 19 November 1996 issue of the **Concord Monitor**, Green dressed her monkey in pink clothes and insists the animal is a "she," not a "he." Prior to the restraining order, Green took Angel almost everywhere with her, including into supermarkets and department stores like Sam's and Wal-Mart. After complaints from the public, Angel was banned from the stores.



USFWS ALLIES WITH BIG GAME HUNTERS!

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has always been dominated by hunting interests, even though only a small percentage of US nationals hunt animals for pleasure. A majority of USFWS personnel, including over 90% of those employed in law enforcement, kill animals for entertainment. Some agents hold hatred and contempt for animal protectionists.

In 1997 USFWS and the Safari Club, an international trophy hunting organization, signed an agreement to "collaborate on local and national projects that will benefit individual wildlife refuges and the refuge system."

USFWS Acting Director John Rogers stated:

I cannot overstate the importance of the linkage between America's hunting tradition and our conservation mission.

Hunting is allowed on many so-called US "national wildlife refuges."

In 1978 the Safari Club was involved in a national controversy when it applied to import to the United States sport-hunted trophies of some of the world's most endangered species. According to the 12 December 1978 issue of the US **Federal Register**:

Applicant: Safari Club International...The applicant requests a permit to import hunting trophies of the following wildlife: 25 argali, 40 bobcats, 20 black-footed cats, 10 tiger cats, 100 cheetahs, 15 black colobus monkeys, 5 red colobus monkeys, 10 Elds brow-antlered deer, 10 hog deer, 10 marsh deer, 10 musk deer, 10 pampas deer, 10 Persian fallow deer, 10 swamp deer, 15 Clark's gazelles, 25 Dorcas gazelles, 5 Rio de Oro Dama gazelles, 5 slender-horned Rhim gazelles, 5 gorillas, 15 Swayne's hartebeests, 5 Pyrenean ibex, 15 black faced impalas, 40 jaguars, 20 jaguarundis, 150 lechwes, 150 leopards, 5 clouded leopards, 10 snow leopards, 40 margays, 50 ocelots, 5 orangutans, 10 northern white rhinoceros, 10 seladangs, 10 shapos, 25 tigers, 50 urials, 100 mountain zebras, 50 African slender-snouted crocodiles, and 20 markhors.

The permit application was opened for public comment,

much of which was extremely negative. Either the application was withdrawn or it was rejected. In any case it was never issued.

In the intervening 19 years the Club has fortunately not filed a similar application. US sports hunters import many "trophy baboons." However they have not made any further efforts to import gorillas and orangutans. The Club's magazine reports regularly on its work to reopen the sport hunting business in countries such as the Congo Republic, Cameroon, and Gabon. Many members want to shoot elephants.

In the July/August 1996 issue of its magazine **Safari Times**, Ron Thompson describes his feelings when killing a trophy elephant.

BANG! The die is cast. The elephant throws its head and trunk up. The hunter ejects the empty cartridge case and forces another round into the breech. But it is the elephant's final salute. Its hindquarters collapse first, and it falls sideways to the ground. A perfect brain shot!

Then the shaking begins. Not from fear but from the release of it, not from excitement, but from the ending of tension. The smile on the hunter's face is painful. His exhilaration is complete...

Sadly those who are not hunters will never understand the feeling of accomplishment, of utter fulfillment, that comes with satisfying of one of the greatest of man's instincts.

Mr. Thompson is right: it is indeed hard for those who admire the beauty of wild animals to understand how killing can be so fulfilling.

According to a March 1997 PR Newswire, two Wisconsin, USA, hunters were recently convicted of shooting more than their bag limits for spectacled eider ducks, a threatened species. One of the shooters, Clifford Johnson, was described as a "prominent Safari Club International member and former Club Vice-President." The shooters had a daily bag limit of 15, but filmed themselves killing 67 ducks in one day on the remote Gambell Island of Western Alaska. Johnson was fined \$5,000 and banned from hunting for two years.

DEATH IN THE PHILIPPINES

In 1989 there was an outbreak of Ebola-like disease among crab-eating monkeys imported by Hazleton Research Primates to the United States from the Philippine animal dealing company Ferlite. The entire stock of monkeys at Reston was killed.

A description of the appalling killing scenes appeared in Richard Preston's best-selling book **The Hot Zone**.

Ebola is a disease that kills around 90% of infected humans. There have been outbreaks in Zaire, the Sudan, and Gabon, as well as an outbreak among the chimpanzees in the Tai Forest National Park in the Ivory Coast.

