



News

ISSN-1040-3027, VOL. 25, NO. 1

APRIL 1998



Odierke-Ubie is a Sclater's guenon living at Cercopan Rescue Center.
She belongs to one of the rarest monkey species in the world!
This endangered species hangs on in a small patch of forest in Southern Nigeria.

INSIDE

IPPL IS 25 YEARS OLD

RARE MONKEYS FIND SANCTUARY IN NIGERIA

IPPL – 25 YEARS OLD

Dear IPPL Member,

1998 is IPPL's 25th year. Put another way, we have now been working for a quarter century to protect all the world's primates.

I have been with IPPL from the very beginning. I was living in Thailand when I realized the need for an animal protection organization that would work solely for the apes, monkeys, and lesser primates of the world. So I printed up some letterhead and IPPL was on its way!

Some of our Field Representatives and Advisers from those early days when I was still in Thailand (I left in 1975) are still with us. Among them are Professor Vernon Reynolds of Oxford University, England; the eloquent writer Charles Shuttleworth of Taiwan; Marjorie Doggett of Singapore; Dr. Colin Groves of Australia; S. T. Baskaram and Dr. S. M. Mohnot of India; Dr. Frances Burton of Canada; Drs. William McGrew and Arthur Westing from the USA; Dr. Jane Goodall; and Dr. Barbara Harrison, orangutan and Asian art expert.

All of these wonderful people have been great assets to IPPL for well over two decades now and we and our primate constituency all owe them all a debt of gratitude.

During these years we have undertaken frontline investigations of the trade in live primates. I survived lawsuits from an Austrian multinational corporation whose efforts to set up a chimpanzee laboratory in Sierra Leone IPPL opposed (the lab was never set up) and from an animal dealer whose orangutan smuggling we exposed (he was later sent to prison and he and his lawyer were each forced to pay me \$25,000 in court-ordered sanctions).

At IPPL Headquarters we enjoy the company of 30 delightful gibbons, many of them veterans of research laboratories enjoying the pleasant Lowcountry lifestyle! Each has such a different personality.

As we start our next 25 years, we would like to thank you for your generous help and express our hope that we will remain worthy of your support.

Yours sincerely,



Shirley McGreal



Holiday Cheer!

At the holiday season, IPPL receives hundreds of greeting cards from members from all over the world. Many of them have animal themes. They cover every door and cupboard at Headquarters! Here you see office assistant Terri posting some of them.

Thanks to everyone who sent such wonderful cards that bring an atmosphere of seasonal good cheer to our office.

IPPL GIBBONS STAR ON CNN!

During the weekend of 6-8 March 1998, CNN viewers were repeatedly shown a wonderful segment about the IPPL gibbons produced by Jennie Garlington of "Earth Matters."

Among the "stars" were Tong, a female Concolor gibbon, who tried to grab a CNN camera to take pictures of humans (!) and Peppy and Helen, white-handed gibbons who came to us from New York Medical Center way back in 1982. Peppy is one of our "suck-a-thumbs" (Elizabeth is the other). Some years ago Peppy sucked his finger raw (it looked like meat). So we asked our veterinarian for advice on what to do. He said there was no way to stitch it up, so we should just wait and see if it would heal.

It did quickly, and Peppy has never sucked his thumb too hard again!

So IPPL and the gibbons had their proverbial "five minutes of fame."

Thanks to Jennie and her crew for giving IPPL's work national exposure!



Photo: Shirley McGreal

Lab veteran Peppy enjoys a banana

HOSPITAL TREATS INJURED GORILLA

In July 1997 a criminal escaping from police scaled a moat and ended up in the gorilla enclosure at Johannesburg Zoo, South Africa. The thief fired two shots at Max the silverback gorilla. One bullet passed right through his neck. The other lodged in his shoulder. After treatment at a human hospital, Max was returned to his exhibit.

IPPL PHONE CODE CHANGES

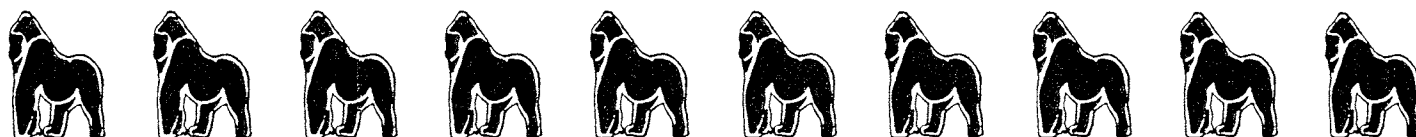
The International Primate Protection League telephone area code has been changed by the telephone company. The new area code is 843. Please keep note of our new numbers.

Phone: **843-871-2280**

Fax: **843-871-7988**

IPPL e-mail address: **ippl@awod.com**

IPPL web page: **<http://www.ippl.org>**



THE APE ALLIANCE

by Melanie Brett, IPPL-UK

IPPL-UK has joined forces with other leading conservation groups to form the Ape Alliance, as a result of the great apes of Africa being under renewed threat from the "bushmeat" trade.

The Ape Alliance commissioned a review of recent studies of the trade in countries with great ape populations, and collated information from 80 different reports about the situation in 9 countries in Africa. The findings showed a situation of great concern.

In February 1998 a press launch was held titled "The African Bushmeat Trade — A Recipe for Extinction," with Jane Goodall, Ian Redmond and Karl Ammann speaking to the press as representatives of the Ape Alliance.

"All four species of great ape are in desperate trouble," said Jane Goodall, the world's leading authority on chimpanzees. "It is my firm belief that if action is not taken now, there will be no viable populations of great apes living in the wild within 50 years."

The trade in bushmeat has now developed into a major commercial activity and is threatening the survival of gorillas, chimpanzees, and bonobos (formerly known as Pygmy chimpanzees). The rapidly growing timber industry has been a major factor in encouraging the bushmeat trade.

Logging companies not only destroy ape habitat, but logging activity has opened up large areas of forest, previously impenetrable except on foot, to commercial hunters using

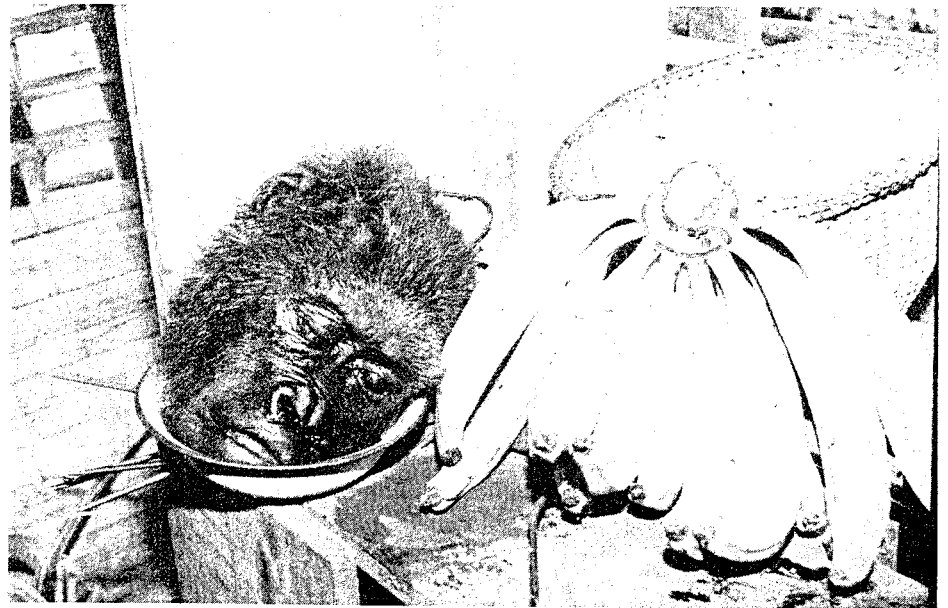


Photo: Karl Ammann

The Grisly Bushmeat Trade

the logging trucks to transport themselves and the bushmeat back to the markets.

The Ape Alliance is asking all retailers and consumers of timber to ensure that they only buy timber and timber products from forests which have been independently certified as environmentally responsible, for example by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). Consumers can identify these products by looking for the FSC logo.

The Alliance is also seeking the indepen-

dent certification of forest timber concessions of Central and West Africa by bodies such as the FSC which would ensure that wildlife and indigenous peoples are not threatened by logging.

In the meantime the Ape Alliance has asked the timber companies to adopt a "Bushmeat Code of Conduct" to end the slaughter of apes and is calling on the European Union to encourage all European timber companies operating in Africa to follow this code.

VISITING THE CARIBBEAN?

If you are planning a visit to the Caribbean, you should be aware that many Caribbean Islands helped promote a variety of anti-animal issues at the 1997 Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

Some of these islands receive large sums of money from Japan and their representatives often acted as "puppets" of Japan, supporting the stripping of CITES Appendix I protection from elephants and the

reopening of whale trade.

The representatives of St. Lucia and St. Vincent made especially venomous tirades to the assembly, denouncing animal protectors. Many of these Caribbean delegates seemed to be reading speeches prepared for them by pro-trade interests.

A few islands took pro-animal positions, sometimes incurring the hostility of the "Japanese mouthpieces." These islands deserve your tourist dollar — please avoid the rest.

Animal-friendly Islands to Visit

Bahamas
Barbados
Dominican Republic
Jamaica

Islands to Avoid

Antigua and Barbuda
Cuba
Dominica
St. Kitts
St. Lucia
St. Vincent and Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago

ANOTHER SHIPMENT OF INDONESIAN MONKEYS

On 13 February 1998 a shipment of 240 crab-eating monkeys reached Los Angeles Airport, USA, from the Inquatex firm in Jakarta, Indonesia. After their gruelling trans-Pacific ride, the monkeys were loaded on a rented truck and hauled 2500 miles across the country to LABS, a company based in Yemassee, South Carolina. Inquatex billed LABS \$159,600 (\$650 per monkey, plus 48 shipping crates at \$75 each).

Import documents obtained by IPPL show that no shipping roster was provided to USFWS, so we do not know the ages of the animals.

According to US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) computerized records, Inquatex sent four large shipments of crab-eating monkeys to LABS during 1997. These consisted of:

*20 February 1997: 220 monkeys
10 April 1997: 253 monkeys
1 May 1997: 120 monkeys
30 May 1997: 253 monkeys*

The total number of monkeys involved in these shipments was 836. Questions raised by IPPL and other organizations about these shipments apparently led to a delay in shipping

more monkeys, as nine months passed before the next shipment took place.

In June 1997 a concerned individual informed IPPL that several of the earlier shipments included pathetic-looking, terrified baby monkeys shipped with their mothers. IPPL began to look into this affair. Inspection of relevant documents obtained under the US Freedom of Information Act confirmed that babies as young as 3-4 weeks had been shipped.

IPPL does not have information about whether babies were included in the 20 February and 1 May 1997 shipments as no shipping rosters were attached to the import documents. However, we do know that the 10 April 1997 shipment included 20 babies, some as young as four weeks old. The 30 May 1997 shipment included 19 babies, one just three weeks old.

Both shipments included pregnant monkeys and nursing mothers. This violated US humane shipment regulations, which ban shipment of nursing mothers with young and unweaned animals except in medical emergency situations.

The non-binding International Air Transport Association **Live Animals Regulations**

were apparently also violated. Documents obtained from the Centers for Disease Control showed that the monkeys in the 31 May shipment had been shipped in substandard crates.

These crates were so flimsy that one monkey in this shipment escaped from her crate at Charles De Gaulle Airport, Paris, where the monkeys, who were travelling on Air France, had a transit stop. One monkey mother in this shipment was dead on arrival at Charles de Gaulle, and her clinging baby was killed.

The whole shipment was held up for two days while the crates were reinforced to prevent further escapes.

As a result of controversy over this shipment, Air France rejected further Inquatex shipments. The 13 February 1998 shipment reached the United States on Garuda, Indonesia's national airline.

Also suspect were the claims on the Indonesian export documents that the monkeys shipped in 1997 were all "captive-born." Indonesian law bans export of wild-caught monkeys. According to a Ministerial decree signed on 20 January 1994, exported macaques "must come from breeding efforts."

According to an article in the Indonesian



IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/LE97-02268

NOV 19 1997

Ms. [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter expressing your concerns about the apparent unlawful importation of several shipments of macaques from Indonesia into the United States. These importations occurred at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designated port of Chicago, Illinois.

Your concerns were relayed to our Division of Law Enforcement for evaluation and appropriate action. The Assistant Regional Director for Law Enforcement who oversees wildlife inspections in Chicago has completed a preliminary review of this matter. Errors were indeed made by Service wildlife inspectors with regard to the clearance of shipments of macaques containing nursing mothers and babies.

We continue to conduct an in-depth review of these importations. Regulations pertaining to wildlife importations under 50 CFR 14.52(a) state that "Such clearance does not constitute a certification of the legality of an importation or exportation under the laws or regulations of the United States." Therefore, even though these shipments were "cleared," the clearance does not preclude the Service from taking appropriate action when violations are documented.

We thank you for helping to bring this matter to our attention. The information you provided has increased our awareness of the need for renewed vigilance in the area of primate inspections and has prompted us to establish new procedures at the port of Chicago to prevent a similar incident from occurring again.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
DIRECTOR



Photo: Shirley McGreal

**Free-living crab-eating macaque
on the island of Bali**

newspaper **Kompas** dated 18 August 1997, the Inquatex facility owned "500 parent stocks, 50 males and the rest are females, caught in nature." Normally 450 females would produce around 400 babies per year.

Yet, according to **Kompas**, the Inquatex firm exported 900 monkeys in 1996 and USFWS import statistics show that the firm exported at least 820 monkeys in 1997, assuming it was exporting to no other firms anywhere in the world besides LABS.

Monkeys seldom produce twins, so the claims that all the monkeys were captive-born are suspect. The **Kompas** article increased these suspicions by noting that the company had recently obtained 203 "new parent stocks from Lampung to replace the old ones."

Also suspicious was that the shipping rosters for the April and May shipments listed dozens of monkeys as old as 12-17 years, all or most likely to have been wild-caught as there was very little captive breeding of monkeys in Indonesia prior to the early '90s.

Based on review of documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, IPPL

requested the USFWS to investigate the entire circumstances surrounding these monkey shipments. That USFWS cleared shipments including babies and nursing mothers, and containing monkeys of dubious captive birth, is absolutely outrageous.

