



News

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Monkeys at rural holding center in Lebong, Sumatra, Indonesia

Courtesy: BUAV

INSIDE

AIR FRANCE AND THE BABY MONKEYS

RICHARD LEAKEY SPEAKS ON THE WILDLIFE TRADE

A LETTER FROM SHIRLEY MCGREAL

August 1997

Dear IPPL Member:

From 9–20 June 1997 I attended the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) held in Harare, Zimbabwe. It was my 9th CITES conference. I have attended every one since 1979. Also representing IPPL were former Limbe Sanctuary volunteer Kay Farmer (sponsored by IPPL-UK) and Ilse Mwanza from neighboring Zambia.

IPPL forms part of the Species Survival Network (SSN). SSN is a “link organization” of groups working to ensure that CITES provides meaningful protection to the world’s disappearing wildlife and that it is strictly enforced. SSN groups help each other out on issues. At this meeting the big issues were the proposed re-opening of a limited ivory trade, proposals to allow trading in some whale species, and even to trade rhino horn despite there being just over 10,000 rhinos left worldwide.

Other proposals related to the definition of the word “commercial” and regulating travelling circuses. A US resolution calling for all wildlife shipments to be inspected passed in a strengthened form. Over one hundred issues were discussed.

The conference started on a sour note when President Mugabe of Zimbabwe told attendees that animals had to “pay their way” in the world by being traded — live or dead. This attitude prevailed during the entire conference. Pro-trade lobbyists, many extremely arrogant, swarmed all over the place, far outnumbering the representatives of animal protection organizations.

Countries formed blocks to vote on proposals. Almost all the Caribbean Islands delegates acted like puppets of Japan, making speeches supporting the whale and ivory trade (Japan was to get all the ivory proposed for export). Sadly the ivory proposals went through, slightly amended, with the European Community (EEC) assuring their success by abstaining in block, which meant that the proposals got the needed 2/3 of the votes cast.

Unfortunately EEC countries have to abstain if three or more nations don’t agree on an issue. Greece had a former fur trade lobbyist as a delegate, and is known to have supported the ivory trade.

There were many secret ballots. Proponents claimed these would prevent governments being bullied by animal protection NGOs! In fact secret ballots meant that delegates could defy their own government’s orders, and flout world public opinion with impunity. Secret ballots facilitate corruption at a time when people around the world are demanding “transparency” in international organizations.

Fortunately, while getting over half the votes, proposals from South Africa to export rhino horn and by Norway to strip Minke whales of Appendix I protection and de-link CITES from the International Whaling Commission failed because 2/3 of the votes cast are needed to pass major proposals. The US delegation, led by Don Barry, publicly announced how it had voted on the secret ballots, and why.

Sadly the ordinary people of the world can do little to protect wildlife from often-corrupt governments and powerful wildlife dealing corporations. Freedom House in New York annually ranks the world’s countries into three categories “Not Free,” “Partly Free” and “Free.” Currently, 53 countries, including Nigeria and Indonesia, have “Not Free” ratings. Another 62 are “partly free” and 76 are considered “free.”

In many countries conservation groups are not allowed to exist at all, or only to exist as government “puppets.” They can be tightly controlled or harassed. In extreme cases like Nigeria, conservationists are murdered or executed. Some of the greedy leaders of dictatorships are ready to sell off all their country’s forests and wildlife so that they can amass millions of dollars in foreign banks — and to kill or harass whoever stands in their way, be they intellectuals, honest government officials, ordinary citizens, or tribal peoples.

Essentially this leaves the animals in much of the world without any voice except that of the animal protection NGOs. Many of these NGOs were harassed and threatened at CITES ’97.

Kay, Ilse and I were very proud that IPPL was there to stand up for the animals in Harare!

Shirley McGreal

IPPL INVESTIGATES CRUEL MONKEY DEALINGS

BABY MONKEYS REACH UNITED STATES

Once again the International Primate Protection League has exposed unsavory dealings in macaque monkeys. Many of these monkeys are unlucky enough to live in countries which are happy for them to be sent to suffer in overseas laboratories.

US regulations ban import of baby monkeys except in rare cases where urgent medical treatment is required. Yet IPPL has learned that at least two shipments including baby monkeys reached Chicago, Illinois, in April and May 1997 — and that they were cleared by US Fish and Wildlife inspectors based at O'Hare Airport, Chicago.

Shipping of baby monkeys appears to be in violation of 50 CFR Sec. 14.105 Title 50 Ch. 1, Subchapter B, Part 14, Subpart J. This regulation, which implements the Lacey Act, a US wildlife law, states that:

A nursing mother with young, an unweaned mammal unaccompanied by its mother... shall be transported only if the primary purpose is for needed medical treatment and upon certification by the examining veterinarian that the treatment is necessary and the animal is able to withstand the normal rigors of transport. Such an unweaned mammal... shall not be transported to the United States for medical treatment unless it is accompanied at all times and completely accessible to a veterinary attendant.

IPPL gets tip-off about baby monkeys

In late May 1997 IPPL received a tip-off that a large shipment of crab-eating macaques from Indonesia had just passed through Charles de Gaulle Airport, Paris, and that the shipment included a large number of baby monkeys. We also learned that one mother monkey had been found dead in her crate at Paris and that her clinging baby had been killed. The person who contacted us was totally appalled at seeing the terrified babies.

The monkey shipment had originated from a company called Inquatex in Indonesia.

IPPL's FOIA

In order to learn more about what was going on IPPL submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for documents pertaining to all shipments of nonhuman primates reaching the United States from Indonesia in 1997. We received a package of documents but it did not include any documents for the May 1997 shipment. However we have filed a follow-up request for these documents.

Among the documents received by IPPL were several pertaining to a shipment of 253 monkeys that reached O'Hare Airport, Chicago, on 10 April 1997. This shipment included 20 babies and 17 pregnant monkeys (see relevant section of the shipping list, top right).

The babies were shipped in crates with their mothers. Some of the babies were just four weeks old. These baby monkeys were far too young to be shipped internationally. In turbu-

TATTO	BABY (B)	WEIGHT	WEIGHT	AGE
	PREGNANT (P)	I	II	(YEAR)
522/I-7494	B = 03/07/97	3.09	2.91	9
562/I-7510	B = 01/13/97	2.46	2.40	9
560/I-7509	B = 03/04/97	3.40	3.20	14
567/I-7502	B = 01/13/97	3.84	3.63	13
590/I-7610	B = 02/14/97	3.50	3.40	14
359/I-5407	B = 01/24/97	2.56	2.48	7
357/I-6313	B = 02/24/97	3.59	3.55	9
366/I-6557	B = 01/03/97	2.56	3.34	7
479/I-6992	B = 01/05/97	2.57	2.55	8
199/I-4836	B = 01/25/97	3.54	3.25	8
198/I-4830	B = 01/08/97	3.59	3.30	9
200/I-4839	B = 02/13/97	3.49	3.36	14
095/I-3925	B = 02/18/97	3.64	3.48	9
140/I-4132	B = 02/19/97	4.48	4.27	8
317/I-6123	B = 01/06/97	3.28	3.19	13
314/I-6643	B = 01/07/97	3.34	3.22	10
462/I-6711	B = 02/15/97	3.62	3.59	10
472/I-7455	B = 02/03/97	3.07	3.01	15
469/I-7438	B = 01/02/97	3.03	3.17	12
456/I-7190	B = 01/08/97	2.70	2.57	10
518/I-7479	P = 1 - 2 M	2.57	2.47	8
079/I-4065	P = 2 - 3 M	3.79	3.74	9
120/I-4582	P = 1 - 2 M	3.36	3.20	11
315/I-6645	P = 1 - 2 M	2.76	2.77	12
305/I-5910	P = 2 M	3.75	2.66	10
046/I-3517	P = 1 M	2.67	2.55	10
316/I-6091	P = 1 - 2 M	2.83	2.72	10
455/I-5454	P = 1 - 2 M	2.52	2.60	15
463/I-7377	P = 1 - 2 M	2.94	2.79	12
453/I-7383	P = 1 M	2.74	2.56	13
277/I-5440	P = 1 M	4.06	3.94	12
116/I-3212	P = 2 - 3 M	3.10	2.91	9
103/I-5810	P = 2 - 3 M	3.90	3.94	9
208/I-4843	P = 2 - 3 M	4.77	4.57	9
205/I-3484	P = 2 - 3 M	4.52	4.46	9
145/I-4354	P = 2 - 3 M	3.30	2.87	8
161/I-4682	P = 1 - 2 M	2.27	2.54	8
I-6510	-	6.03	5.97	12
I-6544	-	3.92	3.77	9
I-6504	-	5.40	5.27	10

Shipping list included baby and pregnant monkeys

lence they could be severely injured or even accidentally killed by their mothers.

The monkeys' trip involved travel from Jakarta, Indonesia, to Paris (a 17 hour flight excluding ground time) and then from Paris to Chicago (9 hours flying time). From Chicago the monkeys, who had already been in transit for 3 days, were trucked to Yemassee, South Carolina, which is over 900 miles (1450 kilometers) away from Chicago.

This further long trip (probably at least 20 hours with stops) would have been another gruelling ordeal for the monkeys already crated for over three days, including the 2-day Paris delay.

Chicago Inspector Clears April Shipment

US Fish and Wildlife Service inspectors are stationed at official ports of entry to the United States. Their job is to inspect incoming shipments of wildlife and to verify that the paperwork is in order. Inspectors should be, but sadly are not always, on the front lines in the war against wildlife crime. They are supposed to identify possible law violations and report them for investigation and possible prosecution. But the April shipment was cleared, as was the May shipment, despite the obvious presence of babies.

According to the 3-177 import form, the April shipment was inspected at Chicago. The inspection block on the 3-177 form (opposite) claimed that "100% of wildlife [was] inspected." It is hard to believe that the inspector could have inspected the shipment and not noticed the 20 babies. Crab-eating macaque babies 4-12 weeks old are tiny creatures and could not be mistaken for adults.

At IPPL's request, Debbie Leahy of Illinois Animal Action phoned the wildlife inspector. He told her that he had never seen the shipment and had no idea it included babies. It is not clear why he wrote that 100% of the wildlife was inspected.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) inspects incoming primate shipments but NOT for compliance with wildlife laws. CDC makes very clear that it has no concern whatsoever about wildlife laws. Its sole purpose is to make sure imported monkeys are not carrying diseases like Ebola which could make humans sick.

USFWS Form 3-177 (revised 11/80)
Form Approved O.M.S. No. 1918-0012
Approval Expires 9/3/98

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
AIRSPED MESSENGER
7-2553
8:50PM
#6650

7453325

Name of Carrier: *Air France*
Airway Bill or Bill of Lading No.: *057-9448 6534*
Imported or Exported Via:
☒ air cargo ☐ ocean cargo ☐ truck
☐ rail ☐ mail ☐ personal baggage
☐ automobile. License no. _____
state _____
Location where wildlife is available for inspection:
Air France
Package or Bale Marks and Nos.:
42 CAGES

Indicate One:
☒ Import ☐ Export
Port of: *CHICAGO 3901*
Date: *4-10-97*
☒ Commercial ☐ Non-commercial
Customs Identification No.:
112-9962334-5

Foreign Consignor or Consignee:
CV INQUATEX Primate Division P.O. Box 4142 Jakarta INDONESIA
Customs Broker or Agent:
TOWERS GROUP INC. Shipping Agent or Freight Forwarder: _____

Furnish All Information Below (Invoices or lists providing required information may be attached)

QUANTITY	SCIENTIFIC NAME Genus Species	COMMON NAME	DESCRIPTION If live, so state. If product, describe.	DOMESTIC VALUE	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
253	MACACA FASCICULARIS	CRABEATING MONKEY	LIVE MONKEYS	165430	INDONESIA

U.S. License and/or Permit Nos.: *777809* Foreign License and/or Permit No.: _____
I certify the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. *[Signature]* *4-10-97*

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
N I T
C L E A R E D
Signature: _____ badge no. _____ date *4-10-97*

Inspector's Initials: *[Signature]*

SEE REVERSE OF THIS FORM FOR INSTRUCTIONS AND PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

CERTIFICAT SANITAIRE

Je, soussigné, Docteur-Vétérinaire Abdul Jabbar,

Certifie avoir examiné ce jour 253 Cynomolgus (*Macaca fascicularis*).

Ces animaux sont nés en captivité à l'Élevage INQUATEX, Jakarta (Indonésie).

Ces animaux sont en bon état physique général et ne présentent aucun signe clinique de maladie, tuberculose et Ebola inclus.

Ils ont été maintenus pendant huit jours ou moins avant l'embarquement sous surveillance vétérinaire.

Permis export no 01831/VI/PA-5/SIE/1997.

Vétérinaire praticien

NOM : Abdul Jabbar, DVM.

SIGNATURE : *[Signature]*

DATE : April 08, 1997

HEALTH CERTIFICATE

I, undersigned, Abdul Jabbar, DVM.

Certifies to have examined this day the 253 Cynomolgus (*Macaca fascicularis*) Captive bred born at INQUATEX, facilities (Jakarta/Indonesia).

These animals are healthy and do not show any clinical sign of disease, tuberculosis and Ebola included.

They have been kept under veterinary supervision for the 8 days prior to the shipping date.

Export permit no. 01831/VI/PA-5/SIE/1997.

Veterinarian

Name : Abdul Jabbar, DVM.

Date : April 08, 1997

Signature : *[Signature]*

Health certificate for 253 monkeys

Import declaration for 253 monkeys

Even if he never saw the monkeys and the 100% inspection claim was an inadvertent error, the inspector was supposed to have studied the documents accompanying the shipment. As seen in the table, these documents clearly list all the animals in the shipment, including the 20 babies.

As you can see, each baby is listed individually, along with his or her birthday. It seems that either the inspector didn't bother to look at this document, looked and didn't take any action, or was ignorant of the regulation he was supposed to enforce.

The only exception didn't apply

The one circumstance in which any baby animal can be shipped to the United States from overseas is for urgently needed medical care in which case the animal(s) must be accompanied, and accessible to veterinary care at all times.

However, this exception did not apply. The Indonesian veterinarian who did a pre-departure check of the animals signed a health certificate on 8 April in which he stated:

These animals are healthy and do not show any clinical signs of disease, tuberculosis and Ebola included.

The health certificate is reproduced opposite.

If the April shipment had been detected

If the inspector had refused to clear the 10 April shipment, or had at the very least warned Air France and the importer

not to import any more baby monkeys, the May shipment might never have taken place. In this case the mother monkey would not have died and her baby would not have been killed.