Although the Ebola-like monkey virus has not caused ill-

ness in humans exposed to it, its similarity to the human virus and the hysteria caused by the Hollywood movie "Outbreak" have caused what some view as an over-reaction.

The monkeys that started the 1989 Reston-Ebola outbreak turned out to have been supplied by a Philippine animal dealing company named Ferlite and every single monkey in the Ferlite compound (around 800) was killed.

Unfortunately the Philippine government allowed Ferlite to start up in the monkey business again, and the firm collected hundreds more monkeys from the wild. It had a permit to catch monkeys in the North Cotabato area on the island of Mindanao, but in 1996 was caught trapping in the Sultan

Kudarat area. Thirty monkeys were seized.

While the Philippine government restricted exporters to purportedly captive-born animals, Ferlite was bringing into its colony animals that could bring diseases from the wild or catch any illness affecting colony monkeys.

Hence it made little difference whether the exported monkeys were wild-caught or captive-bred since the colony was not closed. In 1996 a US Fish and Wildlife Service inspector contacted IPPL privately about his concern that wild-caught monkeys were reaching the United States on "captive-born" papers, and that his "superiors" knew about this and refused to take any action.

But the Ebola-like virus reappeared in the new Ferlite colony and in March 1996 several infected monkeys reached the Hazleton company's facility in Alice, Texas (the Reston facility had been closed down) as part of a shipment of 100 animals.

As a result of the 1996 incident, the Philippine government took action. In January 1997 every single one of the approximately 600 monkeys owned by Ferlite was killed and incinerated, despite the fact that not all the monkeys were infected with the virus and that the virus had harmed no human beings. Mothers, father, babies, adolescents, all were killed.

The government claimed that there was no quick realistic way to check if individual monkeys were infected with the virus, and kill only those animals, so it decided to kill every one.

Environment Director Antonio Principe proudly told the press:

We think we have eradicated the Ebola Reston virus in this facility.

After the 1989 killings, the Philippine Government allowed the Ferlite Company to collect hundreds more monkeys from the wild. Will it allow this animal dealer to start up a third time? Maybe—and this is something your letters can help prevent. Please send a courteous letter to the Director of the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau requesting that the Ferlite Company not be allowed to collect any more monkeys, and that the country considering protecting its monkeys instead of letting them be shipped overseas.

IPPL has already contacted Mr. Pollisco regarding this matter and he did not agree with our characterization of the killing of hundreds of monkeys as a "slaughter" stating that the animals "were euthanized in a very humane and dignified manner."

Address for letters:

*Mr. Wilfrido Pollisco
Director, Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Quezon Avenue, Diliman
Quezon City, Philippines*

RHINOS DIE ON WAY TO CHINESE ZOO

On 21 July 1996 two southern white rhinos being shipped by the San Diego Zoo, California, USA from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, to the Chengdu Zoo, China, died horrible deaths after prolonged mental and physical suffering. The story was successfully kept secret from July–December 1996 when the US weekly news magazine **Newsweek**, after receiving a tip-off, exposed the horror story to the world.

The unfortunate animals were sent as a gift from the San Diego Zoo to Chengdu Zoo. Chengdu Zoo has a large collection of pandas which many US zoos covet (they also cover many of China's rare primate species).

Instead of sending rhinos from its own collection to China, the zoo bought two surplus animals from the Pittsburgh Zoo. Unfortunately for the rhinos, neither zoo sent an escort to take care of the animals on their long journey.

On arrival at Shanghai Airport, the two rhinos were loaded on an open bed truck in 99 degree fahrenheit (37 degree centigrade) heat for the 1,650 trip from Shanghai to Chengdu.

After five days of truck travel, the animals died at Qinling, apparently from heat-stroke and dehydration. They were still two days away from their destination. Apparently Chengdu Airport is too small to accommodate Boeing 747s, the only planes with doors large enough to get the rhinos' cages through. Instead of going by plane, the rhinos were supposed to have travelled by rail, but their cages were too large for the rail cars. So they were shipped on an open truck, and they died.

According to the Associated Press:

Once dead, the shippers bought huge blocks of ice to preserve at least one of the two-ton carcasses...Until it can locate another rhino, she said, the zoo wants to stuff the dead rhino for display.

One reason for the "cover-up" may have been the 12 year loan of two pandas by China to San Diego Zoo. The pandas are a huge "hit" at the zoo and people have lined up to see them and purchase souvenirs.