IPPL members contacted Jamie Rappaport Clark, Director of USFWS, and their congressional representatives. Ms. Clark replied that the affair was being investigated and admitted that the inspection service had made errors by clearing the shipments.

However, IPPL has learned that no inspector was dismissed. It is not clear whether, in fact, some deal had been cut with a user agency, with the inspector possibly having been told to "wave the shipments through."

While pleased at Ms. Clark's letter, IPPL is concerned that she may be basing her statement solely on information provided by USFWS. IPPL has learned to distrust the USFWS Law Enforcement Division, although it has some excellent employees. This distrust results from our experience in the famous "Bangkok Six" case.

Long-time members will be aware of the struggle undertaken by IPPL to ensure that Miami orangutan smuggler Matthew Block was indicted for the 1990 smuggling of six baby orangutans ("The Bangkok Six") internationally in crates labeled "Birds."

It was obvious from the start that USFWS did not want to prosecute Matthew Block at all. We had to fight USFWS every step of the way. As a result, we have limited confidence in USFWS's willingness to make a thorough investigation of these monkey shipments.

However, jurisdiction over these shipments is in Region 3 of USFWS, headquartered in Minnesota, not in Region 4, which is based in Atlanta Georgia, and includes Miami. So it is possible that more talented agents are looking into this affair.

However the fact that another 240 monkeys were just shipped by the same participants, again on suspect "captive born" documents, suggests that the participants are confident they will face no legal problems.

IPPL has learned that more Inquatex-LABS shipments are planned in the near future.

MORE LETTERS NEEDED!

Please contact **Jamie Rappaport Clark, Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service Washington DC 20240**. Tell Ms Clark that you are pleased that an investigation of the 1997 monkey shipments from Inquatex to LABS is under way and request that it be given a high priority because humane shipment regulations were clearly violated. Mention that, should wild-caught monkeys have been exported from Indonesia on captive-born documents, to be replaced by the Indonesian exporter with wild-caught monkeys, this could affect the long-term future of Indonesia's monkeys, which is already adversely affected by deforestation and forest fires.

In addition, please contact your representative **House Office Building, Washington DC 20515** and senators **Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510**, or the US Ambassador in your country of residence, asking for information on the status of the investigation of the Inquatex-LABS monkey shipments.

DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING FEBRUARY MONKEY SHIPMENT

The following documents accompanied the 13 February shipment of 24 monkeys reaching Los Angeles on 13 February 1998.

1) **Form 3-177**, US import declaration for 240 crab-eating macaques valued at \$159,000, shipped on Garuda Flight 800, in 48 crates. Importer: LABS of Virginia, Yemassee SC. Foreign consignor: Inquatex Primates, POB 4342, Jakarta. 100% of shipment inspected and cleared by USFWS Inspector M. Brown.

2) **Indonesian export permit** for 125 heads, live "Macaca fascicularis, Kera ekor panjang, crab-eating monkey." CITES Appendix II(C). Permit "issued in lieu of unused permit No. 10292, dated 26/11/1997" (this permit was for a planned shipment that got postponed). No quota allocated "because captive bred specimen." Destination listed as

"Chicago, USA," suggesting the exporter planned to ship the monkeys on Air France, but that this plan fell through.

3) **Identically worded export permit** for 130 monkeys.

4) **Health certificate** for "240 heads of Macaca fascicularis crab-eating monkey" in 48 crates. Veterinarian Lukas Tonga states that he has examined the monkeys and "found that the above-mentioned animal(s) is (are) free of contagious disease, especially of rabies."

5) **Air waybill** for 240 monkeys "Commodity item 110." The animals' "declared value for customs" is listed as "NCV" (no commercial value). The prepaid freight cost was \$10,725.40.

6) **Extra copy of air waybill** apparently faxed from Agus Darmawan, owner of

Inquatex, to "Mr. Kip Howell, Room 1420, Citraland Hotel." Howell is a LABS employee sent to Indonesia to prepare this, and possibly other, monkey shipments.

7) **Invoice** for "240 heads live monkey." Cost, \$156,000.

Conspicuously missing

Conspicuously missing was a roster listing the tattoo numbers and ages of the monkeys in the 13 February shipment. Such rosters were filed with the 10 April and 30 May shipments and provided proof that babies, nursing mothers, and pregnant animals were shipped and animals so old they were unlikely to have been born in captivity. Presumably a decision was made by someone associated with this latest deal to include no roster.

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT CHECKS MONKEY TRUCKS

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) enforces the Animal Welfare Act regulations affecting transportation of animals between US states. From the moment monkey shipments reaching the United States from overseas are cleared by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for onward transportation, they are **in theory** under USDA control.

In practice, USDA never knows when shipments are due to arrive, and seldom inspects either the trucks or the animals. CDC documents obtained by IPPL under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) reveal that rented trucks are often used, and that crates of monkeys imported in a March 1997 shipment were stacked up "too densely to allow for safe access and routine feeding, watering and monitoring the health of the animals or security of the crates."

In this case CDC clearly did not bother to inform USDA of possible violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

Thanks to a tip-off from a concerned person, IPPL learned that a large shipment of monkeys exported by the Indonesian firm Inquatex had been loaded on a Garuda flight from Jakarta due to arrive in Los Angeles on 13 February, and that the animals would be trucked 2,500 miles to LABS, a South Carolina firm. IPPL provided this information to USDA, and USDA inspectors were present when the 13 February shipment of 240 monkeys arrived at Los Angeles Airport.

IPPL has obtained a copy of USDA's report on this shipment. It is reproduced on this page.

If IPPL had not learned about this shipment, it is likely, if not certain, that USDA inspectors would not have inspected the monkeys and the suitability of the truck used to transport them. Unfortunately, unless it knows in advance that a shipment of monkeys is due, USDA won't be there to inspect!

It appears that CDC does not systematically share information with other agencies, causing inefficiency, and allowing offenders to fall between cracks in the system, despite strong US regulations on how animals are to be shipped internationally and between states. CDC is itself a user of primates in experiments, and IPPL has long had the impression that CDC is protecting primate dealers.

Using FOIA, IPPL obtained a copy of the USDA report pertaining to the 13 February shipment (reproduced on this page). Unfortunately the Department of Agriculture failed to inspect the condition of the animals on ar-

rival at the South Carolina end of their 2,500 mile trip — despite the agency's own California inspector, a veterinarian, having drawn attention to the lack of security of the crates inside the truck. So we will never know whether anything went wrong.

Telling a licensee not to do the same thing again, as USDA did in the case of this shipment, is hardly an appropriate response to such reportedly hazardous conditions, which USDA itself reported could "cause stress and/or injury to animals." Unfortunately USDA allowed the 240 monkeys to proceed on their 2,500 mile ride, without requiring further securing of the crates in the truck's trailer.



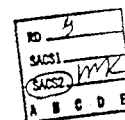
United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Animal Care

INSPECTION REPORT

Spencer Ellis
Kritter Krates
4907 Top Way
Spring, TX 77373

Site
LAX
Los Angeles, CA

74 B 0245
2-13-98
1830
Complaint



IPPL's complaint!

NARRATIVE

Inspection done at planeside and outside cargo terminal at LAX. Non-human primates observed from unloading of plane to loading into transport truck and trailer for surface transportation to Yamasse, South Carolina. Each animal in each crate was individually checked, through use of a flashlight. Feeding and watering (apples and gatorade) was observed as crates were loaded. Primate chow already in crates. Both truck and trailer have airconditioning and heating, and the ability to run these off of backup generators if necessary. Thermometers are present, allowing monitoring of temperatures inside conveyances without entering animal area. Shipment consisted of 48 crates, each containing 5 non-human primates, housed individually. Total number of animals (Crab-eating Macaques) was 240. Estimated time of arrival at destination is Monday, 2-16-98, approximately 0130. One animal, number I-FA-7613, observed with traces of dried blood on wall of enclosure. One animal, number I-FE-4908, observed with fresh blood on walls, dishes, mesh, etc. Both animals appeared bright and active, with good appetites. Enclosures did not appear to have any sharp points or objects present. Could not find any signs of injury on either animal, and fresh blood could be a result of normal cycling, as the underside of the tail was observed to have fresh blood present.

CATEGORY III: Non-compliant item(s) identified this inspection Section 3.87 (c)(2) Ventilation

- Shipping crates do not have projecting rims extending along the exterior of every side having a ventilation opening. To be corrected by: For future shipments.

Section 3.88(g) 3.90(a) Primary Conveyance and Care in Transit

- Placement and numbers of crates in transport vehicles would make observation of animals in distress difficult, if not impossible. Removal of crates in case of emergency could not be done quickly and easily. To be corrected by: For future shipments.

Section 3.92(b)(2) Handling

- Crates when placed in transport vehicles were stacked three high, in a staggered fashion. Crates were not tied down or fastened, and in case of accident or sudden movement of vehicle or trailer, crates could shift and be damaged or cause stress and/or injury to animals. To be corrected by: For all future shipments.

Also present were US Fish and Wildlife service, as well as US Public Health.

Inspection done by Dr. Kathleen Gariand, VMO; Jeanne Lorang, ACI. Also present was Lupe Aguilar, Senior Investigator, IES.

Prepared By: <u>Kathleen M. Gariand, VMO</u>		Date: <u>2-13-98</u>
Title: <u>Jeanne M. Lorang, Animal Care Inspector, USDA, APHIS, Animal Care</u>		LARS ID NO. <u>6008</u>
Copy Received By: <u>Jim Brown</u>		Date: <u>2-13-98</u>
Title: <u>APR 1998</u>		

HERPES B TRAGEDY AT YERKES

On Wednesday 10 December 1997 Elizabeth Griffin, aged 22, died of Herpes B. Griffin was an intern at the Yerkes Field Station near Lawrenceville, Georgia, USA. The field station houses monkeys in large outdoor compounds. The monkeys used in invasive research are housed at the main Yerkes Primate Center facilities at Emory University, located close to Atlanta.

Ms Griffin became infected when transferring a rhesus monkey during the annual "round-up" of the Field Station monkeys for health checks. Apparently a fluid from a monkey, either urine or saliva, hit her in the eye.

Press reports state that she was wearing gloves and a face mask, but apparently not goggles that might have protected her eyes. According to the **Atlanta Journal Constitution**:

She is the first person to have been infected because of the virus's ability to cross an intact mucous membrane — the lining of her eye — but virologists have suspected it was possible for several years.

Herpes B only rarely affects humans. When it does strike, the fatality rate is close to 80%. In the 70 years since the virus was identified, there have been only 40 cases, all involving

laboratory personnel, despite tens of thousands of monkeys being used in US research laboratories annually.

Herpes B is the primate version of human herpes simplex. It does not make monkeys sick but leads to deadly brain infections in humans. It is spread by monkey bites and scratches and transmission of bodily fluids. There is no vaccine and no reliable cure. Acyclovir treatment immediately after exposure may help.

Oddly, no owners of pet macaques are known to have been infected. Most captive monkeys carry the virus which becomes activated by stress. Most herpes B cases result from bites and scratches. Griffin's case is the first known case of transmission through the eye. Unfortunately, Griffin was **NOT** treated immediately with acyclovir.

Yerkes experimenter Harold McClure, in an interview quoted in the 4 January 1998 of the Atlanta Journal Constitution, commented that:

We were all looking for what she did wrong. I know that sounds terrible, but for us, the biggest relief was that she didn't follow procedures, she didn't wash it out [after she was splashed in the eye]. And that meant for the rest of us that if we just follow the rules, we should be OK.

It is not clear to what extent Griffin was aware of the "rules."

Emory University spokeswoman Sylvia Wroble refused to tell the **Constitution** what safety procedures Yerkes used to protect employees from Herpes B. It is possible that the extremely wealthy university (endowed with Coca Cola millions) was fearful of losing a potential multi-million dollar lawsuit, and was being very careful what it said.

The US federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration is investigating the incident.

Griffin's father, a medical doctor, stated that the family had no ill feelings towards Yerkes and held the facility in "highest respect."

Georgia animal activists held a candlelight vigil in memory of Ms Griffin. Sue McCrosky, president of Animal Abuse Watch, expressed her condolences to the family and commented:

We are concerned about the Atlanta population and we are demanding that the center be closed.

Three weeks after Griffin's death, a Yerkes researcher was exposed to Herpes B virus when fluid from a monkey seeped through her goggles. However she did not develop the dreaded disease.

HIGH PERCENTAGE OF HERPES B IN IMPORTED MONKEYS

The International Primate Protection League filed a Freedom of Information Act request with the US Centers for Disease Control for documents related to importation of monkeys from Indonesia by all US primate importers during 1997.

Among the documents we received were Herpes B test results on five shipments of monkeys imported from Indonesia by a US animal dealer based in Pennsylvania. IPPL does not have statistics for other importers.

These results show a very high rate of

Herpes B infection. It appears that monkeys are not tested at the Indonesian end, or that Herpes B is not considered a "disease entity," as all the listed shipments carried health certificates stating that:

The animals have been examined several times and are healthy and free of any known disease entities and are free from evidence of infection or contagious diseases.

A list of five shipments follows:

- **Shipment A:** 100 monkeys, 75 Herpes B positive, 5 equivocal, 20 negative.
- **Shipment B:** 100 monkeys, 78 positive, 2 equivocal, 20 negative.
- **Shipment C:** 101 monkeys, 77 positive, 1 equivocal, 23 negative.
- **Shipment D:** 99 monkeys, 74 positive, 0 equivocal, 25 negative.
- **Shipment E:** 100 monkeys, 85 positive, 2 equivocal, 13 negative.

THE MACAQUE PET TRADE

US law bans the distribution of imported primates into the pet trade. However there is a brisk trade in pet macaques, mainly babies. Dealers are not required to warn buyers of potential dangers to themselves or their families and friends. Oddly, no pet macaques have been known to infect their owners with Herpes B, despite the fact that many owners diaper their pets, kiss them, and get bitten and scratched by them.

DELTA AIRLINES AND THE MONKEY TRADE

Many airlines now refuse to carry monkeys for a variety of reasons. Delta Airlines has in the past always been willing to carry monkeys (as has Northwest, another US carrier).

Delta Airlines is based in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. The company has a service called "Delta Dash" whereby shippers deliver consignments to an airport check-in counter for a specified itinerary.

"Delta Dash" was the preferred service used by animal dealers shipping baby monkeys to purchasers of pets. Sometimes monkeys just a few days old would be shipped.