Thus the failure of the US Wildlife inspection program and the carelessness of Air France led directly to suffering and unnecessary loss of monkey life.

Air France Embargoes monkey shipments

Following the May 1997 shipment, Air France embargoed all shipments of monkeys from Indonesia. Air France is one of the few airlines which carry research monkeys. IPPL has learned that Air France is under heavy pressure to resume shipments.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations do not ban shipment of pregnant or baby monkeys, but they recommend against it. The regulations state:

It is recommended as a general rule that pregnant females must not be carried. In the event that pregnant females are carried they must be placed in individual compartments or in individual containers... It is not recommended to carry females with suckling young because some females sensing danger may cause harm to their young.

It is not clear why Air France ground staff in Indonesia accepted the April and May shipments. Unfortunately the IATA rules are not prohibitions. Shipment of pregnant animals should be banned. Unattended pregnant monkeys could suffer stress or turbulence-related miscarriages in the holds of aircraft with nobody to help them. The monkeys could bleed to death with nobody knowing or caring.

It is also obvious that the stress on monkey mothers trying to care for their new babies while exposed to the heat and humidity of a tropical airport, the noise level in an aircraft, and the tossing around in turbulence, would be severe. It is bad enough for humans to travel with babies — and humans are not jammed in shipping crates!

Air France statement

In a 4 June 1997 statement to the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, Bernard McCoy of Air France confirmed the details provided to IPPL:

We confirm that among a shipment of primates between Indonesia and the US at the end of May, an adult female died... the dead primate has been sent for an autopsy in Paris... the female had a suckling infant and consequently it was decided that this young primate should be put down by euthanasia by a veterinary surgeon.

IPPL is concerned that any veterinarian would participate in such a killing as there are undoubtedly sanctuaries in Europe which would have been pleased to raise the orphaned primate. Veterinarians are supposed to preserve animal life, not destroy it.

McCoy continued:

The shipment onwards to the US was delayed a couple

of days due to a technical problem with the regular cargo aircraft. During this time the consignment was sent to the airport animal center at Paris CDG where the primates received excellent professional care throughout.



Baby macaque

McCoy stated:

As a result of this incident, Air France has declared an embargo, until further notice, for all such shipments from Indonesia, as the shipper contravened not only Air France policy prohibiting the transport of baby primates, but also IATA [International Air Transport Association] regulations.

However, Air France ground staff in Jakarta did accept the April shipment and later the May shipment. The embargo only happened when members of the public protested. IPPL has also learned that the crates were not properly constructed and that several monkeys escaped in Paris.

IPPL has learned from an Indonesian animal trader that the Indonesian shipper, Inquatex, may be exporting its entire colony of around 1,500 animals to the United States. Around 700 monkeys have already been shipped. It is not clear whether the company is leaving the monkey business and, if so, whether it will be transferred to another owner and restocked.

Wild-caught or captive-born?

The list of animals shipped in April 1997 includes animals 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 years old. All 253 animals were declared by the inspecting veterinarian and Indonesian

officials to have been born in captivity. However a trade source informed IPPL that there are now large captive breeding colonies of monkeys in Indonesia, but that most only started large-scale breeding of monkeys around the late 1980s, so he felt it unlikely that all the 253 monkeys were captive-born.

In August 1992 a shipment of 110 monkeys reached Miami on Lufthansa Airlines from the Inquatex firm. All the monkeys were dead on arrival. IPPL has the tattoo numbers for just the few animals that were autopsied. All these animals were of wild-caught origin, according to the Indo-

nesian export certificate, apart from 20 infant monkeys in the shipment.

One dead animal shipped as wild-caught in August 1992 bore the tattoo number 6020. The April 1997 shipment of captive-born animals included Monkeys 6009, 6017, and 6025.

Another dead animal shipped as wild-caught in 1992 bore the tattoo number 5294. The April 1997 shipment listed as captive-bred Monkeys No. 5204, 5253 and 5336.

Without detailed knowledge of the tattoo number codes, and many more tattoo numbers to compare, it is hard to draw any definitive conclusions.

YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED

IPPL is concerned at the continuing failure of US Fish and Wildlife inspectors to inspect all incoming wildlife shipments. Without actually looking at the animals, there is no way for an inspector to know what is actually inside a crate, or whether a shipment complies with humane shipment regulations. IPPL is concerned that two shipments from Indonesia containing baby monkeys were cleared at Chicago despite the US regulation protecting babies from shipment. Please help the monkeys who cannot help themselves by writing letters on their behalf. **PLEASE HELP!**

1) Please send a courteous letter to:

Ms Jamie Rappaport Clark
Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Washington DC 20240, USA

Please ask Ms Clark to order the Division of Law Enforcement to investigate why two shipments including baby monkeys that reached Chicago in April and May 1997 in clear violation of 50 CFR, Sec. 14.105 were cleared by USFWS, and to ensure that action is taken against any party found responsible for baby monkeys being shipped. Request also that the role of the Chicago inspector who cleared the 10 April shipment of 253 monkeys be investigated.

2) Please send a letter to the President of Air France (60 cents postage for a half-ounce, \$1 for an ounce) requesting the airline to stop carrying monkey shipments, especially shipments including baby and pregnant monkeys. Please ask that the embargo on monkey shipments from Indonesia be made permanent, and that Air France consider joining other airlines which do not carry monkeys at all.

M. Christian Blanc, Chairman, Air France
45 Rue de Paris
95747 Roissy CDG — Cedex
France

3) Please ask the Ambassador of Indonesia in the capital city of your country of residence (letters will usually arrive even if you don't know the street address) to request his government to investigate why baby and pregnant monkeys were included in recent shipments of monkeys from Indonesia to the United States, in violation of US law and the International Air Transport Association rules. Request that Indonesia ban export of pregnant and baby monkeys. Request also that wildlife authorities enforce strictly Indonesia's ban on export of wild-caught monkeys.

His Excellency Ambassador Arifin Mohamad Siregar
Embassy of Indonesia
2020 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington DC 20036, USA

His Excellency the Ambassador of Indonesia
38 Grosvenor Square
London W1X 9AD, England

4) **LAST BUT NOT LEAST!** Please send a letter to your Representative (*House Office Building, Washington DC 20515*) and your two senators (*Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510*), telling them that you know about two shipments of monkeys from Indonesia that reached the United States in April and May of 1997. Tell them that both shipments included baby monkeys, which is a violation of US law. Note that the April 1997 shipment which included 20 monkeys was cleared by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Note that the Chicago wildlife inspector claimed on the import form that 100% of the shipment was inspected. If this was true, the inspector would have seen the baby monkeys and should have confiscated the shipment. Request your representatives to ask the US Fish and Wildlife Service to investigate these shipments and take strong action against anyone found to have violated the law.

A VISIT TO CHIMFUNSHI

by Shirley McGreal

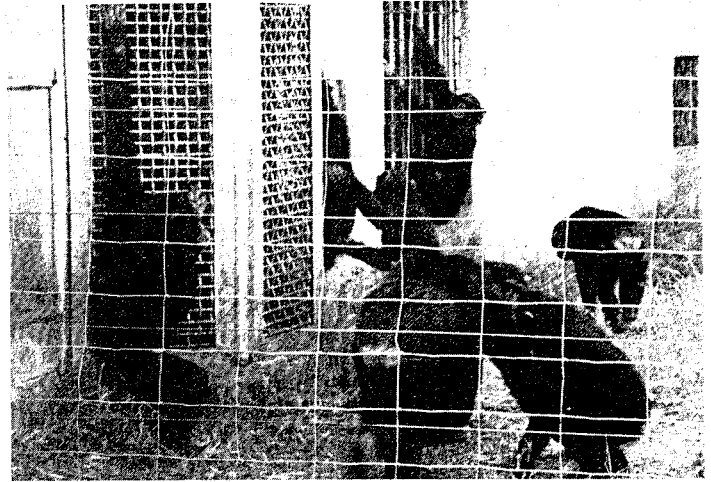
Following the depressing CITES meeting, Ilse Mwanza drove Kay Farmer and me from Harare, Zimbabwe to Lusaka, the capital of Zambia. It was a lovely drive we passed through elephant country (seeing just one elephant) and crossed the famous Kariba Dam. We stayed for a night in Lusaka with Ilse and her husband Jacob.

Next morning Ilse, Kay and I left in Ilse's magnificent van for Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in northern Zambia. IPPL member Renate Winch, a former resident of Lusaka, where she had been a Chimfunshi volunteer, came along too. It was a 6-hour drive.

Chimfunshi is run by Dave and Sheila Siddle on their huge property outside the town of Chingola in Zambia's Copperbelt. Chimfunshi is home to around 60 chimpanzees. The animals come from varying backgrounds. Many are confiscated from smugglers who have brought them across the Zairian border.

Some come from much farther away. Masya was kept as a pet with a private owner in Haiti. She left for Zambia just before sanctions temporarily isolated the island. Two more chimpanzees had been stranded in New Guinea when a travelling circus folded. Another two were confiscated from the Egyptian Akef circus, when the circus owner could show no legal CITES documents to Zambian authorities.

There are two large chimpanzee enclosures and several smaller ones. In one enclosure a group of chimpanzees live on several acres behind what locals call "The Great Wall of



Group of chimps waiting for dinner

Zambia," a huge concrete block wall ten feet high. Another huge enclosure is surrounded by electric fencing. More large enclosures are planned. Work is under way on enclosing over 1,000 acres.

Two groups of young chimpanzees still needing human attention live alongside the Siddles' house. They are taken out for daily bush walks by African staff and the Siddle's daughter Lorraine.

The sanctuary also houses baboons and vervet monkeys who are being prepared for release on the ranch. There is also a resident hand-raised hippo named "Billy," who is now fully grown.

While we were there, a group of "eco-tourists" were visiting. To my surprise, these visitors included IPPL member Elaine Broadhead. Elaine has visited IPPL Headquarters and loves adventure travel. She had a wonderful time going on walks with the young chimpanzees.

Being at Chimfunshi and enjoying the Siddles' delightful company (and of course the chimpanzees' company) was an absolute delight after the ordeal of CITES-Harare. Thank you, Dave and Sheila, for such a wonderful experience!



From left, Shirley McGreal, Sheila Siddle, Renate Winch, Dave Siddle, Lorraine Forbes, Kay Farmer: front, Ilse Mwanza with Sam

THE SHAMEFUL DEMISE OF AKEF

by Ilse Mwanza

Ilse Mwanza followed the activities of the Egyptian Akef Circus for several years and reports on how it went out of business, cruelly abandoning its employees and animals in Mozambique.

We last heard of Akef, the animal smuggler who went around Eastern and Southern Africa under the guise of a travelling Egyptian circus, when he was in Zimbabwe. The activities of his "circus" made world headlines when an elderly woman, an SPCA volunteer, was beaten up by Akef's family while trying to rescue sick snakes. She got a black eye.

Akef had traveled in this region from 1990 onwards, starting in Eritrea, moving on to Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda (where he got thrown out and had 4 chimps confiscated), Tanzania, Zambia (where his "performances" were cut short, and 2 chimps and 1 parrot confiscated), Malawi, Zimbabwe (where his stay was terminated and the mistreated snakes confiscated), and Mozambique.

Akef always claimed to be on an international "cultural exchange." His dubious activities were shielded by the Egyptian Embassy of each country he visited and, although the "circus" was closely monitored by wildlife organizations, illegalities could rarely be proved. Whenever he was in trouble in a country (e.g. Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe), he was merely ordered to leave and return home to Egypt. But he never did, preferring to ignore all expulsion orders and move to the next country instead.

He was last heard from in Maputo, Mozambique, where he stayed from December 1995 to May 1996. He had given a big final performance, publicly thanked all the people of Mozambique for their generous hospitality, and loudly announced his departure for Swaziland and South Africa. Strangely, he never arrived.

I had been terribly curious to find out what happened to this large circus outfit, having been one of the people who monitored his movements and activities.

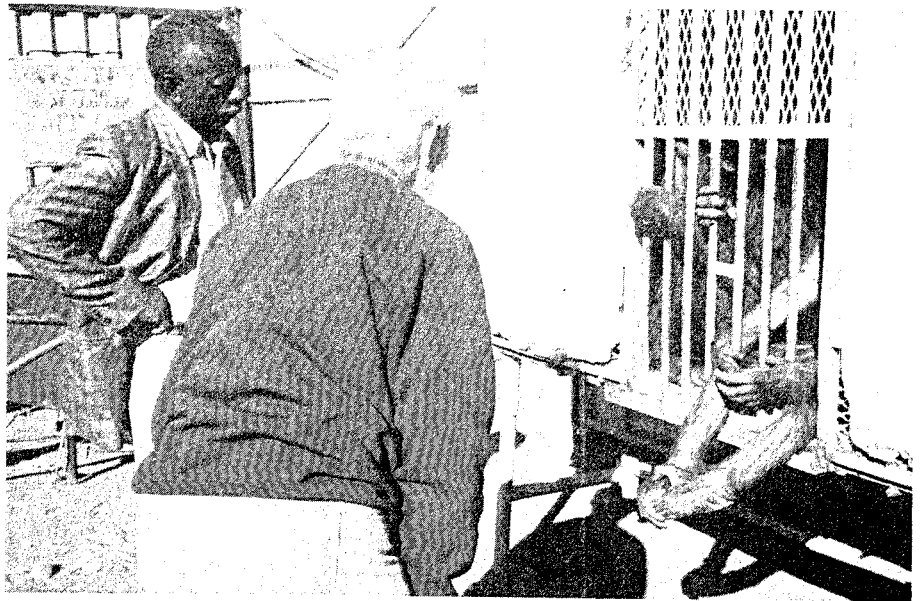
Several months later I finally heard

what happened. Akef had pretended to leave, then abandoned his staff and animals on the outskirts of Maputo. He had left with the promise of going to send a ship to collect people and animals. But he flew home with his family — and wasn't heard from again.

His staff started to sell off things just to survive. The animals (tigers, lions, horses, snakes, trained poodles, etc.) were left to starve. When one of the tigers died of starvation, Mozambique wildlife authorities made a move at last.

Rescue activities began. The dogs and pythons were moved to Durban and the tigers and lions to a Research & Breeding Centre in Hoedspruit in South Africa. The horses stayed in Maputo. Various companies and embassies provided financial assistance for the rescue operation.

Akef, always so full of scorn at the ineffective African governments who could have stopped him much earlier, must have laughed all the way to the bank!



Dave Siddle and Mr. Chausa check Akef chimps

THE AKEF CHIMPANZEES

Tamtam, male, and Boogie, female, were confiscated from the Akef Circus by the Species Protection Department of Zambia in July 1994 when the Akef circus owners could not produce documents showing legal possession or movement into Zambia for the animals.