Tom Hanscom, speaking for San Diego Zoo, told the press that the zoo had no legal obligation to report the incident because it happened at a zoo outside the United States. Many might argue that he had a moral obligation to disclose the truth. Hanscom denied that the zoo had hushed the scandal up for fear of upsetting its panda deal which many suspected.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service took no action against the zoo, claiming in an Internet post that the Chinese took possession of the rhinos at Shanghai, from which point on the San Diego Zoo was no longer legally responsible for them. Some zoos send staff members to accompany animals they ship, but this was not done in this case. The Chengdu Zoo is looking for replacement rhinos.

IPPL would be interested to learn what happened to the horns of the dead rhinos as many Chinese use rhino horn for traditional medicine purposes.

EGYPT'S APPALLING WILDLIFE MARKET

According to an article published in the July 1996 issue of the **Bulletin of the Chicago Herpetological Society**, monkeys are among the many wild animals sold at the "Sayyida Aisha" animal bazaar, despite Egypt having no wild monkeys. The article just came to IPPL's attention.

The author of the article, Omar Attun, states that:

Twice a week, people gather in Old Cairo under a huge citadel which dates back to the Twelfth Century...this bazaar of exotic and domestic animals is the center of attention for bargain seeking animal buyers. It is located in a seedy unhygienic quarter, unacceptable even by the standards of alley cats. Most of the vendors live in this squalid environment along with their unfortunate living merchandise.

A wide variety of animals is offered at the bazaar. Reptiles, amphibians, arachnids, birds (including birds of prey), primates, small mammals such as hedgehogs and foxes, tropical fish and live fish food are offered along with cats, dogs and assorted pet supplies. Virtually any species of animal native to Egypt can be bought here: a variety of other African species of birds and monkeys are also found for sale. There are no restrictions based on protected status of the animal in question: money talks.

Most of the reptiles were bound for overseas destinations as reptile keeping is not a popular hobby in Egypt.

Sayyida Aisha is merely a way station for these unfortunate creatures, and the final stop for many.

Attun comments that the market is patronized by agents of companies that export wildlife to "animal wholesalers in Europe and the United States." He blames this trade for the

virtual extinction of the Egyptian tortoise which was added to Appendix I (the most endangered classification) of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in 1994.

Attun summed up:

Those who have read this article and do not judge my observations invalid or exaggerated cannot ignore their part in perpetuating the misery at Sayyida Aisha if they have ever purchased "Egyptian" herps [reptiles].

On 8 December 1996 a British newspaper **The Express Sunday** announced the findings of its undercover investigation into the role of Egypt in the international wildlife trade. A dealer named Kehan Alomani was offering elephant tusks for sale. Alomani bragged that he could get anything the "buyers" wanted:

I can get any animal in the world no matter how rare it is—gorillas, crocodiles, monkeys, snakes, tortoises—and bring it through Egypt into Britain.

The **Express** investigators, posing as buyers, met animal dealer Amr Saad who trades wildlife under the name "Nile Scientific Association." According to the **Express**, the company is a "front for a highly illegal trade in rare creatures and animal products." The dealer had rare Dama gazelles on his roof-top. He told the "buyers."

I put one in every shipment of legal gazelles I send. That way Customs don't spot it. I pay officials of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture to get me permits and to ignore what I do.

The **Express** also found rare animals and animal products for sale at the Khan El Khalili souk and Sayyida Aisha.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1) Please send a courteous letter to the Ambassador of Egypt in the capital city of your country of residence telling him of your concern about Egypt's role in the international smuggling of wildlife and the appalling conditions at Egypt's wildlife markets, including Sayyida Aisha and the Khan El Khalili souk, both in Cairo.

Addresses:

*His Excellency the Ambassador of Egypt
Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt
2310 Decatur Place NW
Washington DC 20008 USA*

*His Excellency the Ambassador of Egypt
Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt
26 South Street
London W1Y6DD, England*

2) If you are travelling in Cairo, please try to observe the Sayyida Aisha, the Khan El Khalili souk, and any other market or zoo you see, and report back to IPPL on the species of wildlife you see, and the conditions under which the animals are kept. If possible please take photographs or video and keep a careful log of location, date, time, etc.

IPPL ADVISOR WINS AWARD

Evelyn Gallardo of Manhattan Beach, California, USA has decided that one of the best ways she can help protect primates is by educating the next generation. Evelyn writes books and gives educational programs in schools. She has worked with IPPL since 1988.