Now new International Air Transport Association (IATA) mandatory rules ban shipment of unweaned infant monkeys, and it appears that Delta will no longer participate in this sordid trade.

Suzanne Stubbs, analyst with the Delta Cargo Logistics Center, informed IPPL in a letter dated 26 February 1998.

This letter is in response to your letter of concern regarding the transport of unweaned/suckling primates.

At the IATA Live Animal Board meeting in October 1997, current policy and procedure as stated in the 24th edition of the Live Animal Regulations Manual for the transportation of non-human primates was an agenda item discussed by the board members. The members voted to amend the 25th edition of the Live Animal Regulations Manual to reflect the change in policy to read as follows:

- *Carriage of pregnant females will not be permitted.*
- *Carriage of mother and suckling young will not be permitted.*
- *Carriage of unweaned primates will not be permitted.*

...Delta has adopted the regulations and requirements set forth in the IATA Live Animals Regulations Manual as our policy for all live animal shipments. Delta will be incorporating this new policy into the appropriate manuals and publications to ensure all affected personnel are aware of our new guidelines.

Being based in Atlanta, Georgia, Delta Airlines was aware of the incident in which a young woman employed by the Yerkes Primate Center died of Herpes B virus in December 1997 (see, "Herpes B Tragedy at Yerkes," this issue).

Press articles about the tragedy note that the young woman was not known to have been scratched or bitten by a monkey. As a result, Delta Airlines has banned shipment of macaques, but not shipment of other species.

Ms. Stubbs informed IPPL in a letter dated 24 February 1998:

In answer to your specific question of Delta's policy regarding the Macaque species of monkeys, on December 23, 1997, Delta implemented procedures specifically designed to provide the safest workplace possible for our employees with regard to the

transport of any member of the Macaque species of monkeys. In the guidelines distributed to the field personnel, agents were advised that Delta would immediately discontinue the acceptance of the Macaque monkeys to avoid possible exposure to the Herpes B virus.

Although Delta personnel are not required to handle these monkeys, direct exposure is still possible through the ventilation holes of the container.

Delta agents were also advised that no other non-human primate (monkey or ape) are known carriers of the Herpes B virus and are therefore not affected by this directive; only the Macaque species.

It has always been Delta Air Lines' corporate policy to accept shipments of any animals under only the most humane conditions possible and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. We remain cognizant of our responsibility to meet and exceed our obligation on each and every animal shipment accepted, handled and transported. We would appreciate your assistance in advising members of your organization about our policy.

IPPL has drawn Delta's attention to the possibility that dealers wishing to ship macaques may falsely or misleadingly misidentify macaques as "Javas," "Pigtails," "Capuchins" or by any other name except "Macaque."

STAND UP! SIT DOWN! SPEAK OUT!

These are the fighting words of primate lover Rick Bogle. During 1997, Bogle has travelled around the United States by car to conduct vigils outside each of the seven US regional primate centers.

These are the University of Washington Primate Center, Seattle, Washington; the Oregon Regional Primate Center, Beaverton, Oregon; the Wisconsin Primate Center, Madison, Wisconsin; the Yerkes Regional Primate Center, Atlanta, Georgia; the New England Regional Primate Center, Southboro, Massachusetts; the Tulane Primate Center, Covington, Louisiana, and the California Primate Research Center, Davis, California.

Bogle travelled with the "Ape Army," a collection of stuffed monkey toys. His protests were all peaceful and, in all locations, he was helped by local animal-lovers.

Bogle ran into trouble in California. Local

police told him he could not vigil during his usual hours (5 a.m. to 10 p.m.). Instead he could not arrive earlier than 8 a.m. and had to leave by 4 p.m. This meant that most center employees would not see Bogle and "The Ape Army."

Rick Bogle did not compromise. As a result he was arrested and cited for "trespassing" and told not to return to the university. When he did, he was arrested again and bail was set at \$3,000. Bogle's clothes and property were taken and he was strip-searched and placed in "the hole," the special area of the prison reserved for prisoners who misbehave.

For nearly four days Bogle was not allowed to bathe and he was given no toilet paper, no mirror, and no pillow. The light in his cell shone brightly 24 hours a day. Rick Bogle accepted the abuse philosophically, saying:

More than anything else my stay in solitary confinement reinforced what I knew only intellectually about the conditions and plight of the primate prisoners held by our government. Most monkeys and apes are exponentially more sociable than humans. Literally thousands of them are held in isolation. The anguish I felt from only four days of such treatment pales to insignificance compared with a lifetime of loneliness. Throughout the NIH system monkeys are beating their heads against the walls of their cells, chewing holes in their arms, or huddling in helpless desperation.

Bogle finally left California on bail of \$5,000. He awaits "trial" for his "crimes" which were to "Stand up! Sit down, and Speak out" — for the primates incarcerated in the US primate centers.

HEAR ALL, SEE ALL, SAY SOMETHING!

by Melanie Brett, IPPL-UK

Every year IPPL-UK receives many reports from holiday makers unhappy at having seen caged and chained monkeys, and other wild animals, during their travels. Continuously handled, photographed, and forced to do tricks, these poor creatures are there to attract the tourists and their money.

It is cheap entertainment, but the animals pay dearly in their pain and suffering.

Many animals die in the process of capture and trade. Those that do survive, are mistreated and eventually disposed of to make way for a more appealing youngster. In some cases an individual monkey may be saved, only to be replaced soon by another unfortunate animal to attract crowds.

That's why IPPL-UK is launching a campaign in May 1998 to stop this ongoing chain of misery. Our aim is to show the travel companies, tourist offices, hotels, local mayors, and other interested parties, that most holidaymakers are appalled at the suffering of these animals and that these "tourist attractions" are damaging to business and tourism in their countries.

IPPL needs you to report to us any situation where you believe that a wild animal is suffering for the sake of the tourist trade.

On request, we will send out leaflets and forms for you to fill in, noting the date, location and time, whenever you observe an animal suffering for the sake of the tourist trade. Even if, thankfully, you do not come across such circumstances, please fill in the form. It can still be used to make tourist of-



**Tourists being photographed with gibbons at resort in Thailand.
Look out for similar abuses!**

fices and travel companies aware that use of animals as tourist attractions is damaging to the tourist trade.

We will collect this vital information together to compile a dossier of complaints about wild animals being used for tourist attractions. Each report will be sent to the local mayor, tour agencies, tourist offices and major hotels of the respective country and area.

IPPL needs your help and support for this campaign to be a success and together we can do something!

For more information or a leaflet please contact **IPPL, 116 Judd Street, London WC1H9NS, England** or **IPPL, POB 766, Summerville SC 29484 USA**. IPPL-US will also provide a free copy of a check sheet prepared for tourists by Lynette Shanley of IPPL-Australia.

INDONESIAN FIRES CONTINUE

The December 1997 issue of **IPPL News** told about the fires raging on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. Smog had spread as far as the Philippines, Malaysia, and Singapore. Most of the fires are started by plantations and timber estate owners clearing land. Land is cleared for palm oil and rice plantations.

After an unusually brief wet season, the fires diminished but now they are starting up again. According to Ludwig Schindler, head of the Integrated Forest Fire Management Project in Samarinda, East Kalimantan, which is part of the island of Borneo:

There are thousands of fires here, big and small. It's burning everywhere and, very close to Samarinda,

the situation is escalating. Rain is the only way to end it. There is not enough capacity, manpower or infrastructure to do anything to stop the fires.

Satellite photos showed that, as of early March, there were 600 "hot spots" in East Kalimantan. Severe water shortages are causing problems for the residents of the area. Samarinda has run out of running water and residents are forced to buy bottled water which many can barely afford.

According to the 22 February 1998 issue of the Australian newspaper **Melbourne Age**:

The fires are having a dire effect on animals. Orangutans in Kutai National Park, 110 kilometers north

of Samarinda, have been seen leaving the jungle after 2000 hectares of their habitat was engulfed in flames and haze. "I have never seen so many orangutans running around so close to human settlements before. Every animal in the park seemed to be panicking," one ranger said.

The Malaysian state of Sarawak is also on the island of Borneo. According to Malaysia's Minister of Information, the Government of Malaysia has directed the Department of the Environment to take "immediate and stern action" against anyone responsible for starting fires in Sarawak.

ONE MONKEY'S WORTH

Saving the rare Sclater's monkey could mean new hope for Nigeria's remaining wildlife and natural habitat

Lynne R. Baker, the author of this article, is a longtime member of IPPL. Lynne was a CERCOPAN volunteer from November 1996 to November 1997. Lynne is professionally trained as a journalist, with experience in the computer and travel publishing sectors. However, she has spent many years volunteering for various animal-conservation projects and fulfilled a dream of working in Africa the day she arrived in Nigeria.

"I look for small monkey for dis place-o. Where Mr. Udoma stay? He get monkey now, eh?" I peered out the car window to ask an elderly man walking slowly toward our destination, a village called Ubeta. He stopped when he heard my voice.

Nearly blinded by the morning sun, the man turned to look at me and shaded his eyes with a rumpled hand. Funny, he must have thought, to see a white woman in these parts, but it wasn't the first time. He paused, as if to be sure he understood my poor attempt at pidgin English, the Nigerian slang version of English. I waited patiently, hoping for a detailed espousal on Mr. Udoma's whereabouts. But the man just shook his head and turned away.

Before I could get a sigh out, the driver, who was supposed to know Mr. Udoma's house, suddenly had memory recall: "It no be far. Just der." At the end of the man's long index finger sat a small zinc-covered home near the entrance of Ubeta, just seconds away.

I sighed anyway. The easy part was over.



Lynne Baker with Chella, a young Mona monkey

If You Choose to Accept...

My mission was clear: Collect a young female monkey from a village in Rivers State. But it would not be simple. I was after a very rare animal. In fact, she is one of the rarest monkeys on earth. Her home: southeast Nigeria. Her species: Sclater's guenon *Cercopithecus sclateri*. Her conservation status: IUCN-ranked as endangered. Her global status: the most endangered guenon in Africa. Her future: every minute counts.

It was March 1997, and I had been a volunteer at CERCOPAN — a forest monkey rehabilitation and conservation center in Calabar, southern Nigeria — for about four months, with eight to go. I still had a lot to learn. A family emergency prevented CERCOPAN's director, Zena Tooze, from making the journey herself. My co-manager, Bob Baxter, stayed in Calabar to manage the day-to-day activities and watch over the project's current primate family.

A successful mission meant that CERCOPAN would welcome its first female Sclater's and, based on all available information, the second Sclater's monkey in captivity in the world. Like CERCOPAN's other 50-plus monkeys, this Sclater's was also orphaned by the ever-increasing bushmeat trade and would have to relearn certain behaviors and social rules.

Setting the Scene

This would be my first opportunity to discuss conservation with villagers and talk about why they should consider caring about saving monkeys and preserving rainforests.

I never expected my first attempt, or any attempt for that matter, to go well. After all, in Nigeria — the most populous nation in Africa (population: around 111 million) — environmental awareness is still very much in its infancy. Oil, in all its various forms, continues to rule, with Nigeria now the sixth largest producer of oil in the world, the second largest in Africa and the largest in sub-Saharan Africa.

I was headed to southeast Nigeria, particu-



Chief Robinson and his wife. He oversees numerous villages in Sclater's guenon territory

larly to Rivers State, home of the major city of Port Harcourt and the ecologically important Niger Delta region. Like most travel experiences, my impending journey came with its share of pros and cons.

On the upside, many of the expatriates working in Port Harcourt are strong supporters of CERCOPAN. So my accommodation and food there and transportation to and from Calabar were secured. Also, Zena had recently made the acquaintance of Chief Robinson O. Robinson, locally known as King Eze Ekpeye Logbo of Ekpeye Land.

Based in Port Harcourt, he rules some 90 rural towns and villages in Rivers State, and Ubeta is one of them. We could expect his assistance in locating the monkey's owners. Finally, the big city meant Chinese food and pizza, and the mere idea of such luxuries assured my presence.

Not so appealing about the area is its human population numbers: Southern Nigeria is the most populous area of the country,



**Frankia, juvenile male,
Cercopan's first Sclater's.**

and population densities here can reach up to 1,000 people per square kilometer. This puts wildlife at a great disadvantage in the struggle for land. The region is also where numerous oil conglomerates reside, and the in balance of wealth between expatriates working in the oil industry and local Nigerians is highly pronounced.

The area's Ogoniland gained international fame as a particularly volatile area when protests from environmental activist Ken Saro-Wiwa and supporters against Royal/Dutch Shell Oil's alleged abuse of the land and people made it into western newspapers. Saro-Wiwa's popularity and cause were elevated into headline status when he was arrested with eight other activists on



**Ubie on arrival at Cercopan.
She is no longer people-oriented
Her best pal is Frankia**

alleged murder charges. All nine were executed by the Nigerian government in November 1995.

These factors make southeast Nigeria particularly difficult for conservationists. But to **CERCOPAN**, the area has much value, and its remaining forests deserve priority conservation status in the country, as well as in West Africa. One reason is good enough: this is Sclater's territory.

Sclater's on the Brink

Once I arrived in Port Harcourt, I would venture a few hours north to Odieroke, a village near Ubeta, my final destination. I traveled once there with Chief Robinson and his wife and was their guest for a night.

Zena had stayed with the couple about one month earlier, and it was here she spotted the monkey I was after. A few weeks prior to that sighting, she successfully acquired the project's first Sclater's (1.5-year-old Frankia, a male) from a nearby village. She told me what to expect: "Eh, see white woman (unfortunately, markedly so in my case). Want monkey? Bring money."

I realized I needed to hone up on my pidgin English, practice talking slowly and come up with a convincing spiel. There was a lot at stake, but I tried to stay focused: "One rare Sclater's. One rare Sclater's. One rare Sclater's...."

The plight of Sclater's guenons recently became better known thanks to a survey of the species. Working under a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Society and Primate Conservation Inc., **CERCOPAN** director Tooze has been analyzing the distribution and population status of the Sclater's in the Niger Delta region for about two years.

So far results show that Sclater's monkeys seem to be surviving in more places than previously thought, but only in small, isolated and unprotected swampy zones. Because most of the land around the species' current range has been farmed, these monkeys have been relegated to these pockets of swamp forest, which are considered unsuitable for farming.

"We once thought that these 'island forests' provided refuge for the remaining wild population of Sclater's," said Tooze. "Today, however, nowhere seems to be safe from development. For example, the European Union may fund a recent proposal to drain a large swamp forest area of Sclater's habitat in the Niger Delta to allow for oil-palm plantations."