When they arrived at Chimfunshi, Tamtam and Boogie had collars and chains around their necks. Akef had refused to hand over the keys to the padlocks which secured each animal's chain to its neck collar. The animals had to be anesthetized for the locks and chains to be removed.

Tamtam and Boogie are now doing well in their new home.

THE SPECIES SURVIVAL NETWORK RECEPTION

The Species Survival Network, a link organization of wildlife protection organizations to which IPPL belongs, held a reception on 12 June 1997 for delegates to the 1997 CITES Conference.

One of the highlights of the party was the presentation of the Clark Bavin Awards. These awards are given by the Animal Welfare Institute, an organization headquartered in Washington, DC, USA. They are named after Clark Bavin, former Chief of the Division of Law Enforcement of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and are given to government officials with a solid track record in protecting their country's wildlife and fighting wildlife crime.

The 1997 awards were presented by Izgrev Topkov, Secretary-General of CITES. The recipients were:

- **Simon Kpenindoma**, a wildlife ranger in Bui National Park, Ghana. On hearing poachers' gun-shots, Simon and three other park rangers gave chase. The courageous Simon was unarmed — and knew that the poachers were armed. He was shot to death by the poacher Moro Baah who escaped to the Ivory Coast. He left a pregnant widow. Ghanaian authorities are trying to extradite Moro Baah to stand trial for murder.
- **Seydina Issa Sylla**, National Parks Director for Senegal, waged a successful campaign against commercial ivory poachers operating in Senegal's Niokolo Koba National Park. When the ivory ban came into effect in January 1990, Niokolo Koba's elephant population had dropped from 5,000 to 28. A well-organized anti-poaching campaign with new strategies and tactics and new equipment brought an end to the poachers' activities.
- **Gerald Punguse**, Director of Ghana's Department of Wildlife, proposed, as early as 1976, to add the African elephant to Appendix I of CITES. The idea was scorned at the time but Punguse was able to get Ghana's elephant placed on Appendix III (animals that a country feels needs protection from unregulated trade despite not being listed on either Appendix I or II of CITES).

Under Punguse's leadership, Ghana has refused to export African gray parrots, foregoing profits to protect the species. Punguse is a member of the Interpol Subgroup on Wildlife Crime.

- **Bourama Niagate**, Wildlife Chief of the African nation of Mali, has provided effective leadership to anti-poaching efforts in his arid and impoverished nation. Niagate is an articulate spokesman for wildlife protection, who does not yield to pressure. At CITES '97 he spoke up eloquently for elephant protection.

- **Fred den Hertog**, a Dutch police officer who chairs the Interpol Subgroup on Wildlife Crime.

- **Richard Marks** and **Carl Mainen** of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Law Enforcement, for work on several cases.

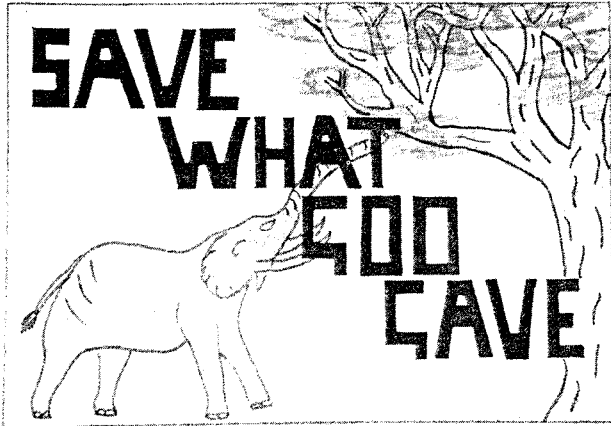
- **Dr. Valentin Ilyashenko**, Russian CITES Management Authority Director, established Operation Amba which protects the Siberian tiger. He has started a crackdown on the smuggling of endangered species into Russia (Aeroflot flights from Central Africa to Russia are nicknamed "The Aeroflot Connection"). Such smuggling is mainly conducted by the Russian mafia which has threatened Ilyashenko's life.



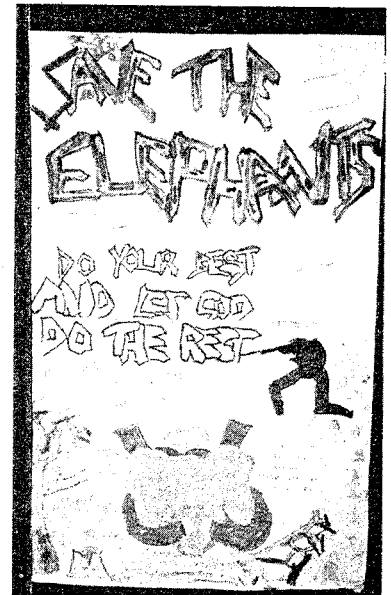
From left Will Travers, Bill Clark, Richard Leakey, Bourama Niagate, and Gerald Punguse

ZIMBABWE CHILDRENS' ART SHOW

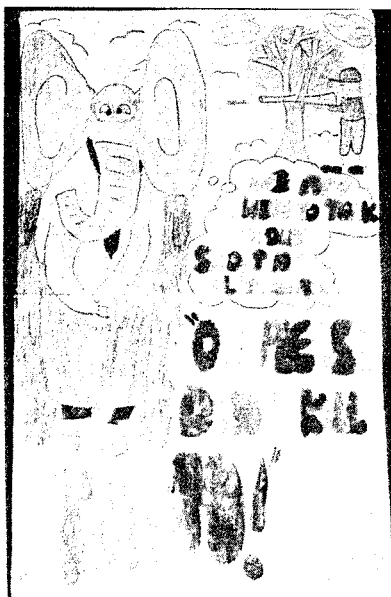
While many Zimbabwean adults, including the nation's President, were preaching that "If they pay, animals stay," and rejoicing at the prospect of renewed ivory profits, Zimbabwe children clearly view wild animals differently. The childrens' art show was a highlight of CITES 1997.



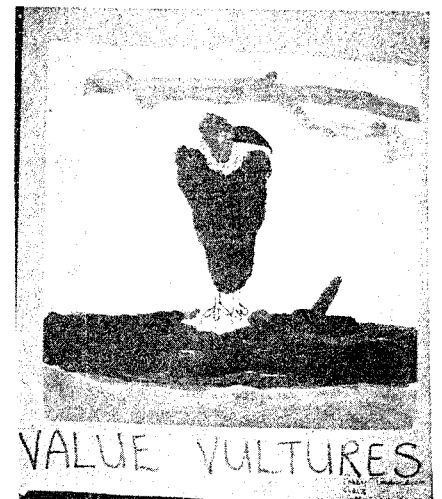
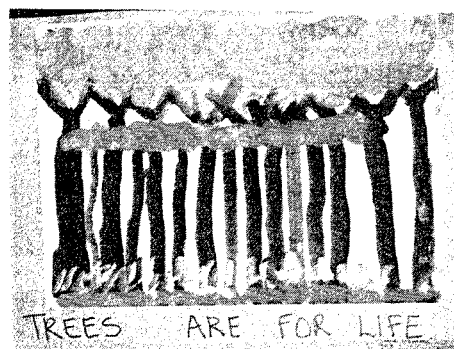
Elephants mustn't be killed for man's thirst for money



Elephant, facing hunter's gun: "Our father who art in heaven, please save me, Amen"
Birds in tree on left: "What on earth is he doing?"



We are here to talk about shooting elephants
Oh please don't kill them



RICHARD LEAKEY – A “NON-PERSON” IN ZIMBABWE!

Dr. Richard Leakey, former head of the Kenya Wildlife Service, flew to Harare, Zimbabwe, to address the Species Survival Network's reception for delegates and observers. The reception was held on 12 June at the 1997 CITES conference. Although many reporters attended the reception, the Zimbabwe government-controlled press never made a single mention of Dr. Leakey's visit, presumably because he did not sing “the Zimbabwe Song” of making wild animals “pay their way.” Extracts from Dr. Leakey's speech follow. At one point Leakey described himself as a “bunny hugger” and pulled out a white stuffed rabbit to a roar of applause from the guests!

I confess that I find the very concept of conservation to be ambiguous at best and in the era of political correctness, one hears all kinds of interpretations of what a “good” conservation program should be about. Does it follow that good conservation practice will prevent species extinctions? Probably not. I don't know what is right or good, but I do think that as we approach the end of this century we must be increasingly mindful of the consequences that result from extinctions.

Species survival is obviously the focus for many of us gathered here this evening and I hope that it is also an important concern for some of the other participants in the CITES meeting who are not here this evening.

Most of you know as well as I do that biologists and conservationists are operating from a position of ignorance: we don't actually know how many species there really are on the planet,

let alone on the African or any other continent. The rate of extinctions is also unknown. Scientists suggest that there are somewhere between 10 and 100 million species on the planet.

Human activities are causing between 10,000 and 40,000 species to become extinct each year. Since life first appeared, apparently more than 99% of species have become extinct. Our role in this extraordinary saga has been minuscule and so far it is not statistically significant. Most of these losses are well before we came on the scene and

we probably would not have appeared at all if extinctions had not opened up some ecological opportunities for our ancestors.

It is the acceleration of species loss through human activities today that is significant and unless the present trend is reversed, the planet could lose approximately 55% of today's species over the next 50 to 100 years. Such rapid catastrophic losses to biodiversity have happened before, and these catastrophes have always had far reaching consequences for the surviving species.

Given the inevitability of extinctions, and bearing in mind

that most of these losses will come about as a consequence of activities beyond the control of individual nations or their conventions, should we really be concerned about the loss of a few species that results from international trade? Will the world be any worse off if there are no



Richard Leakey with Bourama Niagate of Mali

longer pangolins, brown hyenas or pandas?

The Europeans don't seem to have suffered from the loss of the woolly rhinoceros and how many Americans even remember the giant sloth that slipped into extinction some ten thousand years ago?

Will Africans miss the elephant or the rhino if these too disappear? Is the elephant any more important than an orchid that grows near tropical wetlands? What about the extinction of hundreds and thousands of species that we hu-

mans have not yet even discovered? Does it matter if they become extinct before we even know that they exist?

I think it does, and I am sure many of you do too, but there are a good number of people on our planet for whom the idea of conservation is quite irrelevant and our rhetoric is entirely empty of practical meaning to their lives. This is perhaps the greatest challenge.

The increasingly popular and politically correct slogans such as community wildlife, "parks beyond parks", sustainable utilization and "If it pays it stays" are just as irrelevant to these same people, the masses. The vast majority of our species now live where all but they and a few human-dependent species remain. The rest have gone and gone for ever.

The original idea was to establish [a treaty] that would make certain that international trade did not threaten the survival of species. This is quite different from an organization that seeks to ensure that concerns for species survival should not endanger international trade!

The threat to habitat and to communities of wild species is actually from a relatively small proportion of the total human population, be it considered globally or at the local level. Notwithstanding this, the consumptive trends are encouraging this small element to decimate natural habitats to produce the needs, or perceived needs, of the growing markets.

Conservation is a responsibility of leaders. Those of us who can afford to make policy, do so, on behalf of these who cannot. We do this in all realms of human affairs: public health, education, taxation and so forth. Many actions of responsible government are not necessarily popular with the people but through civic education and other means, people do learn to accept regulation of their lives and activities in some form.

Popularity is not the aim in much of public policy — the public good is — although I have to admit that this is easier to talk about than to achieve.

Nonetheless, I personally believe that in the area of species protection, we should concern ourselves with what is right as opposed to what may be easier, or popular in the short term. We need, as leaders, to lead and to be accountable for our leadership.

It is bogus to believe that you can "buy" support over the long term.

Revenue sharing, decision sharing and similar well intended tactics will not be sustainable in those parts of the world where the general standard of living is declining and where there is a frightening increment to the cost of meeting basic human needs. The numbers of people on the planet are increasing, their needs are increasing, their expectations are increasing. The resource that we are concerned with, wildlife or nature, has finite limits. The estate available to wild

species is in fact constantly decreasing under pressure from the other human activities and these are unstoppable.

CITES is an extremely important international organ and I do not have any regard for those who are claiming that it is or has been a protectionist club of western interests.

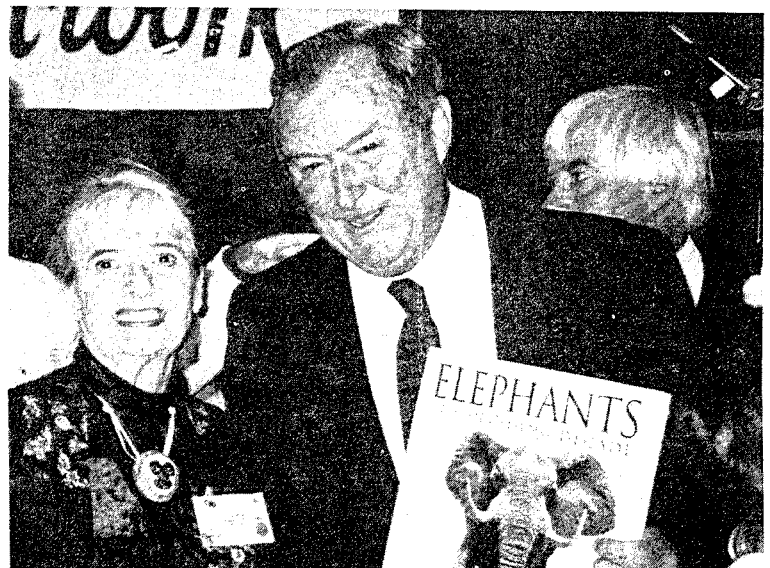
The original idea was to establish an international regulatory organ that would make certain that international trade did not threaten the survival of species. This is quite different from an organization that seeks to ensure that concerns for species survival should not endanger international trade! I fear that over the past decade there has been an attempt by some to change the mission of the organization.

This must be resisted and we should not be afraid to ex-

press ourselves on the importance of species survival. I do not feel guilty or uncomfortable when I am accused of being "on the side of wildlife." I care and so do millions of other people in every part of the world. We must be heard, we must stand tall and remember that a species lost is lost for all time.

In the past few years I have changed the focus of my own activities and I am, as some of you perhaps have heard, now active in Kenya in the pro-democracy movement.

Kenyans, like other people in other countries, want to be fairly governed: they want accountability, justice and opportunity to better their own lives. The opponents of the movement for greater democracy, usually powerful incum-



Shirley McGreal of IPPL with Richard Leakey

bent government leaders who have no popular mandate, claim that democracy is a "western" or foreign concept.