Her book "Among the Orangutans" was published by Chronicle Books and received critical praise.

In March 1997 the Color Me Bright Foundation announced that it had selected Evelyn as winner of its 1997 North Star award. The Foundation is headquartered in Los Angeles and describes itself as "a small group of women in the entertainment industry who believe in their motto "You only get to grow up once."

Among the foundation's honorary committee are athletes such as basketball stars Shaquille O'Neal and "Magic" Johnson, actors Ted Danson and Henry Winkler, singer Linda Ronstadt, and politicians including the Mayor of Los Angeles and US Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein.

In its announcement, the foundation told Evelyn:

This honor is given to a children's book author whose outstanding works and contributions to children both in service and as a positive role model make him or her worthy of recognition.

Congratulations to Evelyn from everyone at IPPL!



Evelyn Gallardo

FLORIDA THREAT TO BABY APES

The Florida Game and Fresh Water Commission (FGFWC) is the state agency charged with the protection of the 1,500 species of fish and wildlife found in the US state of Florida.

FGFWC's duties include regulating hunting, managing wildlife areas, issuing fishing and hunting licenses, and enforcing the Florida Wildlife Code.

The Commission oversees the regulations regarding captive wildlife held on a commercial and private basis. Florida is a major center for the importation, breeding and redistribution of live animals into the pet trade, including primates. Several Florida animal dealers have been convicted of serious crimes.

Florida regulations governing the keeping of captive wildlife divide regulated animals into three classes: **Class 1** (banned as pets), **Class 2** (allowed as pets with a \$25 annual permit fee) and **Class 3** (free permits granted). There are also regulations related to cage size and strength.

Currently the regulations are being rewritten. The Commission selected a 10-member "Captive Wildlife Committee" to handle the task. Its members included animal dealers, hobbyists and a circus lawyer. When submitting its draft proposals, the committee admitted that its proposals "provide significant advantages to those in the industry who are seeking relief from certain constraints and limitations on the exhibition and sale of wildlife."

Yvonne Finser, a licensed animal dealer who operates a company called "Finsers Exotics" served on the committee. Finser breeds several species of monkeys for the pet trade, and owns some gibbons and siamangs. There was nobody on the committee to balance Finser's perspective.

The committee met several times over a 3 year period. Unfortunately few people outside "user circles" knew of its existence. An entertainer brought a baby chimpanzee to one

meeting. A baby orangutan was reportedly taken to another.

Orangutans, gorillas, chimpanzees, gibbons and siamangs are currently listed as Class 1 wildlife which "because of its nature, habits, or status, shall not be possessed as a personal pet". Class 1 primates can be kept for commercial and exhibition purposes by persons holding a Class 1 permit.

To get a Class 1 permit, an applicant must document 1,000 hours of substantial practical experience in the care, feeding, handling, and husbandry of the species for which the permit is being sought. Touching and handling of Class 1 primates are presently limited to Class 1 permit holders. Some permit holders want this restriction lifted.

In a memo to 4,000 captive wildlife permit holders dated September 16, 1996 Colonel Robert Edwards of the Fish and Game Commission candidly stated:

The intent of the proposals is to maximize the health and welfare of captive wildlife, while at the same time providing permittees with greater flexibility for management of their animals.

The proposed changes would allow for "full public contact" (defined as "holding by the public") with chimpanzees, orangutans and gorillas weighing less than 25 pounds and "incidental contact" ("touching by the public") for apes under 40 pounds — **things previously not allowed.**

This means, for example, that baby chimpanzees or orangutans could be taken to shopping malls by their owners, who could invite the public to pay to have a photo taken holding a baby primate, a cruel form of exploitation.

This proposal was an obvious capitulation to a very few people wanting to make money off baby apes. The apes would be exposed to psychological stress and a variety of human dis-

eases. Worse, allowing such use would encourage the cruel practice of "pulling" baby apes from their mothers, who normally take wonderful care of their babies.

The Committee proposed downgrading gibbons and siamangs (endangered species) to Class 2, thus allowing them to be sold as pets. Despite the fact that they are extremely dangerous, baboons and macaques are to remain listed on Class 2. Even more shocking is that the highly dangerous capuchin monkeys are to remain on Class 3. A seven-pound pet capuchin recently made a savage unpredictable attack on his owner in Texas and almost killed her (see following story).

Letters opposing any public contact with chimpanzees and orangutans were sent to the Committee by Drs. Jane Goodall, Birute Galdikas, Carole Noon, Roger Fouts, and Shirley McGreal. All pointed out the health threats to both the public and the infant primates.