"The area of land designated for oil-palm development was substantially reduced as a result of lobbying by local concerned envi-

ronmentalists; however, these kinds of threats are not going to disappear, and much work remains to be done in terms of awareness, both within and outside of Nigeria," according to Tooze.

Additionally, the high human population in the area means heavy hunting, which, in conjunction with ongoing habitat loss, is not sustainable by wild primate populations.

"Hunters kill the slowest moving monkey in a group; this is usually a mother carrying a baby. If the baby survives, it can end up as bushmeat or a pet or be sold as bushmeat or a pet. It usually dies from improper care," says Tooze.

I had yet to determine whether the monkey I was after had been sold, eaten or died. But Ike Udoma knew she was alive and well. And he was very curious about the white woman who'd come to see his monkey. After all, he had something she wanted.

Goat In My Car

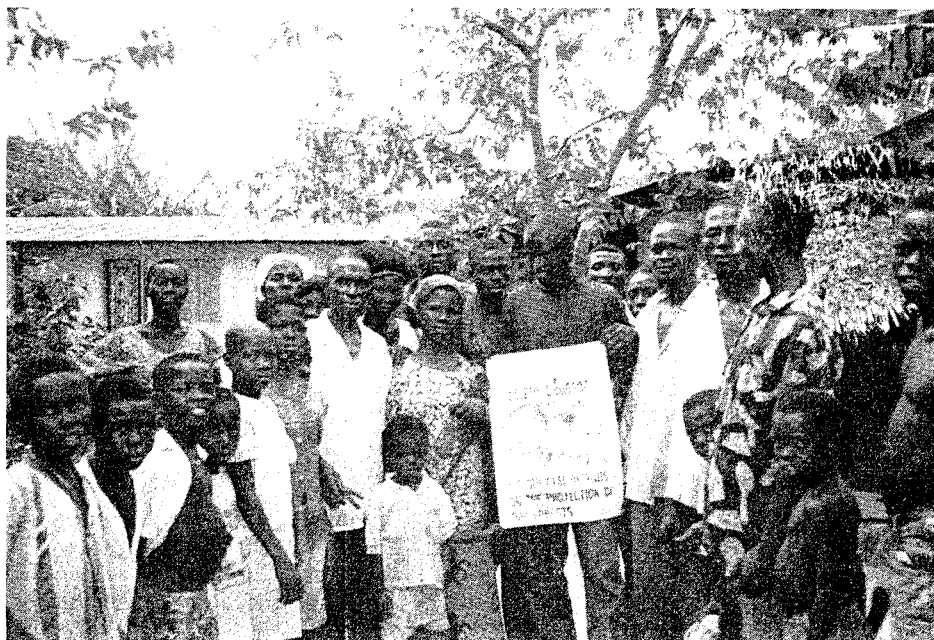
The road from Port Harcourt north to where I was headed is considered one of the worst roads in Nigeria. Pot holes abound; missing sections appear from nowhere; and roadblocks ensure you never reach 30 miles per hour. What should take one hour takes more than three.

I didn't mind much. I was just grateful to be riding as part of Chief Robinson's caravan and not on public transport. The only thing I could have done without was a persistent and loud banging noise behind me. One large goat had been tied and placed, with various other bits of the chief's luggage, into the car's trunk.

The animal was to be the main item at a village feast the next evening. As a vegetarian of many years, I dreaded the idea. But the chief had helped Zena acquire **CERCOPAN**'s first Sclater's, and he was already helping me with the second. If he wanted me to eat goat, I'd eat goat.

When the sun finally disappeared, so did the paved road. The trees lining the path weren't uniform. A small bit of remaining rainforest, mixed secondary forest and oil-palm farms sat awkwardly next to one another. Suddenly, the dirt road quickly turned into a dusty trail, and we viciously rolled up the windows. After a few miles, we passed another dirt road. One of the men in my car glanced at me and proudly stated, "That is the way to Ubeta. That's my place, my village."

Candles in homes and shops lit the way to the chief's home. As we approached the illuminated palace, I grinned: generator. A grand and beautiful castle to the villagers, this home



Ike Udoma, 7th from L, front row and wife, holding monkey, and other Ubeta villagers

would be defined much differently according to Western standards.

At dinner, I sat outside with the chief and his wife and talked about conservation and primates. Even though hundreds of villagers would visit the next day, my hosts were attentive and intelligently discussed the idea of preservation and its effect on their village home and people.

I told them if I could acquire the monkey the following morning, I would travel back to Port Harcourt that day. They wished me luck and said it was too bad I'd miss the goat feast. "Yes," I replied. "Too bad."

I was feeling very confident, happy and empowered, when a massive plate of rice arrived in front of me. It was not alone: a slab of chicken and spicy sauce accompanied it. The chief's wife grinned at me and said, "Chop now." After a long conversation about saving monkeys and forests, I found it somehow inappropriate to launch into the "Why I am Vegetarian" explanation. So I didn't launch. I ate.

The Big Day

I didn't sleep well that night. I tried to blame the chicken, even though I knew it was really just nerves. I was up and ready at 6:30 a.m., but an unrequested breakfast of mammoth proportion delayed me. So I ate yet again.

I usually love a good hike, but I was feeling somewhat massive at this point and was glad the chief offered to send a driver with me. The car ride took about 10 minutes, but it seemed two like hours. When the driver

momentarily forgot the address, I found myself asking for directions — with poor results. But the driver pulled through, and we were soon there.

Mr. Udoma knew I was coming. The chief had informed him, and he'd had a brief conversation with Zena when she passed through a couple of months earlier. This was bad or good — I wasn't sure: Good, in that my visit was no surprise, and Mr. Udoma knew I was the chief's guest; bad, in that he had time to think about what he wanted for his monkey and how much Naira I might have.

No matter how I was dressed, I was still white, and I certainly had more Naira than he could ever hope to have. Mr. Udoma knew this; he wasn't stupid. I also couldn't pretend he was something other than what he was: a poor hunter and a farmer, with a family to feed and clothe, living in a heavily populated African nation.

A small, thin man, Mr. Udoma greeted me warmly as my driver made introductions.

I was asked to sit on one of two raffia-covered benches in front of the house, and soon I was surrounded by several other villagers, including Mr. Udoma's ancient father, who just stared at me with an unnerving steadiness.

In the back of my mind, I kept thinking, "Speak slowly," but I soon found myself spewing information at a breakneck pace. I came armed with pictures, especially ones of CERCOPAN's first Sclater's; CERCOPAN newsletters and information guides; the chief's support; and primate references, including *The*

Pictorial Guide to Living Primates by Noel Rowe. To obtain a copy, call 800-296-6310. The crowd was delighted with this book, and Mr. Udoma paused when we came to the page on Sclater's monkeys.

I pointed out the highlighted word "Endangered" for all to see. Mr. Udoma must have recognized the images, as only a simple "Ahh" spilled from his mouth.

I then found it appropriate to ask him of his own monkey. Suddenly, as if running on remote control, a tiny figure appeared out from behind the house. Around her waist was a tiny bell. Accompanied by faint "jingles," the monkey stopped at the front door, grabbed at the remains of a mango, trying to squeeze out any remaining juice. This was followed by a contact call, a bird-like trill, and then she was off, pouncing into the arms of Mrs. Udoma.

I was stunned for a moment, mesmerized by this bouncing, beautiful creature. Mr. Udoma spoke, waking me from my temporary trance: "I have been feeding monkey, caring for it. I have had to buy it food for some time now."

Indeed, the animal looked healthy enough, and as she curled up and fell asleep in Mrs. Udoma's arms, I realized she was probably one of the few village pets who receive decent treatment. "My See monkey very sick now. May die soon" argument was no longer an option.

It was going to come down to money, as such dealings almost always do. So a friendly debate began — me trying to explain conservation and the importance of protecting endangered species; Mr. Udoma trying to explain that he's been feeding and caring for the monkey for months; it was his children's pet; and he couldn't just give it up.

After I reassured him over and over that we do not buy or sell any animals at CERCOPAN — as this only perpetuates further illegal hunting — he finally started to realize I wasn't going to give in. Other village members joined in occasionally, and I found it very difficult to sit quietly when they talked in their local language. What are they saying?

The Verdict Is In

After nearly three hours, both sides had presented all the possible arguments. Mr. Udoma realized that not only did the law protect his monkey, but that donating the animal was also what the chief wanted. He may have heard my conservation message, and he may have even understood it, but I never expected to turn Mr. Udoma into a conservationist in a few hours.

I think he didn't want trouble for his family, and in the long run, the monkey wasn't worth it. So he agreed to donate the animal: "OK, you can take Monkey." Exasperated, I think I was just too tired to shed a tear, although the situation was prime for a serious cry.

Several villagers joined the Udoma family so I could photograph them with a "Save the Sclater's" poster, sponsored by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation. Mrs. Udoma still held the small monkey in her arms. It was obvious she was not happy with the situation, and I could not blame her.

As I prepared the travel box and bought some fruit for the monkey's journey, I caught bits and pieces of what others were saying. There seemed to be a small discussion occurring among the villagers, including the Udomas. Some were angry that Mr. Udoma gave up the animal "without making the white person pay", while others agreed with his decision.

If even one onlooker saw the donation as a good or acceptable thing, then **CERCOPAN** had made progress. And the possibility of opening a dialogue in Ubeta about monkeys and conservation was serious progress.

Mrs. Udoma kindly washed the monkey, soaking her in water, and placed her in a small wire cage. The monkey looked confused, wide-eyed and nervous. I thought: "Don't worry. In just a few days, you'll get to meet Frankia. You'll really like him."

Grinning, I said my good-byes to the family and villagers, promising to send them a jumbo size of the photograph (which reached them a few months later with a formal thank-you letter from **CERCOPAN**), and placed the frightened monkey in the car.

Back at the palace, I told the story to the chief and his wife. They were pleased. I made sure to tell them that if it hadn't been for their support, I don't think the mission would have gone nearly as well. Mrs. Robinson then asked me to do one thing for her: name the monkey after the Robinson's village home.

"Consider it done." And that is how Odieroke-Ubie got her name.

Back in Calabar, Ubie (as we call her) fattened up nicely and quickly adjusted to life with Frankia. She easily passed all her medical tests and has proven to be one of the healthiest and best-looking monkeys at **CERCOPAN**. We often joke about her being the poster child for wildlife conservation in Nigeria.

When she first came to **CERCOPAN**, Ubie would fall asleep in my arms. She

knew me well, but not for long. We try to wean the animals as soon as possible of human contact, and Ubie managed this more easily than I'd like to admit. After a few months of Frankia's attention, I was a big, bad monster.

But that's the goal, and as a result, Ubie is a top candidate for release.

The Climb Up

In September I headed out again to a village north of Port Harcourt, on the trail of another small Sclater's. I was once again armed with all the necessary pictures and references. But this was Abua, and it was not Chief Robinson's domain. So I could not count on his assistance.

After three 4-hour journeys to Abua from Port Harcourt, I finally convinced the family that owned the monkey to donate him to the project. The two daughters were willing, and the mother finally came around after I obtained an official letter from the Rivers State Department of Forestry. The letter designated me as the official guardian of the animal, which by law is protected and is not allowed to be kept as a pet.

Just as I was preparing to take photographs and hand out T-shirts and posters, Kate, one of the daughters, approached me, looking distressed. It seems that one of her brothers suddenly decided that he was the actual owner of the monkey and could not allow its release.

He sat in a chair in a well-trafficked area of Abua, tied the monkey to a string and tied the string to his arm and the chair. After trying to discuss briefly with him, others began to gather. When I heard a voice from the growing crowd bellow: "Go to the bush and get your own monkey," I realized this mission would have to wait.

My time in Rivers State had already been extended too long, and I needed to return to Calabar. So I left — sans small monkey from Abua. The anguish I felt after this trip was as powerful as the joy I felt bringing Ubie home from Ubeta.

My only consolation was that I had come across another Sclater's — an adult female — via **CERCOPAN**'s connections with the Port Harcourt Zoo. She was donated to the project, and I would be bringing her back to Calabar.

But I kept thinking about the small boy. Would he still be there in a month? Would they kill him, afraid of possible repercussions? Would he die of some illness?

As of February we still did not know.

Before I left Nigeria at the end of October, I did not have the opportunity to return to Abua. One subsequent attempt by my director was plagued by car trouble and lack of time

and money.

CERCOPAN currently has three Sclater's, with two captive infants on the way from Rivers State. We also know of two more in villages. Obtaining all of these for the captive-breeding program at **CERCOPAN** is critical, but logistically, pursuing Sclater's monkeys takes more time and funding.

Not only are Sclater's found greater distances from Calabar and Cross River State, Rivers State Forestry is not equipped to assist with such endeavors.

Unlike Cross River State officials, the Rivers State Forestry Department does not have any vehicles and has never confiscated an animal. The official letter I acquired for the monkey in Abua was the first of its kind for Rivers State Forestry. Even then, I had to submit a draft letter, which was reproduced word-for-word and then signed by the department director.



Kime enjoys the grooming attention of juvenile females Minkey and Nwong

This is just one small example of the challenges that must be overcome to operate a conservation project in Nigeria successfully. In a country so plagued by problems and scandals, the loss of such a beautiful, rare and endemic species as the Sclater's would be a permanent, obscene flaw on an already tainted reputation.

Saving this species may come down to rallying support for it as a Nigerian symbol and treasure. Will the Sclater's monkey ever make Nigerians half as proud as they are of the country's national soccer team? Not likely, but we have to try anyway.

BEATING THE BUSHMEAT BUSINESS

Swapping Guns for Schools, Sightseers

by Lynne R. Baker

It's no secret that unsustainable hunting and habitat destruction have had a formidable impact on the flora and fauna of the world.

Consider what's happening to the earth's jungles: one acre of tropical rainforest is destroyed in the world every second. And in the case of nonhuman primates, wild populations are in danger in all of the 92 countries in which these animals occur, according to Conservation International.

Thanks to aircraft surveys and satellite images, the effects of habitat destruction can be more easily measured and seen. But on a more fundamental level, how does one assess the number of animals killed by hunters and poachers every day?

In West Africa, actual numbers are almost impossible to come by, but what is obvious is that the bushmeat trade is big business.