They are wrong: fairness and justice, along with the rights of a people to question and change their leaders, were the norm in pre-colonial African nation states. These are foundations of democracy and they are universal.

I raise this because I am well aware that there are some vocal critics of CITES and other conservation groups who claim that attempting to protect and ensure survival of species is somehow neo-colonialist, foreign or worse still, western.

The term "bunny huggers" has been used to describe some of us who are concerned about the fate of wild spe-

is best seen as part of a complex economic equation. We are encouraged to believe that unless something can be given a dollar value, it is of little relevance to the modern age and the march towards Utopia.

I disagree and I am reminded of a recent editorial comment in the **New Scientist** where the observation was made that nature, like liberty, has no price tag. In the context of a CITES meeting, I think it would be right to remind the delegates that species which are the stuff of nature are priceless, as are human dignity and freedom. Government and inter-government policies and actions should be based firmly on this premise, which is not negotiable.

It is in this regard that I would like to pay particular tribute

It is certainly not "Western" or "European" to appreciate nature; it is a human value that is expressed world wide.

cies. To belittle our noble cause is the practice of the shallow, the insecure and the incompetents, be it in the realm of wildlife or liberty and justice. May I remind these same critics that before western or specifically Caucasian penetration of Africa or the Americas, conservation was widely practiced; species were not endangered and there was a tolerable balance between human populations and their environs. It went wrong when "western influences" reached these continents.

Preserving pasture, forests and species was very much a part of the culture and practice of many traditional societies. It is certainly not "Western" or "European" to appreciate nature; it is a human value that is expressed world wide.

This human value is of course conditioned by circumstances and a poor and hungry person with no prospects for a better life will see a patch of beautiful wilderness very differently from a well fed, affluent person who has the use of a

to the Non Governmental Organization (NGO) movement. At a conference of this kind, the official "representatives of government" prefer to have their debates *in camera* without the irritation of either the press or the NGOs. It is often claimed that the NGOs have no mandate, and from this we are expected to believe that the official delegations do. **For some nations this is possibly true but for a good many others it is certainly not.**

I would be surprised if a number of NGOs did not in fact have a far better grasp of what the "people" want than many of the well-paid, allowance-living, government representatives who are here for this CITES meeting.

I was at a CITES meeting some years ago on the government or official side and believe me, the discussions would have been a great deal better if the NGOs could have participated rather than simply being kept at the back of the room or outside altogether. One of the reasons that I accepted the

It would be right to remind the delegates that species which are the stuff of nature are priceless, as are human dignity and freedom.

four wheel drive vehicle to escape the rigors and routines of an affluent life.

In large measure attitudes will go along with real life issues and this must not be forgotten when we consider the claims and counter-claims by those who are charged with looking after wildlife, and who insist that they know what the stake-holders want. I am not sure that these so-called stake holders are in fact known or recognized — and I am certain they are seldom consulted.

I also believe that it is important to examine the quite ridiculous notion that is increasingly put about that everything

invitation to speak here tonight was so that I could pay tribute to the NGOs and their role in bringing pressure on policy makers. Pressure must be maintained.

Before concluding these brief remarks, let me succumb to a temptation that I should probably resist: I want to talk about elephants and the issue of a split-listing or down listing. I am well aware that we are guests in Zimbabwe and that my remarks may not please some. Anyway I did not leave my mother's womb to please people.

I am entirely opposed to any resumption of any international trade in ivory now or at any time that can be presently

predicted. The principle of an ivory trade I accept: the practice of the trade under present circumstances in both producer and consumer countries is untenable.

It is difficult to admit, especially if you are a government employee or political representative, that your own government has no prospect of being able to successfully supervise or police the trade in ivory. In spite of denials, we all know that this is the truth. I know of no country, where the integrity of the public service and the transparency of governance would give the necessary guarantees that illegal trading would not flourish if legal trade were resumed at this time.

We have all read and heard of the problems, not only here in Africa but also in the Far East. Japanese traders have

if this is true and it may well be, let's be glad that the error was on the right side of the account! As Prince Bernhard once said at one occasion like this; where there is doubt, let wildlife be the beneficiary.

One final point to be made before I conclude these brief musings on our elephants is that the money to be made from trading ivory may be substantial for individuals, but it's a pittance for governments. Governments are supposedly there to serve the people and I believe that, if these governments want to serve their people well, they will stand firm and ensure that the ivory trade remains banned indefinitely.

[Section omitted]

To conclude, I support the concept of an international regu-

One of the reasons that I accepted the invitation to speak here tonight was so that I could pay tribute to the NGOs and their role in bringing pressure on policy makers.

openly admitted that it is not difficult to manipulate the system, even in Japan, and there are no guarantees that all imported ivory will be from legal stocks.

The critics of the Appendix I listing have any number of arguments and I do not wish to go over them all tonight.

There are, however, some things that I must say. The level of poaching did decline following the ban: it may not have stopped, but it was certainly a massive improvement. Illegal trade did continue, but the volume was substantially down and I believe most of the illegal movements were from those countries that now want to lift the ban.

The downlisting proponents claim that Africa's elephant population was not in fact as precarious as had been thought;

latory body such as CITES. It must do what no other organ of inter-government standing can do: provide legislative protection for endangered species. **It must disregard the whines of endangered species traders and short-sighted conservationists.**

The SSN and others, including our particular hosts this evening, should press on with their good work. You cannot win all the battles and you will not always be popular, but a good number of species, mammal, insect, reptile, bird and fish, along with plants depend upon your efforts and, on their behalf, I both commend you all and thank you. It is certainly not "Western" or "European" to appreciate nature; it is a human value that is expressed world wide.

CHIMP WARS BRING DEATH

With less than 200,000 chimpanzees left in the wild, every chimpanzee death is a tragedy.

In a story in the 13 May 1997 issue of the **New York Times**, reporter William Stevens described how logging set off an apparent chimpanzee war in Gabon. Like all African nations, Gabon is allowing the logging of its tropical forests. The results have been devastating. According to Wildlife Conservation Society biologist Lee White:

With an estimated 50,000 chimpanzees, Gabon has until lately accounted for a third to half of a total African chimp population estimated at 100,000 to 150,000. But the chimpanzee wars have apparently reduced the Gabonese population to about 30,000, and it could ultimately fall to 10,000 if most of the country is logged as now planned.

White attributes the problem to chimpanzees' territorial

jealousy.

As mechanized logging operations advance on a continuous front three to six miles wide, their approach frightens the chimpanzees, which are not used to humans and have never encountered anything like the big, noisy machines. So they flee — right into the territory of the neighboring community.

The result would be severe fighting. As the loggers advance, more chimpanzee troops move and get involved in conflict. White states that surveys of chimpanzee nests, scat and actual animals in Gabon's Lope Reserve show that a given chimpanzee community falls by 80% after loggers move through. In addition, chimpanzees appear to be highly stressed.

Similar conflict has not been observed in gorillas which, unlike chimpanzees, seldom show inter-group aggression.

RONALD ORENSTEIN ON CITES '97

Dr. Ronald Orenstein, an attorney who also has a Ph.D. in ornithology, represented the International Wildlife Coalition at CITES '97. Dr. Orenstein posted these comments to an Internet chat list focussed on CITES matters and they are reprinted with his permission.

I have been attending conferences of the CITES Parties since 1987, and I can say without the slightest doubt or hesitation that the recent meeting was by far the worst I have ever attended.

Of course, I would expect that many people will react to this statement by assuming that I am simply expressing my anger over the decision to partially lift the ban on the ivory trade. I assure you that, though that certainly is an issue, my real concerns do not come from that corner. In fact, if I tally the results of the conference, I believe that more issues were decided in the direction that I would prefer than otherwise — though in many cases this was because CITES requires a two-thirds majority vote to make any change.

My real concern, and my real anger, about what went on in Harare relates to two issues: the manner in which the meeting was conducted, and the manner in which it was reported in much of the press. I believe that the value of meetings of the Conference of the Parties to CITES is determined, not just by which decisions are made, but by the attention the decision-makers give to the principles of conservation on the one hand and individual facts relating to each issue on the other.

Intelligent debate stifled

At previous meetings, I have always felt that there was at least some discussion of specific facts, some room to consider alternate opinions, and some real interest in determining what was actually going on in the world outside before decisions were made. Sometimes there was far less of this than I would like, but it was always there.

In Harare, the voice of conservation, of reason, and intelligent scientific debate was effectively silenced. This was by far the most political meeting CITES has ever had. Instead of individual concentration on the issues, countries voted as blocs. Their speeches could almost be predicted before the

microphones were opened.

Often, the only statement a party would make on taking the floor was that it believed in the principle of sustainable use — something on which surely everyone was agreed anyway. Of genuine debate there was practically none. This was especially true in Committee I, which considered the species proposals.

During the discussion on the Cuban hawksbill turtle proposal, for example, the states in the Caribbean region lined up in exactly the same rank as they do when the same countries consider Japanese whaling proposals at meetings of the International Whaling Commission. Dr. Peter Bridgewater, who is chairman of the Whaling Commission, told me that the speeches he was hearing were exactly the same ones as

the same Parties gave at commission meetings!

In other words, the positions that were taken were entirely the result of the degree of political ties between the countries speaking and Japan.

Shameful moment

The hawksbill debate also brought out one of the worst and most shameful moments of the conference, in my opinion. The blame for these

lies entirely at the feet of the chairman of Committee I, David Brackett, who is, I am sorry to say, the Director-General of the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Chairman of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) Species Survival Commission.

One would have thought that anyone holding these two posts would have wanted the debate to be as open and scientific as possible. In the past, this has usually been achieved by interventions from the floor by the scientific experts with many of the NGO groups in attendance. I am not, I hasten to add, just talking about groups with which I agree or which work with me. Much valuable information has been presented at past CITES meetings by TRAFFIC, IUCN, and the World



Ronald Orenstein (right) with elephant expert Iain Douglas Hamilton

Wildlife Fund.

But before the hawksbill debate, in what was described as the interests of time, Mr. Brackett made the unprecedented ruling that NGOs would no longer be given the floor. Instead, they would be only allowed to make their comments in writing to the rapporteurs, who would then include them in the minutes — effectively, of course, silencing observer input.

This not only denied observers their rights guaranteed in the text of the treaty, but it led to a situation in which the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of IUCN was accused from the floor, by a Party representative, of fabricating data and lying to be Parties. When representatives of that group asked for the floor to respond to these scurrilous charges, the chairman of their own Species Survival Commission refused to allow them this right.

I do not always agree with the positions IUCN takes, but stifling scientific input in this fashion marked, for me, the lowest point I have ever seen a CITES meeting reach.

African pro- elephant voices silenced

The other truly shameful feature of this CITES meeting was the treatment given to representatives from West, Central, and East Africa. This was partly because the ruling on interventions meant that representatives of the Masai and other observer delegates from these countries never had the chance to take the floor during the elephant debate to explain why they, and the people they represented, wanted to see the African elephant remain on Appendix I.

This was a genuine loss, as CITES delegates have never before had the opportunity to hear from such groups at earlier meetings, and I would have thought that a meeting in Africa would have been conducted to give the floor to the broadest possible scope of African opinions.

As it happened, the voices from these regions could only be heard through country delegates, and their statements, most of which related to their support for the ivory ban, were either ignored by the media or referred to only by quoting Mr. Chimutengwende, Zimbabwe's Minister of Environment and

Tourism, who accused all of these delegates of having been bribed by Western animal groups.

The result, of course, was that the picture of the elephant debate that came out of the meeting was — as Zimbabwe preferred to see it portrayed — of northern whites on one side versus southern blacks on the other. That this picture was achieved only by stifling the voices of many deeply committed Africans was insulting and disgraceful.

The politics surrounding the way in which the elephant issue itself was handled were deeply disturbing. For example, delegates from Tanzania and Zambia came to the meeting committed to support the Appendix I listing.

They were overruled by their own governments after President Mugabe of Zimbabwe made a direct personal approach to the presidents of these two countries, asking them not to embarrass him in his own country, given that he had just been elected president of the Organization for African Unity. What this has to do with the pros and cons of elephant conserva-

tion I have no idea.

I certainly know that this directive was very hard on some of the delegates. I spoke with one delegate from Tanzania who was quite literally heartbroken over the matter; the main reason he had come to Harare was to fight for Appendix I, and having to take the opposite position was extremely painful to him.

Dirty Tricks

However, this paled beside the manner in which the issue was finally decided. After an amended proposal had been defeated, a working group was formed to prepare two new proposals to be presented to the Parties on the second-last day of the meeting.

These included not only a revision of the downlisting proposals submitted by Zimbabwe, Namibia, and Botswana, but an entirely new proposal on disposal of stockpiles in the other part of Africa. This document was first presented as a "consensus" of African countries, despite the fact that the West and Central African countries had not agreed to it.

Although both of these proposals involve the erection of new bureaucratic structures with no provision whatever for funding them in order to oversee a renewed ivory trade, they



**Patricia Awori (Pan African Wildlife Conservation Network),
Valerie Sackey (Ghana delegate), Shirley McGreal**

were introduced to the floor with a ruling that no debate was to be allowed.

Effectively, this meant that the most important decision made by the entire Conference was taken behind closed doors, with no opportunity for the Parties to examine or understand its ramifications. Although the Parties did approve the documents, thanks largely to the abstention by the European community, I cannot believe that they fully understood what they were agreeing to. For example, the stockpile proposal refers to sales of ivory for "non-commercial purposes" with no definition of what such purposes are, or how they would be recognized.

Naturally, I do not know what the effect of the elephant decision at CITES will be, though I hope that my fears that it will stimulate an increase in poaching in Africa will prove to be wrong. However, Simon Trevor, a well known East African wildlife film maker, heard a report on the day after the elephant decision that a band of some two hundred Somali bandits had already been seen moving towards Tsavo National Park in Kenya.

Some positive signs

There were, however, some signs that CITES has not entirely degenerated into a forum where votes are taken without discussion or thought. Attempts to weaken CITES by altering the definition of primarily commercial purposes failed to pass.

Of greater interest, perhaps, was the result of the many secret ballots. We have always been told that secret ballots were necessary so that countries who might wish to vote for increased wildlife trade could do so without fearing reprisals from either the United States or Western animal groups.

The results of the secret ballots at this meeting suggests that quite the opposite is true. Japan's proposal to reject the connection between CITES and the International Whaling Commission, for example, was overwhelmingly rejected on a secret ballot.