Jane commented:

There would certainly be no benefit to the young animals in being handled by people. It would simply be a crowd-gatherer for the individual or organization exhibiting these young animals. It seems to me this policy will create a market for ever more great ape babies to be produced whose "useful" life would only last until they were 40 pounds in weight, and what would happen to them then?

Sheila Siddle, Director of the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in Zambia, which is home to over 60 chimpanzees, wrote about Chimfunshi's experience with full public contact, which is no longer allowed. Sheila told the committee:

It breaks my heart to think that the chimpanzees at Chimfunshi have been literally ripped from their mothers' bodies and that they will lack forever the single most important relationship of their lives — the mother-infant bond. To remove babies from their mothers on

purpose, for whatever reason, is to behave much like the poachers who create the orphans here. I suspect the motives for each are the same — profit.

Leonie Vejajiva of the Wild Animal Rescue Foundation of Thailand wrote a letter outlining her concern over downgrading gibbons to pet status, emphasizing the emotional harm to the gibbons, the dangers to the public, and the problems that gibbons' loud calls, which carry over a mile, could create in residential neighborhoods. Leonie commented:

One has to really love gibbons to bear the sound of their vocalizing day after day. The sound can carry for more than a mile and neighbors are not always sympathetic.

In addition the Committee received many letters from primatologists and concerned organizations and individuals.

The Captive Wildlife Committee met on January 9, 1997 and one more meeting has since taken place. It looks like the proposals allowing "full" and "incidental" contact with baby chimpanzees, orangutans and gorillas will go forward.

Gibbons and siamangs may remain on Class 1 but, according to the minutes of the committee meeting:

We added gibbons and siamangs [for full contact] because the Committee determined we did not have sufficient public support to move them to class 2.

A proposal to limit "photographic sessions with the public or other exhibit situations" to four out of eight hours is likely to be dropped because of its being too difficult to enforce. IPPL does not have current information on the status of a proposal to substitute 100 hours of experience and passing a written test for the 1,000 hour requirement.

The proposed changes (they are apparently not final yet) will be presented by the committee to the five Florida Fish and Game Commissioners who will decide on the final regulations.

LETTERS NEEDED!

Please write letters expressing your strong opposition to public handling of baby apes, the proposal to place gibbons and siamangs on Class 2 (pet status), and to the use of any primates as pets, to:

*The Commissioners
The Florida Game and Fresh Water Commission
620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600, USA*

*Governor Lawton Chiles
Executive Office of the Governor
The Capitol
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THE TEXAS MONKEY "SLASHER"

On 25 November 1996 a Texas woman was savagely attacked by Scooter, her pet 5 year old, 7-pound weeper capuchin — she was transferring the monkey to his outdoor enclosure when he escaped her grasp and jumped on her, slicing her leg in 5–6 places. When his owner tried to grab him he bit into her hand, severing her thumb and partially severing the index finger of her left hand. Then he leapt on her back and started biting. The woman finally escaped. She was pouring with blood but was able to phone a friend before passing out. When her friends arrived, "there was blood everywhere from one end of the house to the other — Judy looked like a slasher's victim." It took five hours of surgery to repair the severed tendons, nerves and bone.

Writing in the March 1997 issue of the Simian magazine, Vicki Shoemaker commented:

Had Scooter sliced her neck, wrist or other vital areas, she could never have saved herself in time...she might have bled to death...when these enraged monkeys attack they hang on with arms, legs, tails while they literally "rip" at any part of the body they can reach...There is almost no escape. The small size is so deceiving of the strength of the monkey.

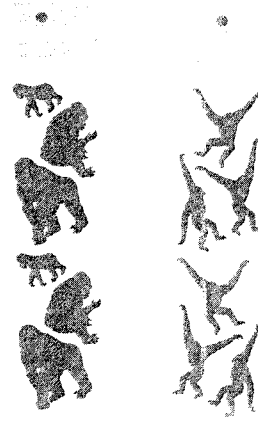
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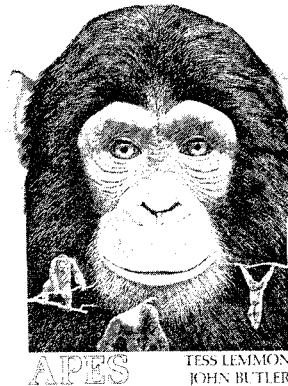
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