Primate populations have suffered greatly due to habitat loss from logging, farming and the live-capture-for-export trade, but it is the bushmeat trade that is generally considered to be the No. 1 killer of primates in West Africa.

Today hunting for bushmeat in most of West Africa is no longer for sustenance, but instead for commercial trade. Rural communities supply bushmeat to urban traders, with growing assistance from logging trucks that keep moving deeper and deeper into the forest.

"This type of hunting is highly unsustainable and is having a devastating impact on primate populations across West Africa," says Zena Tooze, director of **CERCOPAN**, a rehabilitation and conservation center for orphaned monkeys in southern Nigeria.

The West African country of Cameroon, for example, can't seem to escape its headline marriage to the logging industry. In fact, some city folk in Cameroon now look forward to and expect fresh bushmeat for supper thanks to the logging industry's vehicles and new passageways into previously intact forests.

Origin of Orphans

Nearly all of **CERCOPAN**'s 50-plus primates were orphaned by this ever-increasing bushmeat trade. And there is no way of knowing how many nursing infants whose mothers were shot for bushmeat died during the ordeal, or how many continue to hang on in horrible conditions in villages. "Probably thousands more than we could stand to hear about," says Tooze.

Because **CERCOPAN** does not buy or sell any animals — to discourage further hunting — its orphans arrive mainly as donations to the project, either from Nigerians or expatriate owners, and usually after lots of convincing. Some are confiscated by Cross River State National Park or Forestry officials, while **CERCOPAN** staff and

management occasionally seek out species in more critical danger, such as Slater's monkeys *Cercopithecus sclateri* (See "One Monkey's Worth," Page 11).

Ironically, there is a law protecting many of Nigeria's animals. Enacted in 1985, Decree 11 fully protects species such as the threatened red-capped mangabey *Cercocebus torquatus* and the endangered Slater's and red-eared *Cercopithecus erythrotis* guenons under Schedule 1. This means these animals cannot be hunted, traded or kept as pets.

Under Schedule 2, a special permit is required to hunt or trade more common species, such as mona monkeys *Cercopithecus mona*. However, this law is rarely enforced, and there is very little awareness of the law throughout Nigeria.

Experiencing firsthand the overwhelming task of rehabilitating orphan primates, **CERCOPAN** strongly supports and promotes *in situ* conservation, a policy that works to protect already existing wild animals populations and natural habitats.

Primates taken from their forest home usually die. There are a few who survive. But once these intelligent animals come into contact with humans, their learned and instinctual survival skills diminish significantly. **CERCOPAN** hopes to send a few of them back. "The process is costly, lengthy and rigorous, and their fate is highly uncertain."



Aduet, a male Mona rescued from riding on a truck with his owner



Titus, a young red-eared guenon

tain," notes Tooze.

Nonetheless, **CERCOPAN** is going to give its captive population a decent shot. Tooze is working to establish a protected area in a rainforest in Nigeria that will serve as a reintroduction site for the project's monkeys. It will also serve to protect the numerous other wild animals living there and their forest environment.

Roadblocks to Freedom

Obstacles abound, however, with one of the major ones being the everyday details of primate rescue projects. Rehabilitating and releasing orphaned primates means socializing traumatized animals, training a local staff, performing numerous medical tests on the animals, constructing enclosures, fund-raising extensively and teaching conservation in a Third World environment, to name a few.

Another obstacle is intense population pressure. Nigeria has an overabundance of people — some 111 million — and 45 percent of its population is under 14 years of age.

According to the United Nations Population Fund, the country will be home to nearly 129 million people by the year 2000.

In southern Nigeria — which touts a variety of forest environments (such as coastal mangrove forests, tropical swamp forests and moist tropical rainforests) and several endangered species (such as Sclater's and red-eared guenons) — human population densities reach up to 1,000 people per square kilometer. The subsequent widespread and extensive farming further contributes to the destruction of the country's remaining forest habitat.

The result of such activity hasn't gone unnoticed. Less than 10 percent of Nigeria's original rainforest remains in the country, and of what does remain, roughly 90 percent is located in Cross River State in southern Nigeria.

Cross River State is where **CERCOPAN** is headquartered and where the project will build its release site. The site will serve several purposes: it will act as an education center to teach Nigerians and other visitors about conservation; it will give local communities an alternative to hunting and farming; it will serve as a tourist attraction for visitors who want to see monkeys in the wild; it will be a research center where local and international students can conduct scientific research; and it will give **CERCOPAN**'s six primate species a chance to live again in their natural forest home.

The center, which will run on solar power, will help local communities mainly by sponsoring community-development projects, such as building schools and protecting water supplies. And some community members will be employed as park rangers; animal keepers; tour guides; and facility employees, such as cooks and cleaning attendants. Once a relationship has been developed with the local communities, **CERCOPAN** will begin building the site and preparing to relocate the animals.

Back to the Bush

Tooze is taking a unique approach to the monkeys' reintroduction. Because **CERCOPAN** is home to six species of monkey, she will initially release the most common and resilient — the mona and putty-

nose *Cercopithecus nictitans* guenons. If these animals do not fare well in their new forest home, releasing endangered species, such as the red-eared monkey, into the same area will be re-evaluated. This way, reintroduction success of the most endangered animals can be more closely controlled.

Release programs are not entirely new to Nigeria. Nearly 10 years ago, Drill Ranch, operated by Pandrillus, was founded in Calabar, Cross River State. Pandrillus has since established a drill monkey *Mandrillus leucophaeus* release site in Boki, Cross River State. Nearly 40 drills were transferred by helicopter to their new forest home in November 1996.

In their new spacious, natural, open-topped enclosure, these endangered animals are learning to survive on their own. Drill Ranch is home to the largest population of captive drills in the world, and with its incredible breeding success — more than 20 successful births since 1994 — appears to be setting certain standards for primate rehabilitation.

The biggest obstacle Tooze now faces in getting **CERCOPAN**'s release site up and running is money. She has narrowed down the list of potential locations; the architectural design of the buildings is complete; and most of **CERCOPAN**'s monkeys are more than ready to move. But as with most non-profit projects, funding is the most difficult component to come by.

Still, Tooze is confident: "I know there are many organizations out there that are interested in and willing to support primate reintroduction projects. It may take longer than I hoped, but we'll get there. We've got 60 monkeys counting on it."

THERE'S A MONKEY IN MY CLASSROOM

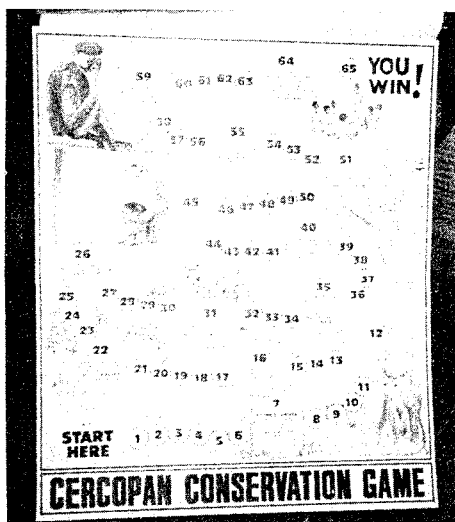
CERCOPAN brings conservation into Nigerian schools

by Lynne R. Baker

Imagine a group of African school children sitting together in a circle on a dirt floor. The mud-and-clay room is lit only by bits of sunlight peeking through the zinc sheeting that serves as a roof. Between giggles and squeals, one can hear the roll of dice. Clearly, they are playing a game, but this is no ordinary game.

Like most games, its players can be penalized or rewarded depending on their luck. But unlike other games, players are not trying to buy hotels on Boardwalk or avoid chutes and climb ladders. They are instead trying to stop poachers, save monkeys and protect Africa's rainforest.

The object of such enthusiasm? The **CERCOPAN** Conservation Game, a board



game designed for Nigerian children to help them learn about preserving primates and forests.

The game was developed by **CERCOPAN** in early 1997 to coincide with the kickoff of the organization's first education outreach program for secondary schools. The project also hired its first education officer, Jerry Akparawa, a Nigerian, at same time. The outreach program took place from May to July 1997, when Akparawa visited 21 schools in the Calabar Local Government Area in Cross River State.

Thanks to the Sacramento Zoo in California and the International Primate Protection League-U.K., enough funds were available to pay Akparawa's salary and produce vari-

ous educational materials, such as the conservation board game.

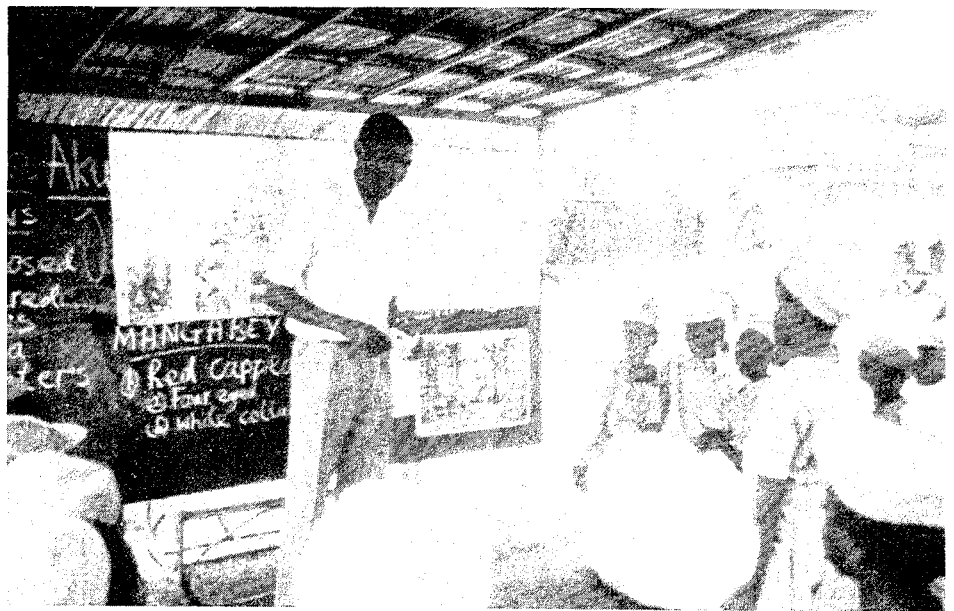
Similar to "Chutes & Ladders" (also known as "Snakes and Ladders"), this unique board game was designed by a talented local Nigerian artist. It displays images of most of CERCOPAN's primate species and conveys important messages on the major stopping positions, such as "Hunter just killed an endangered red-eared monkey. Go back 3 spaces." "A mona monkey is born in the wild. Take another turn." "Habitat where forest monkeys live is turned into a protected nature reserve. Move forward 4 spaces."

In addition to the board game, the outreach program consisted of a slide presentation that showed images of monkeys — which many of the school children had no idea existed or that such animals lived so close to them — and a "Who Am I?" game, which required children to use their knowledge of nature to win.

Overall, the program was a success, overcoming such challenges as a lack of decent transportation and the occasional uncooperative school administration, and annoying power outages, which often put the slide projector out of operation.

After the program, CERCOPAN hoped to find the money and time to develop more board games. At about 3' x 4', the original board was placed on an easel during presentations, and teams of students were established. The game was most effective with about six to 10 teams at one time, but often school administrations would usher in 50 to 200 children.

Such large numbers of students sometimes limited how well children could see or participate in the CERCOPAN game. Still, many children stayed after their presentation



Cercopan Education Officer, Jerry Akparawa, talks to schoolchildren about monkeys and conservation

to get a better look at the board, and requests from several schools for their own copies of the game rolled in.

Good news arrived in December 1997, when CERCOPAN received a grant from the Netherlands Embassy in Lagos, Nigeria, to fund the development and production of 1,000 CERCOPAN Conservation Games and 2,500 posters. The new game boards will be closer in size to standard board games, such as Monopoly, and will be updated in design to represent all of CERCOPAN's primate species.

"Initial recipients of the board games will be schools, particularly those with conservation clubs, in the Calabar region and other, more rural schools," said Zena Tooze, direc-

tor of CERCOPAN. "We hope that by targeting children through our education program and game distribution, we can help build a foundation for conservation awareness and action in Nigeria."

School children are not the only ones benefiting from CERCOPAN's education efforts. Any youngster who visits the project can try his or her luck at "Primate Play," an activity sheet designed by current CERCOPAN volunteer Deborah Goin. The sheet, which changes monthly, includes a crossword puzzle and other learning activities. A new raffia-covered education area in the CERCOPAN compound displays some of the completed sheets, as well as other important conservation information.

"We hope that by targeting children through our education program and game distribution, we can help build a foundation for conservation awareness and action in Nigeria," — ZENA TOOZE

SMUGGLER TRANSITS CAIRO

On 28 December 1997 a Bulgarian national arrived at Cairo Airport, Egypt. He had boarded a plane at Khartoum, Sudan, carrying two smuggled chimpanzees. Airport veterinarians would not allow the man to take the chimpanzees off the airport premises during the transit stop, so an airport employee took care of them.

Later the Bulgarian man continued his trip.

Egypt made no attempt to confiscate the chimpanzees although they were clearly being smuggled. There is no official record of the animals' entry into Bulgaria. Sudan, Egypt and Bulgaria are all members of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and the animals should have been confiscated at some point on their trip. But they appear to have "vanished into thin air."

CERCOPAN FAST FACTS

MISSION STATEMENT: CERCOPAN is dedicated to preserving biodiversity through rehabilitation, research and conservation of tropical forest primates and their habitats, as well as through community education programs.

SPECIES SUPPORTED: CERCOPAN is home to six species of two types: guenons (genus *Cercopithecus*) and mangabeys (genus *Cercocebus*), both of which are found in the tropical rainforests of West Africa. As of February 1998, CERCOPAN provided sanctuary to about 60 monkeys. The species we hold are listed below, along with a note about their range and degree of threat they face. Please remember that CERCOPAN does not "collect" monkeys. We take in animals in distress and never buy, sell, or export monkeys.