South Africa's proposal to permit future trade in rhinoceros horn was defeated by a narrow margin on an open vote. When South Africa requested that the issue be re opened in order to permit voting by secret ballot, it was defeated

again — this time by a much greater margin. It would appear that if any Parties are afraid to vote openly, it is not the United States or conservation groups that they fear.

A new height in hypocrisy

There were some moments in the conference that were truly amusing, though perhaps in an ironic way. Certainly a new height in hypocrisy was reached by the delegate from Nigeria during the elephant debate, who announced that his country placed the highest priority on protection of the environment and respect for the rights of local communities — this from a country that handed eight environmentalists who protested the destruction of their tribal lands by oil exploration!

Even more amusing to those in the know was the report in the **Zimbabwe Herald** at the end of the Conference that one sign that the views of CITES on ivory had changed was that "even" former secretary-general Eugene Lapointe approved of the downlisting. Of course Mr. Lapointe has been fighting the ivory ban as viciously as he possibly can ever since it was passed!

Politics threaten CITES

I am sure that by now everyone will simply assume that these are the musings of one bitter individual. I can only tell you that I heard the same views from many others, including representatives of government delegations who were disgusted by the way in which this meeting proceeded. This has nothing to do with whether you are for trade in wildlife or against it.

If CITES meetings are to be nothing more of political floor shows where true discussion is replaced by posturing, I fear very much for the future of this treaty. Certainly the atmosphere of hostility at this meeting was unprecedented. Several NGOs were harassed or even threatened with physical violence, most of these threats being directed at young women. One of them received a death threat.

Under these circumstances, I can only hope that the next meeting, in Indonesia, will see a shift in the pendulum back towards genuine concern for conservation, and respect for those that seek to practice it.

NEWS FROM NATURE'S BECKON

Nature's Beckon is a wildlife protection organization in Assam, India. It is directed by Soumyadeep Datta. Working closely with villagers, the group was successful in getting Chakrasila Hills declared a sanctuary for the protection of the endangered golden langur.

The group is also trying to get other primate habitats in Assam declared protected areas, including Bherjan, Borajan and Pudumani Reserved Forests located in the Tisulka District in Assam.

Nature's Beckon has also fought efforts by the government of the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh to get monkeys declared as "vermin." The government planned to take this step following complaints from farmers about monkey crop-

raiding.

Nature's Beckon commented:

The solution of the problems created by the monkeys in Himachal Pradesh lies in speedier regeneration of denuded forests and scientific improvement of the natural habitats of the monkeys. To combat immediately the menace of crop destruction in some places of Himachal Pradesh, monkeys can be transported to less populated forest areas within the state or outside the states for their proper rehabilitation in their natural habitats.

IPPL applauds this wonderful organization which received an IPPL small grant to help with its 1996 work.

KAY FARMER'S DEBUT AT CITES

Kay Farmer spent over a year at the Limbe Wildlife Rescue Center in Cameroon, taking care of animal casualties of the country's rapid deforestation, including gorillas, chimpanzees and monkeys.

Kay represented IPPL-UK at CITES '97, her first international conference. She arrived in Harare with high hopes:

When I was offered the opportunity to represent IPPL-UK at the CITES conference in Zimbabwe this year, I thought what an amazing opportunity was being offered for me to finally become involved in the politics behind conservation decision-making after experiencing first hand the frustrations of implementing conservation programs in the field. Or so I thought!



Kay Farmer with Guinean wildlife official Satenin Sagnah

Instead she was appalled at the endless talk of how wildlife has an obligation to "pay its way" and earn the right to share the world with human beings! Kay disagreed, commenting:

In reality making wildlife "pay its way" and attaching an economic value to its very existence means that animals soon become just another commodity to be bought, sold, traded and finally used up when demand exceeds the supply.

Kay also was appalled at the attempts by the Government of Zimbabwe to define the elephant proposals as a "North versus South" issue — Africa versus the rest of the world.

The local media promoted an imaginary "North versus South" split in opinions, arguing that developing countries were only interested in turning the "Third World" into a natural history museum with no concept of the reality of elephants destroying crops and homes. But with some of the most committed supporters of the ivory ban being in Africa, e.g. Ghana, Mali and Liberia, and support for lifting the ban coming from rich countries like Japan and Norway, the ploy by the host country to instigate a "Them versus Us" attitude to influence its neighbor states was transparent to many, yet sadly all too successful.

Kay made many new friends among the delegates and everyone at IPPL thanks her for helping represent us!

CHIMPS AT THAI TOURIST ATTRACTION

Leonie Vejjajiva of the Wildlife Rescue Foundation of Thailand (WRFT) reports that the Nong Nooch Tropical Garden near Pattaya uses baby gibbons and chimpanzees dressed in human clothing as "photo-props." Tourists pay to have their photographs taken holding a young animal. In October 1996 Mark Tansacha, Manager of Nong Nooch, stated to Leonie that he would improve animal care and stop the use of primates as "photo-props." Leonie informed him of the Thai law which required gibbons to be registered by the end of 1992 and that the infant gibbons at Nong Nooch were clearly too young to have been born prior to the 1992 deadline, and hence were illegally held.

A month after the conversation a WRFT member went to Nong Nooch and found two chimpanzees in use as "photo-props" and two more living in small unenriched cages. Macaques were kept in dirty ramshackle cages. A black gibbon was removed from a dirty empty cage and a chain put round his neck. Young men who apparently worked at the resort were tormenting the gibbon by kicking him in the face

and head, as is done in Thai-style boxing. The young gibbon appeared terrified. When the WRFT member begged the men to stop, they just kicked harder. Other baby gibbons were chained up in trees.



Baby chimp "photo-prop" at Nong Nooch

Many Thai nationals are acquiring chimpanzees as pets.
Leonie comments:

There is no way the chimpanzees could have entered Thailand with CITES documents... Chimpanzees are popular pets here at the moment and purchased by rich people with too much money and too little sense, and who don't care about the cruelty involved in removing them from the wild. These idiots don't think about the future and how big and dangerous these animals become, but imagine they are going to remain small and cute forever.

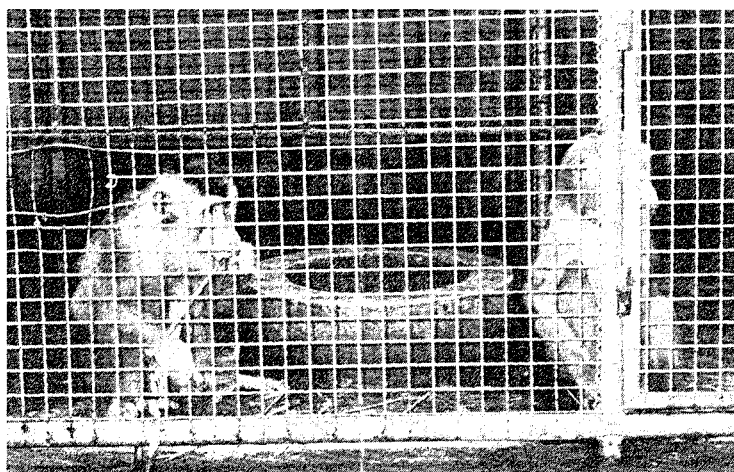
Recently WRFT learned that three young white-handed gibbons had died and had been replaced by a young Concolor gibbon, a non-Thai species which is, like the chimpanzee, **ON PAPER** fully protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of which Thailand is a member.

WRFT believes that:

- Any illegally held animals, including gibbons and chimpanzees lacking proper documents, should be confiscated from Nong Nooch Tropical Garden, and taken to a sanctuary,
- all animals, including the monkeys, should be given spacious housing and better care,
- that the use of wild animals as "photo props" which is cruel to the animals and jeopardizes the health of both humans and animals involved, should not be allowed in Thailand.



Baby Concolor gibbon "photo-prop"



Macaques in drab cage

Please send letters making these requests to:

*H. E. General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh
Prime Minister's Office
Government House
Nakom Pathom Road
Bangkok 10300, Thailand*

Please send a copy of your letter to:

*The Editor, Bangkok Post
136 Na Ranong Road
Klong Toey
Bangkok 10110, Thailand*

Air mail from the USA to Thailand costs 60 cents per half-ounce, \$1 per ounce.

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

FROM THE FRYING PAN TO THE FIRE!

SEIZED BABOON ENDS UP WITH ANIMAL DEALER

On 29 April 1997 Chicago police confiscated a menagerie of more than 90 wild and domestic animals kept by Hope Shiluk of Marquette Park following complaints by neighbors.

Among the many animals maintained in what police described as filthy conditions was one primate, a hamadryas baboon. The baboon had broken out of his cage and bitten his owner several times. City regulations ban ownership of exotic animals in the city of Chicago.

The baboon ended up in what Peter Poholik, Executive Director of the Chicago Commission on Animal Care and Control called "The Dana Savorelli Primate Sanctuary" in Kansas City, Missouri. In fact Savorelli is a Class B animal dealer who breeds primates to sell their babies. Savorelli advertises baby monkeys in the **Animal Finders' Guide** (opposite).

Illinois Animal Action (IAA) protested the transfer of the baboon to Savorelli. In a press release issued on 20 May 1997, IAA stated:

IAA conducted an investigation and learned the ugly truth of Savorelli's "sanctuary." It is a commercial breeding establishment that mass produces monkeys for resale to the exotic animal trade. Alexander is to be used as a stud in the Savorelli monkey mill, which has capacity for 100 primates. The offspring of this primate factory will likely end up neglected, traded from home to home, kept in cages at tiny roadside zoos, abused for entertainment purposes, or used as subjects in animal experiments. No legitimate sanctuary engages in the breeding, buying, and selling of animals.

On 28 May 1997, members of Illinois Animal Action held a protest at Chicago's City Hall. Demonstrators wearing prison suits and monkey masks demanded that the baboon be transferred to a legitimate sanctuary.

In an effort to prevent further inappropriate placements of confiscated wildlife Debbie Leahy, President of Illinois Animal Action, sent a letter to the Office of the Mayor of Chicago. She discussed a conversation she had with Savorelli:

*He states that he has capacity for 100 primates with a present inventory of about 20. He also states that the facility is financed by the sale of primate babies produced at his breeding farm. He currently advertises in **Animal Finders' Guide**, a publication that promotes the sale of exotic pets, an assortment of baby monkeys*

MONKEYS WANTED

Cages & Squeeze Cages Wanted.
If you want a monkey please get 2 of the Best
and most up dated Books available
Primate Care - \$49.95
&
The Living Primates
(soft copy) **\$59.95** (hard copy) **\$79.95**
Shipping Included. Same Day Shipping

BABIES FOR SALE

- 1.0 Pig-Tail , 2 weeks old;
- 2.3 Rhesus, 3 weeks old;
- 0.1 Grivet, 3 weeks old;
- 1.0.2 Tufted Weeper Capuchin, 2 weeks old;
- 0.0.1 Owl Monkey, 1 week old
- 0.0.2 Common Marmoset, 4 weeks old;
- 1.2 Munjac, juveniles.

816-861-3351 Fax 816-861-4126
8608 E. 32 St, Kansas City, MO 64129
E-mail tongs@micro.com

for sale, some just weeks old.

Ms Leahy contacted various parties that Poholik said had endorsed the plan to send the baboon to Savorelli. Among them was Dr. R. L. Becker of the Independence Animal Hospital, Independence, Missouri. Becker told Leahy that he did not recall a conversation with Chicago Animal Control and was unaware of, and disapproved of, Savorelli's plans to breed primates for the pet trade.

Poholik stated that he had contacted the Kansas City Humane Society which stated that the facility had no problems. Three local humane societies did not recall being contacted by Chicago Animal Control.

Savorelli has rejected IAA's offer to transport the baboon to a sanctuary.

SANCTUARY ANIMALS RESCUED

Recent civil strife in Brazzaville, Congo Republic, caused deep concern about the well-being of the foreign and local residents and about the fate of the gorillas, bonobos and monkeys housed at John Aspinall's sanctuary.

Fortunately all the animals were successfully moved in June. Some went to Jane Goodall's sanctuary outside Pointe-Noire and others to the HELP Sanctuary in Pointe-Noire which is directed by Aliette Jamart.

NEWS FROM LIMBE SANCTUARY

The April 1997 issue of **IPPL News** told readers about the Limbe Sanctuary in Cameroon where rescued gorillas, chimpanzees, and monkeys are cared for by Cameroonian staff aided by overseas volunteers.

IPPL has raised over \$28,000 for the project. A lot of work has been completed in the first half of 1997.

Two new quarantine enclosures for monkeys were built. Repairs were made to the juvenile chimp enclosure and new wire was added to the chimp nursery. The food area was renovated. A new gorilla enclosure was constructed where Emma, Benito, and Jumbo live with Chella, Evindi and Nyango. Work has continued on the sanctuary's perimeter fence.

Two new information boards were constructed at the entrance to the zoo, one on the theme of "Meet our Keepers and staff" and the other providing information on primate species and individual primates housed at Limbe. A manual for staff was prepared. Animals were vaccinated against measles and tetanus.

Three new chimpanzees arrived. Sadly two of them were extremely ill and did not survive. A baby gorilla arrived in a state of severe depression and also did not survive. Several new monkeys reached the center.

Michaela Irvebrandt from Sweden and Patti Gleason remained with the project as volunteers and former Peace Corps volunteer Cindy Trotta is also helping. Several new African staff members were hired. Anna Randall has returned to England after two and a half years as a volunteer.

The Limbe keepers were on the cover of the last issue of **IPPL News**, all wearing their IPPL T-shirts. Patti Gleason writes:

The staff send all their warmest greetings. They loved the IPPL newsletter with their photo on the front. It makes them so proud. They even all wore their IPPL shirts during the marching on Labor Day (1st May, everyone in town marches to the community field). Michaela said it was great to see them all wearing their shirts with pride.

So you can see that, thanks in large part to IPPL help,



Limbe gorilla orphan

progress is being made at Limbe. But there are so many problems as Cameroon's forests are being destroyed and logging roads open up areas to the "bushmeat" trade, thus producing a steady stream of pathetic orphans in need of human compassion.

PLEASE KEEP ON HELPING LIMBE!

The rescued primates who find their way to Limbe need and deserve our care and compassion. They are victims of one of the biggest ongoing global disasters — the greed-motivated decimation of the world's rain forests. Those of us who live far away from Africa can best help by providing urgently needed funds to help these animals and their human caregivers.

Please send as generous a donation as you can afford, marking your check "**For Limbe**" at the bottom left. Donations will be consolidated and sent safely by bank transfer into the sanctuary's bank account. Mail your gift to **IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA** or **IPPL, 116 Judd Street, London WC1H9NS, England.**

MEET THE CARE BABOONS!

by Gien Elsas

On the banks of the Olifants River (Elephant River) in South Africa's Northern Province lives a remarkable woman who started an even more remarkable animal adventure several years ago which has led to the founding of C.A.R.E. (Center for Animal Rehabilitation and Education).