Mona Guenon *Cercopithecus mona*

Eastern Ghana to Western Cameroon
Lower Risk (CITES II)

Preuss's Guenon *Cercopithecus preussi*

Island of Bioko (Equatorial Guinea) and Western Cameroon
Endangered

Putty-Nose Guenon *Cercopithecus nictitans*

Liberia to Ivory Coast; Nigeria to Eastern Zaire
Lower Risk (CITES II)

Red-Eared Guenon *Cercopithecus erythrotis*

Southeast Nigeria, Island of Bioko (Equatorial Guinea) and Southwest Cameroon
Endangered

Sclater's Guenon *Cercopithecus sclateri*

Southeast Nigeria
Endangered

Red-Capped Mangabey *Cercocebus torquatus*

Southern Nigeria; Southern Cameroon to Angola
Threatened

CONTACT INFORMATION:

CERCOPAN

c/o Housing Estate

P.O. Box 826

Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria

Director: Zena Tooze

E-Mail: cercopan@compuserve.com

Web site: <http://www.uni.edu/museum/cercopan>



Nellie, an adult female Putty-nose guenon

THANK YOU, IPPL

CERCOPAN would particularly like to thank the International Primate Protection League — both in the United States and the United Kingdom — for its ongoing, dedicated support of the project.

"IPPL has been instrumental in gaining overseas funding for CERCOPAN, as well as increasing awareness about the work we are doing in Nigeria," says Zena Tooze, CERCOPAN's director and founder.

"We are incredibly grateful for IPPL's support and hope IPPL continues to have the energy and resources to do its excellent and much-needed work."

If you wish to make a donation to Cercopan through IPPL, please send your check to IPPL, POB 766, Summerville SC 29484, USA or IPPL, 116 Judd St. London WC1H9NS, England, clearly marked "For Cercopan."

INTRODUCTION TO LIZA'S STORY

On 12 April 1995, ten primates were confiscated at Manila Airport in the Philippines. The shipment had originated in Nigeria. The animals were shipped in two crates. One crate contained a baby gorilla and two endangered drill monkeys. The second crate contained two patas monkeys, four vervets, and one baboon. The animals were confiscated and taken to the government-run Wildlife Rescue Center in Quezon City. The two Pakistani smugglers were arrested and released the next day — despite the fact they had not identified their Nigerian supplier or the intended Philippine recipient.

On learning of the confiscation, IPPL contacted sanctuaries around the world regarding the primates. Unfortunately the gorilla “Gorio” died before plans could be made for him. Pandrillus and IPPL worked together to organize the drills’ return. Finally, they were sent to their homeland in July 1997.

Some of the monkeys died, and the survivors remain in the Philippines.

HAPPY HOMECOMING FOR THE “PHILIPPINE DRILLS”

Liza Gadsby of the Drill Rehab and Breeding Center in Nigeria tells the long tale of the famous drill monkeys — and how local and international NGOs and governments worked together to do the right thing

A Crime is Committed

On 12 April 1995, 10 African primates in 2 tiny gift-wrapped crates were seized at Manila Airport. A gorilla, 2 drills and 7 other monkeys arrived on Pakistan Airlines from Karachi as ‘personal baggage’ of 2 Pakistani smugglers with only a “Free Disposal Permit for 6 pieces, monkeys” from Kano State Ministry of Agriculture, Kano, Nigeria.

While that document was probably genuine and may be used for moving non-endangered species within Nigeria, it is not valid for international shipment of any animals, especially Appendix I endangered gorillas and drills.

Philippine Government to the Rescue

After attempting to bribe customs officials, the smugglers were taken into custody and the primates sent for safekeeping at the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) Wildlife Rescue Center near Manila, maintained by the Philippine Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

How Could This Happen?

Details of the primates’ illegal exit from Nigeria are unknown but Kano, northern Nigeria’s largest city, has a notorious animal market and is serviced by several international airlines. Although the confiscated species are native to Nigeria, they likely came from neighboring Cameroon, where populations of every species are higher. Nigeria’s gorilla population is estimated at only 150, whereas Cameroon’s is tens of thousands.

In recent years the flow of ape orphans

from Cameroon to Nigeria has increased. Pandrillus’ chimpanzee sanctuary in Nigeria attracted no new chimps from 1992 to 1995, but 10 orphans arrived over the following 2 years, including 2 from Kano, hundreds of miles from chimpanzee habitat.

The Wheels Begin Turning... CITES Case No. 51478

As publicized in the August 1995 issue of IPPL News, PAWB Director Wilfrido Pollisco and Wildlife Rescue Center Director Alma Ballesfin initiated steps to redress the case.

Here in Nigeria, the Governor of Cross River State, the Commissioner for Agriculture, Frank Afufu, and Cross River National Park General Manager Clement Ebin, all wrote to pledge their cooperation to repatriate the gorilla and drills (Cross River is the only state in Nigeria where they live). Despite excellent care, the gorilla and some monkeys died in 1996, but the drills thrived.

At the Drill Rehab and Breeding Center in Cross River we began planning their return to Africa.

In March 1997, CITES Import Permit No. LSN/68/Vol.III/72CITES was issued by Nigeria’s Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA), and the Philippine’s PAWB followed with CITES Export Permit No. 1711A-97. IPPL secured approval from the CITES Secretariat in Switzerland for the drills to return to their homeland.

A Concerted Effort on 5 Continents

With countless details to arrange before the CITES permit expired on 31 July, I was frantic here in Nigeria. Meanwhile, around the

world, many others were doing their part: IPPL pushed on all fronts to keep the ball rolling as telephones and faxes in Cross River are normally out of service.

In Australia Sally Wilson of the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) continued monitoring the drills’ well-being and searched for airline sponsorship. Sarah Scarth, IFAW’s Emergency Relief Coordinator, went from South Africa to Manila to help IFAW Philippine representative Mel Alipio.

In Britain, Wildlife Information Network’s (WIN’s) David Dawson kept in contact with me and drill project vet John Lewis of the International Zoo Veterinary Group, while WIN vet Suzanne Boardman flew to Manila to perform final medical tests with PAWB vets Mundita Sison-Lim and Stephen Toledo.



Photo: Sarah Seymour

Proud father Fidel

Lufthansa German Airlines to the Rescue

The drills' repatriation was now a full time job for me, but with only weeks remaining before the CITES permit expired, we still had no airline sponsor! With the support of Eunice Bernard, Lufthansa Nigeria Sales Coordinator, the offer came for free transport from Manila to Lagos!

The good news travelled quickly around the world as the IFAW team made final preparations with PAWB in Manila — construction of crates, paperwork and scheduling.

On 28 July, after over 2 years in the Philippines, "Fidel" and "Ming" (named for President and First Lady Ramos) lifted off from Manila for the overnight flight to Frankfurt. Also aboard was Mel Alipio who, the next morning, combed Frankfurt shops with Lufthansa's efficient animal quarantine staff for fresh bananas during their 6 hour layover. By noon the drills and Mel were again airborne: next stop, Lagos!

Grand Homecoming

Ming and Fidel captured the imagination of the Nigerian public — as newspapers and radio heralded their imminent arrival, I scurried about Lagos (sub-Saharan Africa's largest city) to bring things together. Philippine Embassy staff were set to receive Mel. Sam Ubi and I contacted airport security, vets, the press and Lufthansa staff.

Meanwhile, FEPA staff, including Director General Dr. Adegoke Adegoroye and CITES Coordinator Comfort Owolabi, alerted airport protocol to assist Mel, and cut through the flock of reporters struggling for tarmac passes to meet the drills!

The plane landed — early! Dr. Adegoroye and I raced blindly down back corridors and dark stairwells to the tarmac. Below the giant wing, a crowd gaped at the gorgeous crates descending from the hold — Ming and Fidel were first off! Elaborate nets secured the crates to a huge tray enveloped by steam swirling off the tarmac as the sun's last rays pierced the rainy season twilight. It was as if the Ark of the Covenant itself had arrived!

In a flash I realized all the work and care undertaken by so many people around the world. Every possible effort had been made from the Wildlife Rescue Center to this moment for the drills' safety and Lufthansa's attention was first-class.

With the O.K. from Lufthansa Cargo Manager Yomi Osunniyi, I opened the feeding slot and a male drill's hand shot out to grasp mine. The crowd sighed approval and followed as Dr. Adegoroye and I rode the drill's cargo carrier to the waiting FEPA convoy.

THE GUARDIAN, Tuesday, July 29, 1997

Page 3

NEWS

Smuggled monkeys expected back in Nigeria today

TWO highly endangered drill monkeys smuggled to the Philippines in 1995 are expected to return to Nigeria today at 6.15 am.

Royal welcome for stolen monkeys

By JOHN OSADOLOR
AT a time many desperate Nigerians are paying through their nose to get abroad, two drill monkeys smuggled to Manila, the Philippines in 1995 were returned to Nigeria via Lagos airport in a Lufthansa aircraft.

THE GUARDIAN, Monday, July 21, 1997

Saturday homecoming for endangered monkeys
Conservation

Monkeys return amid celebration

Continued from page 1
and dances, reminiscent of a carnival at the I Ranch, Calabar, Cross River.

The songs were sung by no less excited young people.

On sighting the monkeys, the Project Co-director Liza Gaby screamed: "The female is pregnant!"

The two monkeys named after the leader and his wife, were confiscated in April 1995 at the Manila Airport in the Philippines.

According to Miss Elizabeth Gadsby, they were shipped in two crates containing one male and two female monkeys.

The second crate, containing two female monkeys, was found in a Lufthansa flight.

But Fidel and Ming, the two monkeys named after the Philippine president and his wife, were smuggled to Manila in 1995.

They were found in a Lufthansa flight.

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NIGERIA REPATRIATES STOLEN MONKEYS
Two highly endangered drill monkeys smuggled to Manila, the Philippines, two years ago, were on Tuesday repatriated to Nigeria aboard a Lufthansa aircraft.

The monkeys were seized by authorities at Manila Airport, Philippines on April 14, 1995 after arriving on a Pakistani Airlines flight from Pakistan.

The departure of the monkeys from Manila was expected today at 6.15 am.

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The Last Leg — Thanks to Mobil Oil

Next morning I finally met Mel, who had been hosted by Philippine diplomats overnight. Thanks to Paul Ellison at Mobil Producing Nigeria, the drills and their entourage were bussed to the airport for a free flight in Mobil's private plane to Cross River.

Calabar Airport was reported closed after a commercial jet crash-landed the night before, but our Mobil pilot slipped us in behind the crash investigation team after the runway was cleared of wreckage!

As we taxied to the terminal, I glimpsed Peter, our staff, and government friends grinning in amazement — no one was sure we would really come!

Ming & Fidel arrived at Drill Ranch to a rousing reception of staff, friends, media and

officials — plus the Jupeng Children's Performance Group, who danced and sang their specially-prepared poem "Drills Welcome Home to Nigeria."

Mel handed over the still-boxed drills to Director of Forestry Colo Agbor and state Environmental Protection Agency Director Emmanuel Nyong, and Ming & Fidel were ceremoniously released into their quarantine enclosure, reunited in peace, at last.

Baby "Manila" is Born in Nigeria

Ming delivered a perfect baby girl September 14. I named her Manila to honor the place she was conceived and those there who cared so well for her parents. In West Africa manillas are brass or bronze bracelets used as currency through the 19th century — the word still connotes wealth and security.

In December, national television filmed Manila's naming ceremony as the whole country continues to follow their story! Ming is a model mother and Fidel a doting father; the little family successfully completed their

quarantine and will soon join one of our three breeding groups in a multi-hectare, natural rain-forest enclosure at Afi Mountain. We hope to release the first group back to the wild in 1999.

The Bigger Picture

Just as important as Ming & Fidel's rightful return is the sensation and interest it created. Nigeria is Africa's most populous country, and has an active press.

Local and national media give the drills terrific support, but never more than this case! Ming & Fidel's story was shown repeatedly on a popular TV program seen by tens of millions of Nigerians. Total strangers stop me on the street to inquire as to their well-being!

The story put wildlife smuggling on the national agenda, sparking editorials ranging from forest conservation to animal rights.

Such public interest is critical for the long-term success of primate conservation in Africa.



Photo: Sarah Seymour

Ming with newborn baby Manila

THANK YOU ALL!

On behalf of the project and our collaborators, the Cross River State Forestry Department and Ministry of Agriculture, I thank the Philippine government, especially its vigilant Bureau of Customs and PAWB staff who gave such excellent care to Ming and Fidel; the International Primate Protection League; International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) representatives worldwide; the Wildlife Information Network (WIN); Lufthansa Airlines; Mobil Producing-Nigeria; the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA); and the Nigerian media, for working with us to turn another sad smuggling story into a real-life fairy tale — inspiring appreciation, amongst so many, for Nigeria's wildlife heritage.

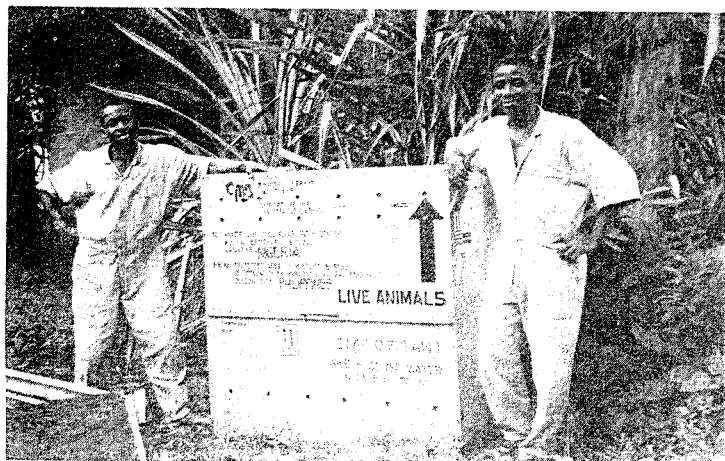


Photo: Sarah Seymour

Keepers Bassey Itiat (l) and Victor Udema (r) with shipping crate.



Photo: Liza Gadsby

Jupeng Childrens' Performance Group

THE DRILL REHAB AND BREEDING CENTER

As reported in the December 1994 issue of IPPL News, Peter Jenkins and I founded the project in 1991 to recover captive drills orphaned when their nursing mothers were shot for bushmeat. Over 40 such drills are now rehabilitated into social groups.

The project's goals are:

- 1) to create an "in situ" (in-country) captive breeding population,
- 2) to promote drill conservation in a habitat area,
- 3) to prepare groups of drills for release to the wild (no drills will be exported).

The project maintains 63 drills in 3 groups. They include 22 captive-born drills,

all mother-reared. We're relocating from Calabar to northern Cross River's rain-forest. Over half the drills now live in large solar-powered electric enclosures of native habitat, resembling life in the wild.

We're funded by donations, grants and awards to our Nigerian trust Pandrillus, and we work closely with the villages to protect adjoining habitat on Afi Mountain where drills, gorillas, chimpanzees, and other primates survive. The project also cares for 17 chimpanzees.

"Drill Ranch," as we're known locally, is Africa's first and only project dedicated to captive breeding of an endangered primate, and it operates the world's most successful

drill program.

We thank our supporters worldwide, especially the Whitley Animal Protection Trust; Stuttgart and Hanover Zoos, Germany; Fauna & Flora International; the International Primate Protection League; the International Zoo Veterinary Group, and the San Diego, Los Angeles and Atlanta Zoos, USA.

In Nigeria we are helped by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA), the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, Ashland Oil, Mobil Oil, Kobo Airlines and small private donors.

Drill Ranch needs your help as we struggle to grow!

ABOUT THE ENDANGERED DRILL MONKEY

Drills *Mandrillus leucophaeus* are listed in the IUCN Red Data Book of Endangered Species as the highest priority African primate for conservation action, and are among the world's most endangered primates. Their entire range is less than 40,000 square kilometers (smaller than Switzerland) in southwest Cameroon: Cross River State, Ni-

geria; and Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea.

They live semi-nomadic lives in groups of 20-30 in the rain-forest, but their ecology remains largely a mystery. Adult males grow up to 35 kilograms, almost 3 times the size of females.

Drills are declining because of illegal commercial hunting, habitat destruction, and

habitat fragmentation. We estimate the total population to be as low as 3,000. Bioko Island's drills are a subspecies, with as few as 500 surviving.

Drills are also rare in captivity. The total population in legitimate North American and European zoos consists of less than 60 animals, and the breeding record is poor.

CONGO SANCTUARY PRIMATES RESCUED

John Aspinall, who operates the Howletts and Port Lympne Zoo Parks in England, until recently maintained a Gorilla Orphanage in Brazzaville, the capital of the Congo Republic. This orphanage, founded in the late 1980s, provided a place for gorillas confiscated from poachers and smugglers to receive care.

During the recent civil war in the Congo Republic the city of Brazzaville fell into total chaos, and was reduced to rubble. The sanctuary, near the airport in the worst war zone, was threatened with destruction.

The orphanage had also started to rehabilitate its older gorillas into the Lefini forest reserve.

The November 1997 issue of Howletts' magazine carried an article by John Aspinall's son-in-law, Amos Courage, telling how the sanctuary animals were rescued by courageous staff members, with outside help.

Shortly after the civil strife erupted, French military personnel flew in from Chad to evacuate French nationals. French military personnel escorted Courage to the orphanage, where the four youngest gorilla babies were taken away, accompanied by a

convoy of armed vehicles.

The next day project staff flew the babies to Pointe-Noire, a port city on the Congo coast as yet unaffected by the strife.

Courage remained in Brazzaville. A few days later he got back to the orphanage, accompanied by ten French paratroopers. Four more gorillas and one small chimpanzee were tranquilized and taken to Pointe-Noire.

The next day the field staff at Lefini were helicoptered out, along with three gorillas too young to survive without human help.

There were more animals to rescue. Seven bonobos and a 14 year old male gorilla named Magne, remained at the orphanage. In addition there were several chimpanzees housed at the run-down Brazzaville Zoo.

These chimpanzees included the ancient Gregoire, who had been the subject of international concern for years because of his abysmal living conditions. Gregoire has been a special favorite of Jane Goodall. The bonobos, Magne and the Brazzaville Zoo chimpanzees were safely removed from the orphanage and zoo.

Ten of the fourteen monkeys at the orphanage and zoo were released into a forest

near the city, and four were taken to the HELP facility in Pointe-Noire.

Two facilities kindly made room for the primate refugees: the Jane Goodall Institute's Tchimpounga Sanctuary, run by Gabriela Cotman, and the HELP sanctuary run by Aliette Jamart.

Sadly Magne did not survive the stress of the transition. He died and was buried in a forest area frequented by wild gorillas. The other animals settled down well in their temporary homes. A new forest site in Gabon has been selected where the gorillas may one day live in safety.

The courage shown by the project staff was impressive, and Aliette Jamart and Gabriela Cotman, both remarkable women, generously absorbed the influx of new animals into their crowded sanctuaries.

STOP PRESS: IPPL has learned that things have calmed down in Brazzaville and the courageous Orphanage people have already returned to rebuild. The bonobos have already been brought back to their old home.

CHIMPANZEE SANCTUARY CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE

Rosalind Hanson Alp formerly worked at the Outamba-Kilimi National Park in Sierra Leone, West Africa. She also worked on setting up a rescue center for chimpanzees. For many years Sierra Leone was the world's leading exporter of chimpanzees - thanks to the presence of the Austrian expatriate animal dealer Franz Sitter.

Now Sitter is gone, but the chimpanzees of Sierra Leone still face problems. A sanctuary was established to provide a home for chimpanzees rescued from bad conditions. Its name is Tacugama.

Sadly, Sierra Leone has been caught up in a vicious civil war for several years. The sanctuary has been "caught in the middle" of warring factions. IPPL has stayed in touch with Rosalind and both IPPL Headquarters and IPPL-UK have provided emergency help for the chimpanzees.

Two reports follow: one from Rosalind and one from project director Bala Amarasekaram.

REPORT FROM ROSALIND

Since the AFRC/RUF took power in a coup on 25 May 1997, little has changed to bring stability to Sierra Leone. Most banks, schools and businesses remain closed, including all international embassies. While a peace agreement has been signed between the ruling AFRC/RUF rebels and ECOMOG (the West African peace keeping force), there are problems in the details of the agreement and there continue to be outbursts of fighting between the two sides.

If it goes through, the peace agreement will allow the former government, under President Kabbah, to return on a power sharing basis. However, while negotiations take place, major shortages of food and resources have threatened a famine that could have devastating effects on the people of Sierra Leone.

The Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, in Regent just outside Freetown, the capital of

Sierra Leone, is also fast running out of food and is literally locked in the middle of fighting between the rebels and Nigerian ECOMOG forces.

In October the director, Mr. Bala Amarasekaram, returned to Freetown, after being forcibly evacuated to London when the hotel in which he and hundreds of people took refuge came under attack in the coup.

During the time he was in London, Amarasekaram kept the sanctuary going with his private funds and was in almost daily contact with the veterinarian, Dr. Jalloh, and other project staff, who worked relentlessly to ensure the safety and security of the chimps, despite the chaos in Freetown.

Unfortunately, Dr. Jalloh had to evacuate to Guinea in October, because of concerns about his family. After two raids on the camp by armed robbers, the sanctuary was left without medical supplies or veterinary



Tober, a Sitter chimp, living in terrible conditions, now at Tacugama

knowledge. For this reason, sadly five young chimpanzees have so far died.

The RUF rebels and AFRC have set up camp on one side of the hill, only three kilometers from the sanctuary. The Nigerian ECOMOG soldiers are stationed 5 kilometers on the other side.

The chimpanzee sanctuary is right in the middle.

On 19 November 1997, fighting broke out and the sanctuary staff had to flee into the surrounding forest as bombs exploded and gunfire was all around. Two shells hit just behind the office building. One landed just to the side of the dam below the sanctuary.

In the last two months, another strange event has taken place. A wild chimpanzee female about 11 years old has taken ref-



The sign board at the foothill of the sanctuary — the road to hope for many rescued chimpanzees

uge at the sanctuary. It is not known where she came from, but she could be the last member of a former wild community further down the coast. She will not go further than 300 yards from camp and nests in the trees above each night. She plays with and comforts the young chimps, and sheltered on the veranda of the building when the 19 November attack took place.

This is the first time that a wild ape has come to live in a sanctuary for ex-captive apes, and this has probably only happened because she was frightened by all the fighting in and around the forest.

The sanctuary has enough funds ONLY to last the next two months, and without further help the chimpanzees' lives are in danger.

REPORT FROM BALA

Bala Amarasekaran, Project Director, visited Sierra Leone between October 1997 and January 1998 and wrote this report.

Clearly Mr Amarasekaran and the African project staff have shown remarkable courage in attending to their chimpanzee charges, risking their own lives.

I left London on 20 October 1997 and arrived in Gambia. I located Ms. Janis Carter, Director of the Gambia and Guinea Chimp Rehabilitation Programme, and had extensive discussions regarding the present situation and possible future collaboration between the Sierra Leone Rehab Programme and the Gambia/Guinea programs.

We agreed on various forms of assistance such as veterinary services through the same medical personnel helping the Gambia/Guinea projects, training for Sierra Leonean project staff, and regular visits to Sierra Leone by Ms. Carter when the current situation normalizes.

I was also able to learn some basic medical skills (especially darting) with the help of Ms. Carter. I purchased most of the medicines and tranquilizing darts in The Gambia and left for Sierra Leone on 3 November 1997.

It took me sixteen hours to reach Freetown, covering a mere 300 miles. There were numerous check-points (approximately 20 in all) where both the soldiers and the rebels harassed everyone and extorted whatever they could. Though I lost some of my belongings and money, I was able to save the medicines and the darts.

The situation in Freetown was chaotic and the presence of armed soldiers and rebels could be noticed everywhere. There were long queues for petrol, kerosene, rice, oil, etc.

There were hardly any vehicles on the



Willy Tucker resting next to Steady

streets due to the acute shortage of fuel caused by the economic embargo levied by the international community. Fuel could still be bought, but at five times the usual cost. There was no electricity, and I heard rampant firing of small arms through the nights!

On the advice of the sanctuary staff I was not allowed to visit the project site immediately, as the staff members were making some kind of notification to various checkpoints regarding my arrival.

Finally, after a week, I made it to the sanctuary. Almost all the chimps had lost some weight, and their number had sadly been reduced to seventeen.

The staff looked exhausted, but were amazingly still in high spirits and doing their best to care for the remaining chimps. As the days went by, they related all the incidents that had occurred in the last five months. Though the chimps are still recovering both mentally and physically, the presence of the wild chimp and her integration with the sanctuary chimps has given some life to the daily activities.

Though my stay in Sierra Leone was short (two months), I was able to accomplish the following:

- After several meetings at State House I was able to arrange a permanent armed police officer for the project through the police headquarters in Freetown and secured passes for the staff to go through the check-points with some ease.

- I made back-up arrangements to transport food, medicines and fuel for the chimps, whenever these items run out in the usual markets.

- We were able to take a veterinarian to the site and he was able to do a complete screening of blood and stool samples taken from the chimps and staff. Necessary treatments were carried out (twice — once in mid-October and again in mid-November 1997).

- As the present project area is within the war front, we had to smuggle a video camera to the site with one cameraman from the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Services. We spent three days at the sanctuary and came up with a documentary. This documentary was shown on national television in Sierra Leone, mainly to educate the soldiers, rebels and the various fight-



Bala Amarasekaran with Gabi

ing factions by creating awareness of the project.

- We put all the chimps on an intensive health care programme and, by the time I was leaving, most of them looked healthier and in better spirits. They have started going on their regular walks and socialization exercises. The staff too had gained more confidence and my presence certainly boosted their morale. They are 100% determined to continue with their work, despite all the hardships they and the chimps are going through.

As funds were running out, I had no alternative but to leave my chimps and staff once more to come to the U.K. to seek further assistance.

I met Ms. Janis Carter again in The Gambia and had the opportunity to visit the Gambian Rehabilitation Programme. I stayed for three days and was able to exchange views with Janis and her staff. It was a beautiful experience watching the fully rehabilitated chimps in their natural environment and this gave me a lot of confidence to continue with my work with the chimps in Sierra Leone.

I take this opportunity to thank the International Primate Protection League and the World Society for the Protection of Animals for their timely assistance and solicit your continued support to keep the Tacugama Reserve chimps, and the Rehabilitation Programme, alive.

STOP PRESS: Good news! The Sierra Leone civil war came to an end in March 1998 and the project staff hope things will soon be back to normal.

CHIMPANZEES URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP

Both the US and UK IPPL branches have sent emergency grants to help Tacugama. We would like to receive suggestions about potential sources of financial help for rebuilding. Whether those who have used and benefited from Sitter animals (they know who they are, mainly research labs and pharmaceutical companies) will be willing to help save what was left of Sierra Leone's chimpanzees after Sitter's depredations, will be interesting to see. My guess — they won't.

If you belong to any wealthy animal protection groups, please send them a copy of this article and ask them to help the Tacugama chimpanzee sanctuary rebuild.

If you can make a donation, please send a check made out to IPPL and marked "For Tacugama" to **IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA**. As IPPL always does with "restricted donations," we will send 100% of your gift to Tacugama.

CAPUCHIN IN DENTIST'S OFFICE

Patrick Fleege, a dentist who lives in Seattle, Washington, USA, keeps his pet capuchin monkey named "PJ" in his dental office. "PJ" is 23 years old and has been living in Dr. Fleege's office for close to 20 years.

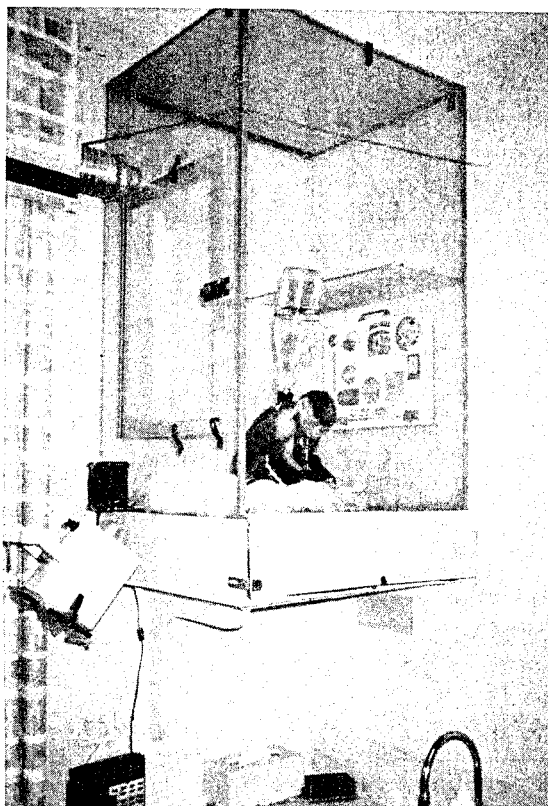
"PJ" lives in a barren cage constructed of plexiglass and is mounted on an office wall. She lives alone.