Rita Miljo did not always live on the banks of this river in what must be one of the warmest places in South Africa. She was once a career woman who lived and worked in Johannesburg and who literally used to fly places when the mood took her, in her own small aeroplane. On one of her trips to Namibia she met Bobby and her life, as she knew it, changed.

Bobby was a young female chacma baboon who was kept at an army base as a mascot. She was in an unhappy state and was not getting the care she deserved. Before she knew it, Rita heard herself say that she would take Bobby and look after her. Bobby came home with Rita who soon realized how intelligent this indigenous primate was.

Other people heard of Rita and Bobby and, before she knew it, people were phoning her for advice on how to rear orphaned baboons and several landed on her doorstep for fostering. After observing them and watching how innate some of their behavior was, Rita soon realized that she would be able to rehabilitate these animals and decided to move to Phalaborwa where the baboons would be closer to nature and would be able to see wild baboons, hippos, elephants, predators, crocodiles and other animals and get used to them as they would be common sights in the wild.

And so C.A.R.E. was born.

The rehabilitation center is situated close to the mining town of Phalaborwa and, because of the need created by man, has grown and grown. In South Africa baboons and vervet monkeys were labelled as vermin. This is slowly changing to "problem" animals which, in lay terms, means much the same as vermin as they are still not protected at all.

People, especially farmers, who have these primates on their properties are allowed to hunt, poison or eradicate them in any way they see fit. One of the most common sights in muti shops (traditional medicine shops used by some of the indigenous populations) are baboon and monkey skins, skulls, skeletons, hands etc.

Amongst some of the people it is great sport to shoot and eradicate whole troops to get hold of the babies because, after all, they're so cute. The only time it is illegal to keep one of these primates is if it is alive. Then permits — which are not given — are needed. Until Rita arrived on the scene, orphaned, injured and confiscated baboons were euthanized — usually shot — by Nature Conservation officials.

Rita did not have an easy time when she started. She ran into the solid wall of red tape, disbelief and officialdom wherever she went. "They used to say, leave her, she's old, let her think she can rehabilitate baboons. She'll soon see she can't,"



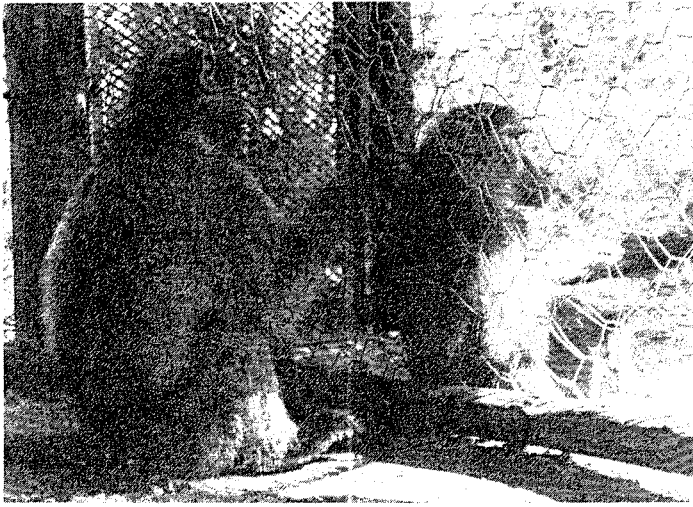
Ain't she sweet... Zinzi (who happens to have been "my" baby) poses for a portrait. Getting little baboons to sit still takes quite some doing. Zinzi's mom was knocked over and killed by a car when the little baboon was only days old. She is now in the "creche" at CARE and is doing well!

Rita laughingly recalls.

Rita did release a troop. "When I phoned and said I had a troop ready and wanted to release them at a certain site, officialdom was amazed. They first would not allow me and then, probably thinking my baboons would die in the first week in the wild, said OK and gave permission," Rita said. She and her small troop (small so that each one could be easily monitored) and a nature conservation student set out for Letaba Ranch and literally lived with the baboons for several months before decreasing the monitoring frequency.

These baboons are still doing well several years on. So well, in fact, that one of them was leading a wild troop of about 100 with which they had merged, a few months ago when they were last observed.

Rita and her work are largely ignored by most of the South



Let's be coy... Guinny (right) plays hard to get and pretends not to see Winston who wants a grooming session. These baboons are two of the six baboons we are housing in a sanctuary at CARE in Phalaborwa. They spent at least ten years in a research laboratory in the middle of Johannesburg and were released into our care at the end of November last year. They were put in the same cage in June when we saw that they had adapted to life "in the Wild"!

African officialdom who often treat her as an irritation and often try to put obstacles in her way.

"No government subsidy has ever been forthcoming and, while waiting for a fund raising number, we are totally dependent on the generosity of the public to keep our center operational. This is often an uphill battle which we are determined to win," Rita explained.

Behavioral scientists and primatologists — some in South Africa but the bulk from overseas — have lauded her work and have sent students and scientists to C.A.R.E. to observe what is being done.

At present there is sometimes a moratorium on the inter-provincial movement of these primates — depending on the "fashion" of the time — with the question raised every now and then of whether there are sub-species of the chacma baboon, even though some highly qualified scientists have disputed this.

C.A.R.E., however, has become one of the few refuges for these "unwanted little people". Every one of the more than a hundred baboons that has passed through C.A.R.E.'s hands has been traumatized. The orphans have had to witness their mothers' and other troop members' deaths. The older ones have either been injured or have been kept on chains, often with their canines pulled out so that they are less "vicious." Sometimes they are kept in horribly small containers like water drums where their faeces have been harvested for traditional medical cures.

At C.A.R.E. we are constantly waging a battle to have the status of our primates improved. We have pointed out that these animals which are so readily sent to research laboratories all over the world, have not even been counted. We are

told that there are "plenty" left in the wild while we know that their numbers are declining.

But the picture we paint is not all doom and gloom. We have baboons that are happy and we know that the future we are trying to offer them back in the wild is better than a future tied to a chain or in a zoo.

Last year C.A.R.E. also celebrated a first in South Africa, and maybe even a world first for the chacma baboon. We, together with SAAV (South Africans for the Abolition of Vivisection) and several other animal protection groups, managed to free eight baboons from a research laboratory in the center of Johannesburg. They had all been trapped as adults in the wild.

Of these eight baboons one needed extensive oral surgery as his teeth were in a shocking condition after ten years spent in the laboratory eating the wrong kind of food. Toby, as we called him, did not recover from the surgery and died the day we left with our, now seven, charges to Phalaborwa.

The preparation of the whole move took months. We had to get the baboons used to us and teach them that we were not the "baddies". We gave them all names to show their individualities (and to irritate the scientists who identified them by the numbers tattooed across their chests) and we got to know them.

We had to build a sanctuary for them that would be like heaven after the hell they had lived in for that decade. We had to give them something better than a normal zoo. And we had to fight the skepticism we had thrown at us by some



Big boy Nathan... ..Nathan is now a contented, happy chap. He is one of the research laboratory baboons who has settled down well at CARE in South Africa. He and his lady friend, Rhona, were put together in June this year after being housed in single huge enclosures to adapt after life in tiny research laboratory cages!

"experts" who said we would never be able to reteach these baboons any of their baboon skills.

We moved them in November last year. In that first week tragedy struck. Gerald, the large alpha male, died of a heart attack caused by heat stroke, despite attempts to resuscitate him. And so there were only six left.

Within a week of their move they were grooming each other again. They were vocalizing and they were communicating with the wild troop of baboons that have made C.A.R.E. a main stopover in a busy baboon day. Now, July, we have put the first two baboons, Nathan and Rhona, together by opening up their enclosures. They spend their days together and even sleep on the same platform.

Our next plan is to put Sybil and Dibs together. Sybil had lost all her hair in the lab because of stress and had even escaped by jumping through a second story window (closed) at the lab. She was found in a deserted hospital ward.

Sybil, we had been told, would never adapt. She tried to hide from strangers and we put a blanket on top of her small research lab cage inside her big enclosure for her to hide under. Until the end of June Sybil hid from strangers. Then, one fine day, she tossed the blanket off her cage. Since then, she has not needed to go inside her small cage to hide anymore.

Guinny and Winston will be last in line to be put together. "We are moving forward slowly so that we can all learn and adapt," Rita says.

Our secret hope would be that we would be able to completely rehabilitate these primates. Whether that will ever happen — or be allowed to happen by officialdom — remains to be seen.

At C.A.R.E. no animal is ever turned away. Rita has rescued hippos from farm pools, she has reared lion cubs and started, together with IFAW, the first true lion haven in South Africa on a nearby game farm. We have birds, bush babies, meerkats, warthogs, jackals and even some reptiles waiting for summer and release time!

We have also started an exciting new venture. The samango monkey is so endangered it's in the **Red Data Book**. Rita had reared two little females. They have now been joined by a male and Rita is undertaking a Samango breeding program.

Only time will tell how successful she will be in this project.

Every day at C.A.R.E. is different. Every day is exciting, sometimes nail-biting (will we be given enough food for all our charges today?) and always totally focussed towards the well-being of the animals. We are always on the lookout for safe release sites and for ways to improve the lot of our primates. We are constantly on the lookout for funds to keep going. Above all, we are determined to help our primates and to see that they don't land up in the same boat as Africa's great apes.



Give me a cuddle... Rebecca, leader of one of the creche groups at CARE, mothers little Scrappy. Scrappy was one of the babies of the wild troop which visits CARE every day. She was orphaned and had become severely emaciated before we managed to get her into Rebecca's Creche. She is loved and mothered by the others who, in baboon terms, are actually still only babies themselves! Scrappy is now a happy little baboon!

HOW TO HELP CARE

IPPL has sent a \$500 grant to help with CARE's wonderful work with a species that is not generally appreciated. Baboons have wonderfully complex social structures. In many places they are considered "pests" because they have learned to co-exist with the humans who are taking over THEIR homes.

CARE has a site on the World Wide Web for those wanting to learn more. Its address is <http://www.webspinner.co.za/care>

If you would like to help CARE's wonderful work, please send a check to IPPL ear-marked "For CARE" and we will consolidate donations and send them as a single bank draft. If you would like to get in direct contact with CARE, please contact the group at **PO Box 244, Paardekraal 1752, South Africa.**

CERCOPAN – SANCTUARY FOR RESCUED PRIMATES

by Lucy Beresford Stokes

It was more of a learning cliff than a learning curve! **Cercopan** Forest Monkey Rehabilitation and Conservation Center, Cross River State, Nigeria, needed a volunteer manager while the project director, Zena Tooze, was in Canada.

Cyril Rosen of IPPL-UK set me to the task. An IPPL-UK grant helped me on the way. Leona McDermid had been there for seven months and needed to return home, but she spent a month teaching me all she had learned. She introduced me to the monkeys at **Cercopan** and officials of the Forestry Department and Ministry of Agriculture (without whose support **Cercopan** could not exist), the staff of the Drill Ranch, and all the other places and people in Calabar I would need to know.

My first letter home was, apparently, full of fear at Leona's seemingly rapidly approaching departure. How was I to remember the correct value of the Nigerian money (ndiya) when I'd only just learned its name? More seriously, to negotiate the price of anything required a certain amount of "pidgin English"?

My next letter was a more positive one about how much there was to do for the project and, I guess, a feeling that I could do it. That feeling came from having conquered my first challenge, the market.

During the first week I followed Leona around the market like a lost lamb! I could only take in the intense colors, smells and sounds. I was in awe as she bargained the price in pidgin and exchanged money before I had even established what fruit she was buying.

At first there was nothing I even recognized: oranges are green, pears are purple and not pears at all, the nearest likeness to garden egg is a small aubergine, colored anything from white to green, orange or red!

Seeing bananas and potatoes sounds rather insignificant but a piece of familiarity on which to anchor a bewildered brain is actually quite comforting. I clearly remember feeling a total voyeur at the market! I probably did stand staring for minutes at a time while Leona rushed around filling sack after sack, wondering what I was staring at.

In Week Two Leona sent me alone. Nervous of buying anything, I had to buy something, as there was no food for the monkeys. Following the winding route Leona had always taken, I asked the price of some oranges (greens); it was double what Leona paid and the vendor would not budge (knowing I was new).

By the time the minimum was bought I was hot and exhausted, the sky had blackened and a heavy end-of-wet-season rain storm was approaching.

I decided that was enough for my first mission. It was time to take the shopping back for inspection, but the car would not start. Normally more than willing to help push, no-one was prepared to get wet. It was now pouring. I was soaked to the skin (quite a relief actually) and a little bit concerned: I had taken far too long to buy far too little, probably for far

too much.

Jumping and gesticulating in the puddles, trying to persuade onlookers that it really wasn't so bad getting wet (as if they don't know what a pain the rain is) and begging them to help push was just not working. So I pushed and jump started the car myself... somehow.

Feeling a pretty good sense of achievement as I trundled home, I was shocked when the accelerator cable snapped from the pedal and the "beetle" ground to a halt. In order to see what was going on, my body had to be extended half way into the road in the now torrential rain. After fifteen minutes of fiddling and cursing the cable was in place and my ego swelled! Leona said the fruit prices were fine, I breathed a satisfied sigh and wrote that second letter home!



Mona monkeys

After some weeks the outsider/voyeur feeling fades and you feel as at home in the market as you used to in the supermarket. The overall scene becomes familiar and you see more and more detail: recognize the stall holders and get to know them; learn your way around; how to buy good quality coconuts rather than ones that look fine to the innocent eye, but will be "off" in 24 hours; you learn that prices constantly change if something is going out of season, or if there is a petrol shortage.

This seems like a good analogy for the work as a whole. At first, and for quite a while, everything is strange. Then, although nothing is ever totally normal or straightforward, things become familiar and you can begin to function as a part of the place.

The monkeys become individuals with very different characters and backgrounds, the streets of Calabar begin to arrange

themselves in some order. The photocopy shop is visible after a single drive past rather than three. Gut parasite names suggest treatments instead of being something unpronounceable requiring explanation from one of the ever-tolerant Drill Ranch staff.

Getting a monkey to take medicine that you would have to be straight-jacketed before accepting becomes a game you know you will eventually win, rather than a seeming impossibility. The need for long-term volunteers becomes clear — you just do not function efficiently for several months.

The Project

In collaboration with Cross River State Wildlife Department and the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development, **Cercopan** provides sanctuary and rehabilitation to forest monkeys. An article in the November 1995 issue of **IPPL News** explains **Cercopan's** beginning as well as introducing some individual monkeys.

At that time there were 24 monkeys. Less than a year later there are 39. In Nigeria monkeys are still hunted for "bush-meat" despite legal protection. Sadly, the law is not fully enforced, due to lack of resources and awareness.

It is not that monkey meat is a particular delicacy, but hunters can receive relatively large sums of cash from traders who take the already smoked carcass to sell in town. Hunters often kill nursing mothers because they get an infant to sell as a pet, in addition to the dead mother to sell for "bush-meat"; also because the mother may be a slower and therefore an easier target. So, females are being wiped out.

A tiny proportion of orphaned infants end up at **Cercopan**. They are all donated to the project, never bought (this would encourage more to be taken from the wild). Donations usually occur naturally after the aims and reasons of the project are explained to the owner, and the healthy, sociable groups of animals at **Cercopan** have been seen.

Many donors return, becoming interested supporters of the project. Only occasionally are forestry officers called to help persuade owners to donate their monkey, or, if necessary, to confiscate.

The monkeys at **Cercopan** are guenons and mangabeys.

The guenon family

There are at least 20 species of guenon (and many differ-

ent sub-species) found throughout sub-Saharan Africa. They are a diverse group of monkeys in terms of coat pattern and particularly color, with some species living in extremely small natural ranges. For example, the red-eared guenon lives only in Southeastern Nigeria and Southwestern Cameroon. With continuous pressure from hunting and logging, such small populations are highly vulnerable. Very little is known about any of these species in the wild.

Mona guenons

Mona monkeys are not listed as endangered, although they are certainly threatened in some areas. They live in West Africa from Eastern Ghana to mid-Cameroon. Monas are highly agile inhabitants of the lower and middle layers of the forest. Also very adaptable, they have utilized most types of forest (primary, lower mountain, secondary, gallery and coastal).

They live in groups of up to 20 individuals with one dominant male who, every morning and evening, makes a "loud call", probably a territorial behavior. It is a deep and resonant bark that carries for several kilometers, often setting off neighboring males to call. **Cercopan's** neighbors loved GC's (he is the dominant male) call, as they believed it kept away thieves.

Cercopan currently cares for 15 monas. Fourteen live together in a large enclosure and one remains in quarantine. On 4 January 1996 the first baby was born to "Lisa". By 6:30 a.m. the baby was licked clean but was still wet, indicating that he was born between 5 and 6 a.m. (Unlike primates with sexual swellings, guenons have "hidden oestrus" and it is therefore not possible to determine the date of conception).

All morning Lisa looked exhausted and bewildered: her own mother was killed by a hunter and Lisa was reared by humans. Despite her lack of experience, Lisa was an attentive mother, all the time cradling the baby's head with one hand.

Nko, a juvenile female, became "Auntie." She stayed close to Lisa for the next weeks and months, grooming her and carrying the baby. There are now two other wild-caught infants in the main enclosure, both orphans who will be adopted by an adult female and can socialize with Lisa's baby. This group of monas will be the first to be released into a protected area of forest, as part of research into reintroduction of ex-captive primates.

Putty-nose guenons

Putty nose guenons live only from Western Cameroon



Putty nose guenon

through Southern Nigeria into Benin, and, as with the mona guenon, the pressure of heavy hunting and deforestation on a sub-species living in a fairly restricted range puts the species at risk.

Putty-nose guenons are a larger, heavier species than the mona. They have a thick black coat, every hair tipped with greenish-yellow, a white chest, a russet inner thigh, and, on a dark face, a bright white nose as if they got too close when sniffing some paint!

Their other outstanding feature is a ridiculously long, black tail. Putty-nose guenons live in secondary, high and mountain forest, in the upper-middle tiers, in troops of up to 20 individuals with one mature male.



Red-eared guenon

Red-eared guenons

Red-eared guenons are listed as “endangered”, the highest category in the **IUCN Red Data Book**. They live only in Southeastern Nigeria, Cameroon and Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea, in rain, gallery and mountain forests. Slightly smaller than the mona, red-eared guenons have dark grey fur tipped with russet, a long, yellow-whiskered moustache, a red nose, ears fringed with red, and a long, red tail.

Nwuwong was **Cercopan**’s first female red-eared guenon. She arrived during my third week and took up most of the next four months. Hardly bigger than my coffee cup, malnourished and with an infected tail-wound (an inch of her tail is missing), she would only eat if I did: I learned to like scrambled egg and she learned to like toast.

Nwuwong adopted me as mother to the exclusion of all others — flattering but inconvenient. After some time Nellie (an adult female putty-nose) became increasingly interested in the infant living on the back of my neck. When I stood outside her enclosure with Nwuwong, Nellie would make contact calls. Then, when I would not let Nwuwong approach (she was still in quarantine), I received threat calls from Nellie.

Once Nwuwong had cleared all her tests I took her into the main enclosure (the putty-nose and red-eared guenons

share a large enclosure). Nellie bundled her up against her tummy and I never got another look in — the perfect outcome!

Crowned guenon

Cercopan has one infant crowned guenon. The local name for this species “mbi” means “most beautiful”. Their upper side is olive-brown. Three black bands from the brow pass over the head, the central one forming a crest and becoming a broad black stripe all down the back.

The “most beautiful” part is the belly and inner limbs which are covered in long, stunning golden-yellow fur. According to the literature, crowned guenons inhabit an area from Western Cameroon across to the Congo and down to Gabon; however, some have been seen in Nigeria.

Red-capped Mangabeys

Mangabeys are a different family of monkeys. The only species living in Southeastern Nigeria is the red-capped or white-collared mangabey. They are much bigger than guenons with a longer, rounded muzzle, naked dark grey face and ears, a grey body and tail with a distinctive white tip, a reddish-brown crown, and white cheeks and neck-band.

Their most distinctive feature is the white eyelids giving them another name, the “four-eyed monkey.” Red-capped mangabeys live from Southern Nigeria to the mouth of the Congo, but are only patchily distributed within this area in primary, secondary and swamp forests and palm swamps. They are listed as “threatened”, the second highest rating in the **IUCN Red Data Book**; again due to hunting and deforestation. Mangabey groups sometimes share home ranges but, possibly due to their very vocal nature, they usually avoid direct encounters. They are a semi-terrestrial species travelling on the ground and in the lower tiers of the forest, in



Red-capped mangabey

troops of up to 20 individuals with two or three mature males. They often associate with putty-nose or crowned guenons.

Education

Education is already a vital part of **Cercopan's** work. Every year hundreds of people visit the project and learn about the primate species living in their state and country.

For many it is the first time they have seen these monkeys. For most it is the first time they have learned that there are different species of monkey, let alone appreciated their rarity.

At the moment education is by way of informal tours of the project. With increased funding **Cercopan** hopes to develop an education program involving talks and slide shows at local schools, a variety of activities with school groups at

the project itself (involving first-hand experience of the monkeys which would stimulate continued interest) and provision of educational materials.

There is much local energy and there are so many possibilities for involvement of school children — whose interest is essential in the long-term success of conservation.

Rehabilitation and release.

First a final site for the project is to be identified. This will be a center for research, education, and will form the base from which rehabilitated groups of monkeys will be released. Once the project is established at this final site, work can begin on identifying and surveying potentially suitable release sites, initially for the mona group. **Cercopan** is currently seeking funding to carry out this work.

CHIMPANZEE REPORT

On 16 July 1997 the National Research Council expert panel on chimpanzees issued its report entitled **Chimpanzees in Research — Strategies for their ethical care, management and use**. IPPL has a copy of the Executive Summary but not the entire report.

The National Institutes of Health has supported a Chimpanzee Breeding and Research Program since 1986. The goal of the program was to produce enough chimpanzees to supply US experimenters. But, as the committee's report notes:

The expected level of use of the chimpanzee model in biomedical research did not materialize, and that has created a complex problem that threatens both the availability of chimpanzees for research in the future and the infrastructure required to ensure the well-being of captive chimpanzees used in biomedical research.

Because there are "more than enough" chimpanzees for research over the next five years, the committee recommended:

- 1) a breeding moratorium for at least 5 years,
- 2) that euthanasia should not be endorsed as a general means of population control. In other words, scientists should not just "kill" their problem, i.e. the chimpanzees.
- 3) that a core population of approximately 1,000 chimpanzees should be assured lifetime support by the federal government, and ownership of these animals should be transferred to the government. Among animals maintained by the government would be those infected with diseases communicable to humans.
- 4) the use of sanctuaries to provide for long-term care and well-being of non-infectious chimpanzees.
- 5) that a single multi-agency organizational unit, the Chimpanzee Management Program (ChiMP) should be established within the office of the Director of the National Institutes of Health to coordinate chimpanzee-related activities.

6) that a council of non-government experts should be created for the purpose of establishing the policies of ChiMP and for monitoring the short-term and long-term implications of the committee's recommendations.

One committee member disagreed with other committee members on the issue of killing surplus chimpanzees. Dr. Sarah Williams Blanguero of the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research wrote a dissenting opinion saying that the option of "selective euthanasia" should be left open.

Committee Chairman Dr. Dani Bolognesi of Duke University and the other committee members disagreed: Bolognesi told the **New York Times**:

This is a very special animal with regard to laboratory animals and requires special consideration. The committee wants to force an alternative to euthanasia and encourage other ways to deal with the problem. Somehow the government should be able to find the funds to manage 1,000 animals without killing them.

In a 20 July 1997 editorial the **Seattle Post-Intelligencer** made a very important point: maybe chimps, because they are so like humans, should not be used in experiments at all.

The lab chimps certainly do deserve some kind of special treatment, because other experiments they have been subjected to, such as those on hepatitis and AIDS, contribute to the betterment of human life. While it's unclear if they'd be eligible for the same Medicare or Social Security benefits as the rest of us, the panel said they definitely should not be euthanized when we're finished with them. That's because their special, near-human status entailed an "implied moral responsibility for appropriate long-term care..."

The committee seemed disinclined to pursue the nature of our "implied moral responsibility" to chimps so far into the ethical abyss that they might conclude that the closeness of this biological kinship means we shouldn't experiment on chimps in the first place.

MEET DONDRAK – A RESCUED GIBBON!

by Patrick Cullen

Dondrak is a beautiful brown male lar gibbon. He was raised in captivity. What this means is that his mother was shot dead and that he fell with her dead body more than twenty meters to the forest floor.

He was forcibly removed from his mother's body, no doubt screaming, and stuffed into a bag. Two other gibbon mothers may well have been shot that morning while singing their songs in the rainforest and their babies may have died in the process, as it is estimated that less than one in three gibbon babies survives this fall and that only one in ten or more will reach adulthood.

Dondrak's solitary confinement

Cute, intelligent, playful and so very human-like, Dondrak would have clowned around with his "owners" like the perfect pet. That is, until his teeth started to grow. At four years of age he probably sank his new sharp inch-long canines into his "owner."

Of course the gibbon was behaving like the wild animal he was born to be. His sentence for his "crime" of biting was life imprisonment in a cage too small to stretch his arms and legs. Worse still, the cage was never cleaned and he was fed a diet solely of papaya (a fruit known to give gibbons diarrhea).

After two years of filthy solitary confinement Dondrak was given to the Gibbon Rehabilitation Project. We actually had to cut him out of the cage as the door had rusted tight. If we hadn't rescued him he may have spent more than twenty or even twenty-five years in that awful cage. Now Dondrak is undergoing a three month quarantine period in a large cage donated by the International Primate Protection League.

The Gibbon Rehabilitation Project

The Gibbon Rehabilitation Project (GRP) is a scientific research project of the Wild Animal Rescue Foundation of Thailand (WAR) and was established in 1992 by the filmmaker and zoologist, Terrance Dillon Morin, who died in 1995. GRP is funded by donations which include an educa-

tion grant for three Thai Education Officers from the Australian Government. The Australian government also funds my living expenses through the "Australian Volunteers Abroad" scheme. I arrived four months after Terrance died, and eight months later found myself in charge of the project. Facilities comprise the quarantine area, an in-cage rehabilitation center and various islands and rain forest release sites.

It is a marvelous project. Not only for the individual gibbons that are saved, but also for the attention it draws to the plight of Thailand's dwindling rain forest. Volunteers come from all over the world to help at the project and they get involved in basic animal husbandry, education, research and maintenance, but almost never touch the gibbons.

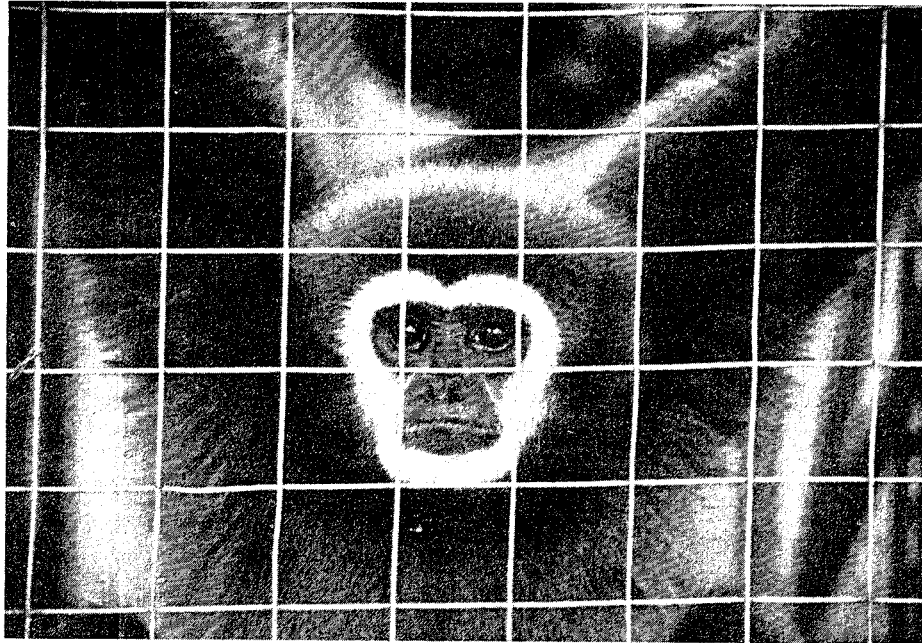
Hands-Off Policy

We have a strictly "hands-off" approach to allow the gibbons to get used to their own kind. Even the tours we give are on the outside of the project and the public does not get close to the gibbons. Our visitors are usually very understanding of the reason for this — we want the gibbons to be as independent as possible of humans.

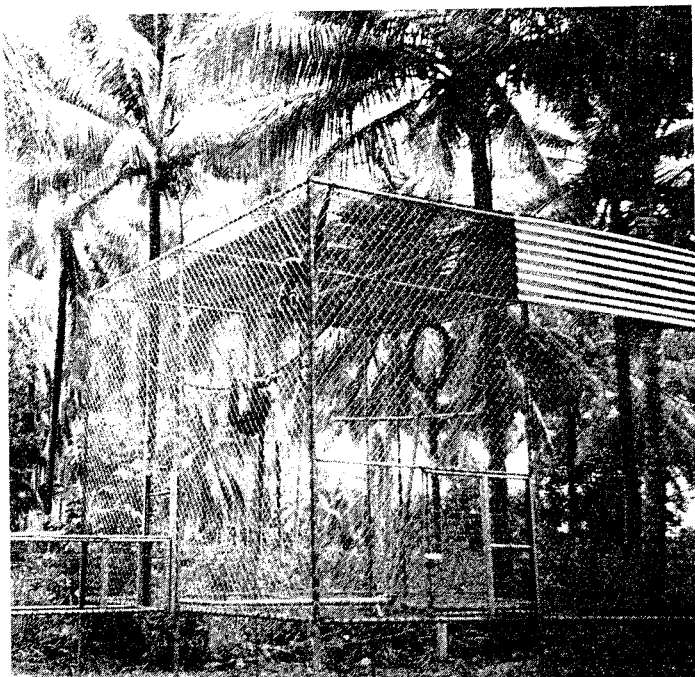
The scientific protocols developed here are based on the work of Professor Warren

Brockelman. In two days Dondrak is booked in for a veterinary check-up. He has already been tested for Hepatitis B and we now want to test for TB. If he has a clean bill of health he will undergo the painstaking process of rehabilitation and release.

First we must find him a suitable partner. This is easier said than done. Gibbons are very "picky" in mate selection. One female has already turned down three very eligible bachelors! However difficult the courtship, once together they will stay that way for life. Other than social skills gibbons must also learn to forage for wild foods, to travel safely through the forest, and, most important of all, to avoid humans whenever possible.



Dondrak, rescued white-handed gibbon



IPPL-funded enclosure houses rescued gibbons

The moment it takes a gibbon to decide whether a human is a friend or a foe is the moment that could cost the animal his/her life.

Teaching gibbons to avoid humans is probably the hardest task, as any social primate brought up with humans is often attracted back to them. Our gibbon islands in the Phangnga Bay are supposed to be isolated areas where gibbons can grow up away from humans, but despite our best efforts the local fishermen will sometimes still have lunch with the gibbons right under the big red sign that tells them not to!

It seems that these gibbons will never act in a truly wild way while humans are about, and with the ever dwindling rain forest, human encroachment is a likely scenario.

Gibbon Guardians

Faced with this situation we could either pack our bags and go home or try to use this to our advantage. A young blond male gibbon named Chai released by the GRP has currently spent the last four and a half years in the rain for-

est in an area where gibbons have been extinct for the last ten years.

Chai's secret "guardian angels" are Wety and Oi: husband and wife rubber tappers who made a point of telling all the local people that if anyone touches "their" gibbon they will call the police.

This came about after Choi, a female gibbon, was shot after more than two years in the forest. Chai and Choi lived together and they were Wety and Oi's friends (on some occasions Wety and Oi left bananas out in the forest for them, and called to them). We are hoping to locate a new mate for Chai.

Our aim now is to find other "Gibbon Guardians," local people who we will employ,

- to keep an eye on the gibbons we release,
- to tell the local people about our project and,
- to build up strong community ties.

The Future

We currently have an anthropologist who is working with our education team to do just that, as are volunteer researchers working in the forest. It is only through local community support that we will save the gibbons and their forest. But only if we can find the funds to make it all happen. One day, we hope, Dondrak and his chosen mate will be acclimatized in a large forest cage. After the months of radio-tracking and support feeding are over they will have to fend for themselves.

It is people like Wety and Oi doing follow-up studies and education work who will bring this endangered ape back to the forest. And these are "angels" whose efforts will not go unsung, as the gibbons' early morning calls will break over the forest canopy each day proclaiming their efforts.

We may never fully break the ties between the released gibbons and humans, but it is our dream that their offspring will grown up safe and wild in the forest and that they will one day repopulate the entire area. This is the goal that makes the whole project so worthwhile.

That — and the look of wonder on Dondrak's face when we release him in the forest.

THE APE ARMY

Animal Activist Rick Bogle is travelling across the United States with an Ape Army! The "Ape Army" is a troop of stuffed monkeys which will travel with Bogle to all seven US primate centers to protest experiments on primates.

Demonstrations took place already outside the Oregon, Washington and New England Primate Centers. From 6–14 September 1997 a protest will be held at the Wisconsin Regional Primate Center, Madison, Wisconsin: from 4–12 October outside the Tulane Regional Primate Research Center, Covington, Louisiana and from 1–9 November outside the California Regional Primate Center, Davis California.

ZOO MONKEYS FACE UNCERTAIN FUTURE

The stumptail macaque, native to Southern China and Southeast Asia, is listed as "Threatened" on the US Endangered Species List and as "vulnerable" in the **IUCN Red Data Book**. Reports from the field indicate that this species is in real trouble.

IPPL has learned that an unusual US stumptail macaque colony numbering around 45 animals may soon be broken up. The colony is to the best of IPPL's knowledge the only large flourishing troop of this rare species in captivity anywhere in the world. This troop includes a female 36 years old — she is very old for a macaque.

The colony is housed at the Henry Vilas Park Zoo in Madison, Wisconsin, but it consists of animals which belong to the University of Wisconsin Primate Research Center in Madison. The zoo also houses rhesus macaques.

Many of those attending the 1996 Congress of the International Primatological Society, which was held in Madison, visited the zoo to see the monkeys. The zoo was filled with children marvelling at the animals' activities.

In July 1997 IPPL learned that all the Vilas Park Zoo stumptail macaques may be sold to the Procter and Gamble company for testing of hair growth products. However Procter and Gamble decided against obtaining the monkeys when the Madison press showed that the public wanted the monkeys to stay at the zoo.

The university monkeys housed at Vilas Park Zoo live in troops (about 100 rhesus as well as the stumptails). There are lots of toys and play structures because the only research carried on was behavioral.

It is unusual to find research animals housed at a public zoo. Most zoos' animal disposal policies do not allow disposal of surplus animals to facilities performing invasive research on animals. It would be bad public relations for any zoo to send animals beloved by the public, including its community's children, into situations where harm or death could result.

However the animals appeared to be protected by two letters from University of Wisconsin officials stating that Vilas Park Zoo monkeys would **NEVER** be used for invasive research at the university. Under the **SPIRIT** of these letters (there are technical loopholes, probably unintended) the stumptails and rhesus monkeys should be safe.

Extracts from the letters follow.

Letter dated 15 June 1989 to David Hall, Director, Vilas Park Zoo, from Robert Goy, Director; William Bridson, Associate Director; Robert Watson, Assistant Director; Wallace Houser, Chief Veterinarian; Viktor Reinhardt, Assistant Veterinarian; Stephen Eisele, Breeding Supervisor; and Milford Unren, Vilas Park Zoo Supervisor.

I want to inform you of the Primate Center's policy regarding our monkeys that reside at the Vilas Park Zoo in a building we refer to as the "WRPRC Vilas Park Zoo Facility." This building was constructed with funds provided by the federal government to the Primate Center.

Thus, despite its somewhat ambiguous designation, the facility is owned and operated by us, and, accordingly, the University of Wisconsin.

More than a few of the monkeys housed at the facility have lived their entire lives there, and animals are removed from their natal groups only to prevent over-crowding. The groups have been established for the principal purpose of studying social organization and social dynamics in stable primate societies. Accordingly, on those infrequent occasions when animals are removed from a group, the removal is guided by procedures aimed at ensuring the least disruption of the group and at preserving social stability.

The research performed on troops housed at the zoo is purely observational in nature. As a matter of policy, no invasive physiological studies are carried out on these animals. In addition, the Center's policy regarding animals removed from these established troops ensures that they will not be used in studies at our facility involving invasive experimental procedures. Such animals will be assigned to the Center's non-experimental breeding colony, where they are exempt from experimental use.

Letter dated 18 April 1990 from John Hearn, then Director of the Wisconsin Primate Center, to Dr. Hall:

I confirm that the existing and future policies of the Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center are that any animals bred at the zoo are used in non-interventive behavioral research or for breeding purposes only.

We are very pleased to have the zoo facility and will do all in our power to make it an interesting display for the public as well as a significant center for behavioral studies. We are addressing new ways in which the con-



Vilas Park stumptail macaques



Newly tattooed rhesus macaques

dition of the animals can be improved. In particular, with regard to the hair loss during the late winter months...

My predecessor Dr. Goy wrote to you last June 15 and July 17. Our policies were spelled out in detail in these letters and these policies remain in place.

IPPL has received documents suggesting that rhesus monkeys removed from the Vilas Park colony may have been assigned to invasive research. Two requests to Center Director Joseph Kemnitz about whether this happened have gone unanswered.

IPPL has learned that primate center staff went to Vilas Park Zoo in late July and placed Norplant birth control implants in all the rhesus females and gave them new bright green tattoos. The future of the zoo monkeys remains unclear.

LETTERS NEEDED

IPPL believes that the US National Institutes of Health (NIH), which funds the primate center program, should provide necessary funds to ensure that the stumptail and rhesus macaques be maintained at Vilas Park Zoo. We are also concerned at the failure of Wisconsin Primate Center Acting Director Dr. Joseph Kemnitz to respond to our enquiry about whether monkeys removed from the macaque colony at Vilas Park Zoo have been used in invasive experimentation, despite the policy statement by Dr. Goy and others, reiterated by Dr. John Hearn.

Please contact:

*Dr. Harold Varmus, Director
US National Institutes of Health
Bethesda MD 20892 USA.*

Request that NIH provide for the long-term care of the Vilas Park monkeys and investigate what has happened to monkeys removed from the Vilas Park Zoo colony and whether any were used in violation of the policy statement.

ALLIANCE FOR ANIMALS CAMPAIGNS FOR ZOO MONKEYS

On learning about the plight of the Vilas Park Zoo monkeys, IPPL contacted the Alliance for Animals which is based in Madison, Wisconsin. The Alliance immediately took up the case and continues to work to ensure a safe future for the monkeys. A pamphlet was circulated and a petition drive is under way. The petition reads:

SAVE THE VILAS PARK MONKEYS

We, the under-signed, urge all interested parties to work together to provide a secure future for the rhesus and stumptail monkeys currently at the Vilas Park Zoo. These monkeys should be allowed to live out their lives in colonies at the Vilas Park Zoo or a similar facility where they will be together and will not be used for research or commercial breeding purposes. Working together, local and federal government agencies, the Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, the University of Wisconsin, and the Vilas Park Zoo have it in their power to ensure the continued health and well-being of these valuable, entertaining creatures. They have earned it.

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 this free service is available **only** to IPPL Members.

Also, take a look at IPPL's web site which is located at:

<http://www.ippl.org>

A HISTORIC IPPL VICTORY – TWENTY YEARS AGO

IPPL CAMPAIGN LEADS TO INDIAN MONKEY EXPORT BAN

In 1976 IPPL was just three years old. When we learned that monkeys exported from India were being used in cruel neutron radiation experiments carried out by the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute, Bethesda, Maryland, USA, we protested strongly to the Department of Defense. But no action was taken.

IPPL learned that there was an agreement between the United States and India that Indian monkeys were to be used only for research of value to the whole of humanity. Knowing about the agreement and about India's tradition of reverence for monkey life, IPPL contacted the Indian press and then Prime Minister Morarji Desai. The shameful abuse of Indian monkeys outraged the Indian public. In a 9 November 1977 editorial the Times of India stated:

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

New Delhi must take up the matter with Washington and, if necessary, stop further exports.

On 3 December 1977 Morarji Desai announced a ban on further export of rhesus monkeys. The ban is still in place despite howls of protest from angry experimenters (who had never protested against the radiation experiments which precipitated it). The ban has allowed hundreds of thousands of monkeys to continue to live out their lives in their Indian homeland.

USDA GIVES PERMIT TO ANIMAL ABUSER

On 12 March 1997 the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) gave a license to hold animals to Sue Kriz of Shueyville, Iowa, USA, despite a judge having removed 51 primates from her care in December 1995.

Assistant Johnson County Attorney Anne Lahey, who had handled the Kriz case, was appalled at USDA's action, according to the 2 April 1997 issue of the **Daily Iowan**. Lahey stated:

The conditions she kept the monkeys in were not acceptable. They weren't being properly fed or watered and the sanitation was very poor, almost non-existent.

Lahey had sent USDA a copy of the judge's ruling and a

copy of the court transcript. Clearly USDA paid no attention to Kriz' record of animal abuse. Sadly this is all too typical of USDA.

The primates confiscated from Kriz have been sent to sanctuaries. Sadly issuance of this permit is all too typical of USDA's desire to make life easy for those who seek to exploit exotic animals.

USDA has even issued a booklet called "Customer Service." In a section "Our Customers" the booklet calls registrants "customers." Registrants are animal dealers, exhibitors and research facilities. These should be called "regulated entities." They are not friends or "customers."

SCOTCH PLAINS ZOO CLOSED

On 29 May 1997 the Scotch Plains Zoo in Scotch Plains, New Jersey, closed its doors. The zoo had failed to comply with New Jersey state standards for care of captive wild animals and the Department of Agriculture had cited the zoo for over 60 violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

Rusty the orangutan has been sent to live with the Orangutan Foundation in Hawaii. The remainder of the animals are leaving soon for approved zoos and sanctuaries.

Sherrill Volpone and Peter Hnath, who worked hard on the campaign to close the zoo down, thank the New Jersey Fish and Game Department, the local media, IPPL, and everyone else who helped. Of course they themselves deserve much of the credit. Marc Jurnove also worked hard on the issue.

GIFT ITEMS



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

Artwork by Michele Winstanley

12 for \$10



Gibbon gift wrap: \$4.50
for 3 sheets postpaid



Gibbon and Gorilla Stickers
5 assorted sheets, \$5 postpaid



WILDSIGHT VIDEO

Starring Beanie and the
IPPL gibbons
\$29.95 postpaid

BOOKS FOR SALE



"Baboon Orphan"
Hard cover: \$8
Overseas: \$12



"The Apes" by Tess Lemmon
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XXL White

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Aqua, Pink



Overseas Orders Air Mail
Sweats: \$30 T: \$17

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