Wildlife Rescue, a sanctuary in Texas, USA, which already cares for three capuchin monkeys, has offered "PJ" a home. But, incredible as it seems, Dr. Fleege believes that his pet is perfectly happy watching patients enduring dental ordeals and listening to whining drills!

Requests that "PJ" be released to a sanctuary where she could live outdoors and be with other monkeys should be addressed to:

*Dr. Patrick Fleege
Medical Dental Building
509 Olive Way, #1024
Seattle WA 98101 USA
Fax: 206-292-8090*

*The President
Dental Quality Assurance Commission
POB 47867
Olympia WA 98504-7867, USA*



"PJ"
The Lonely
Capuchin

REMEMBERING JEROM – A CHIMPANZEE

by Rachel Weiss

Rachel Weiss used to work with chimpanzees at the Yerkes Regional Primate Center in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Now she is dedicating her life to protecting chimpanzees. The turning point for Rachel was caring for Jerom, a male chimpanzee infected with the human AIDS virus at the Primate Center. On 13 February 1998, the second anniversary of Jerom's death, Rachel posted this tribute to Jerom on an Internet list called "Primate Talk." When Rachel's post was met with silence from list members, she asked questions in a follow-up post.

Rachel's first message

Two years ago, on February 13, 1996, a chimpanzee named Jerom died at the Yerkes Regional Primate Center. Jerom was the first and only chimpanzee to have died from complications due to full-blown AIDS. He grew up with 12 other chimps in small cages and without sunlight. He suffered throughout his battle with AIDS, and his death shed no new light on the disease or its cure.

In Jerom's memory I am asking you to please take a moment today, no matter which side you subscribe to of whichever debate this brings to mind, to remember the 100 chimpanzees, both those HIV negative and HIV positive, involved in AIDS projects in the United States.

The service of these 100 individuals, including the 12 remaining at Yerkes (Buster, Manuel, Arctica, Joye, Betsie, Nathan, Sara, Marc, Jonah, Tika, Hallie and Roberta), and Jerom who died at age 14, deserves to be recognized.

Rachel's second message, headed "Silence = Death"

Do you remember that old saying from the heady days of AIDS activism? I believed it to be true then, and I believe it to be true now. It was for precisely that reason that I wrote a tribute to Jerom Chimpanzee last week. But the "thundering silence" that my memorial received was just too deafening.

Of the several people who wrote to me personally, two others were appalled and concerned that there was no response from the primate community on this list. I've been speculating to myself on the possible reason for this silence, and I've come to the following conclusion: we are letting ourselves become overwhelmed by the myriad of primate issues confronting us.

I believe that when we sit down at our private computers and read postings about chimps with AIDS, struggling West African sanctuaries, chimpanzees in television commercials, pet chimpanzees handed over to known animal breeders, etc, we feel small and



Photo: Stella Brewer, Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Project, The Gambia

There is no photo of Jerom, but this picture of a dignified adult chimpanzee living a natural life may be what he dreamed of...

isolated and unconnected. So much so that we don't even want to acknowledge what we've read.

This is Primate-TALK! We MUST keep talking! We MUST come to some conclusions, reach some consensus, decide on plans of action. Why do we, of all people, feel that our hands are tied?

If WE won't help these chimps (I apologize for focusing solely on chimpanzees, please apply this to the precariously-situated primate of your choice), who is going to?

Maybe we need to better clarify what this list is for. Is it merely to point out inadequacies in the world-wide human-nonhuman primate relationship? Or is it to get something accomplished? If this is Primate-TALK, maybe we should start a new list called Primate-ACTION? Okay, that was a little sarcastic.

I do have one real solution/suggestion.

Maybe when you send a post to the list detailing an issue or situation, you should include your thoughts and expectations on how we can rectify that issue or situation. What should I do to help? Do letters need to be written? Should I call my senator? Should I send money? There are very real things that we can do, right from the privacy of our own homes. Sanctuaries in this country are few and far between. They need very real financial support.

Various state Fish and Wildlife depart-

ments and Divisions of Natural Resources sound like they need a slap upside the head — a letter-writing campaign? How about that petition for more apes in the entertainment industry? Seriously, what do we need a sanctuary in for? Do we need? Do we want it — surely we can do it!

As for me personally, I would love to see a flood of letters written to Yerkes' Director Tom Insel. As I didn't exactly mention last week, there are 12 adult chimps quarantined together, in groups of two and three, in a building called CID (Chimpanzee Infectious Disease).

Not all of them are HIV positive, and none of them have seen another chimp or set foot outside in over 10 years. They receive the minimum of human interaction, which I know they crave.

Insel has stated recently that their study has been discontinued (after at least one, but possibly three of these guys have been infected with the strain of virus that killed Jerom — just to see what would happen!), but that Yerkes will never release these chimps to a sanctuary.

He is also aware that these chimps could be group-housed and moved to their own section of the general colony (Yerkes already houses Hepatitis C infected chimps in the general colony). This would give them some access to more social experiences with each other, some access to the outdoors, and inter-

action with more humans not dressed in space-suits. You don't even have to get out of your chair and go to Atlanta to try to help them.

Do you need my credentials? I was a caretaker at Yerkes for two years, and the Chimpanzee Infectious Disease caretaker for over 6 months. No, not too long, but long enough. I've been trying to help them ever since Jerom died, but to no avail. Surely you can help.

If AIDS chimps aren't your cause, no problem. Just look into your heart and decide which issue most suits you, and what it is you're capable of doing. If nothing else, please keep talking.

IPPL NOTE: IPPL requested Dr. Thomas Insel, Director of the Yerkes Primate Center, to provide a photograph of the late Jerom. Insel responded that, to the best of his knowledge, no photographs were taken. Insel provided further information regarding AIDS studies in chimpanzees at Yerkes.

Insel stated that no further chimpanzees would be infected with the AIDS virus, and that the 12 currently infected chimpanzees would be treated, and an effort made to eradicate the virus.

Insel also stated that Nathan was still alive and confirmed that two other already-infected chimpanzees were injected with a "viral isolate derived from Nathan" prior to the completion of the study in 1997.

HELP JEROM'S FRIENDS — SEND A LETTER

Courteous letters calling for improvements in housing and access to the outdoors for the HIV-infected chimpanzees at Yerkes Primate Center, and confirmation that no further Yerkes chimpanzees will be infected with the AIDS virus, may be addressed to:

**Dr. Thomas Insel, Director
Yerkes Regional Primate Center
Atlanta GA 30322, USA**

As always when you are acting as an "ambassador" for the animals, be diplomatic, however upset you feel at the issue you are discussing.

NURSE FIRED FOR TREATING CHIMP

Nurse Beverly Pressgrove thought she was doing the right thing when she tried to revive a young privately-owned chimpanzee brought to a human emergency room by the animal's panicked owner. Pressgrove then worked at Methodist Southern Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, USA.

Pressgrove tried hard to revive the chimpanzee, but failed. She commented, "*In my heart I just could not see turning the animal away.*"

Hospital administrator Cecilia Wilson-Sawyer didn't feel the same way! She fired Pressgrove. Nurse Pressgrove is appealing her dismissal.

VILAS PARK ZOO RHESUS EVICTED FROM ZOO

For the first time in 35 years the rhesus monkey housing at the Vilas Park Zoo, Madison, Wisconsin, USA is empty. The zoo rhesus monkeys left by truck for the Tulane Primate Center, Covington, Louisiana, on Wednesday 4 March 1998.

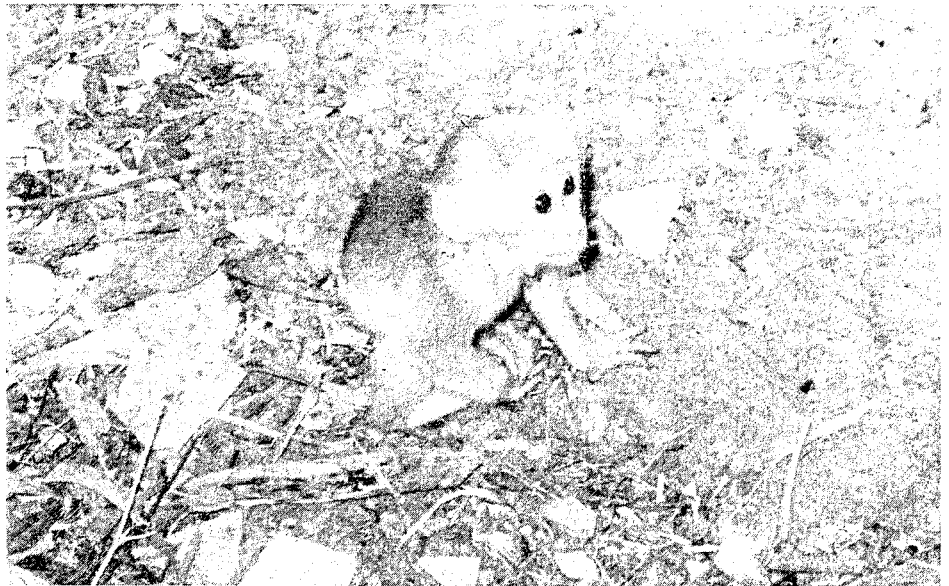
While at the zoo, the monkeys were studied by, among others, Frans De Waal, who based his book **Peacemaking Among Primates** partly on the zoo monkeys. De Waal later moved to Yerkes Primate Center, Atlanta, Georgia and, as far as IPPL can determine, took no part in the attempt to prevent the transfer of his former study animals to Tulane.

The approximately 100 rhesus and 50 stump-tail monkeys living at the zoo were protected "on paper" but sadly the "protection" was a joke. The "protection" consisted of a letter dated 15 June 1989 to David Hall, Director, Vilas Park Zoo, signed by Robert Goy, Director, Primate Center Director, and six other center officials. This letter stated that:

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.

The Madison press tracked the monkey affair daily. It obtained documents showing that, following Goy's departure, the university violated the agreement 201 times, using zoo-origin monkeys in invasive experiments, killing some for their tissues and selling others to agencies involved in invasive experiments.

After the press exposed the violations of the agreement, the University and Primate Center could have taken the honorable path



Courtesy: Wild Animal Rescue Foundation

Baby stump-tail macaque at Thai rescue center

by ensuring that the monkeys living at the zoo stayed at the zoo.

Instead it chose a different path — to get rid of the monkeys. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) provides the Primate Center's core budget. Either acting in collusion with the primate center or on its own, NIH ordered that no more NIH money should be spent on the Vilas Park Zoo monkeys — thus creating an artificial "man-made" emergency that could be used as a pretext to get rid of the monkeys.

The Wisconsin Alliance for Animals worked hard to try to keep the monkeys at the zoo and had the support of the press and public. The children of Madison took up the campaign, writing letters and collecting funds. Wisconsin state governor Tommy Thompson and his wife Sue Ann joined in the campaign.

By late February sufficient funds had been raised to send the monkeys to a sanc-

tuary in Texas.

But instead the unfortunate monkeys were trucked off to Tulane.

The New Orleans **Times Picayune** ran a story about the monkeys' impending arrival on 5 March 1998. Tulane veterinarian Jim Blanshard made clear that the agreement that was supposed to protect the monkeys was dead. According to the **Times Picayune**:

Those not suitable for breeding will be used for research at the Tulane center, which specializes in studying infectious diseases, including Lyme disease, malaria, leprosy and AIDS.

"It is my understanding that we are under no obligation to fulfil Wisconsin's obligation" not to perform invasive research on the monkeys, Blanshard said.

The 51 stump-tail macaques remain at the Vilas Park Zoo. Their future remains uncertain.

DOCUMENTS REVEAL MONKEY INTRIGUE

The Madison Alliance for Animals was able to obtain documents under Wisconsin's Open Records Act which show some of the under-handed dealings in the Vilas Park Zoo monkey affair. These documents show how the unfortunate Zoo monkeys were treated not as living sentient beings, protected by an agreement enforced by men and women of supposed honor, but rather as a commodity and "public relations" problem for the Wisconsin Primate Center, which broke its

agreement and betrayed them.

The documents included:

E-mail letter from Joseph Kemnitz, Director, Wisconsin Primate Center, to Peter Gerone, director of Tulane Primate Center, dated 10 November 1997

"Pete, would you accept a gift of a group of [about] 50 rhesus monkeys from us? Or two groups totalling [about] 100?"

"I am trying to resolve a controversy (and

now a funding issue) regarding our monkeys kept at the local zoo. If I could find a new home for the rhesus, it would make life much easier. [Presumably Kemnitz meant "easier" for himself — not for the monkeys!]

"Both groups consist of males and females of mixed ages. They are reasonable breeding troops. It would be best if they were used for breeding, rather than invasive research for PR [Public Relations] issues. We would like to ship them before February."

E-mail reply to Joseph Kemnitz from Peter Gerone, dated 11 November 1997

"Joe — sorry for the delay in responding. I got your message the first thing this morning but I wanted to talk to Jim Blanshard before responding. The answer is YES. We have our quarantine pretty full through January but we hope to move them out in time to accept your monkeys. We would be interested in the whole group and, obviously, would pay the expense of getting them there. We appreciate your offer."

Letter from Michael Lankeit, Acting Director, German Primate Center, Gottingen, Germany, to Joseph Kemnitz, dated 23 December 1997

"I am writing you in my function of the chairman of the European Primate Resources Network — EUPREN — a network of the leading primate centers in Europe. Via Primate Talk I learned that NIH [the US National In-

stitutes of Health] will stop funding the WRPRC [Wisconsin Primate Center] colony at Vilas Park Zoo and I had the opportunity to talk to David Abbott some days before in Paris. During this talk very spontaneously the idea was born that EUPREN would overtake this colony.

"Without having thought about the details we believed that such a solution would be advantageous for WRPRC and EUPREN as well, because one of the aims of EUPREN is the expansion of the breeding colonies of macaques in Europe and WRPRC could "get rid" of the colony in an elegant manner...."

Letter from Joseph Kemnitz to Michael Lankeit, dated 23 December 1997

"...I do see transfer of at least the stumptailed macaques from the zoo to the [German Primate Center] as a realistic possibility. The group consists of 51 animals ranging from infants to older adults [about

20 years old."

IPPL Note: Around this time Kemnitz was telling the Madison newspaper Capital Times that, "Transferring the stumptails to Thailand remains my No. 1 option for them."

Letter from Joseph Kemnitz to Michael Lankeit, dated 6 January 1998

"Is EUPREN still interested in acquiring our stumptailed macaques? Please let me know as we would like to develop a plan for them in the very near future."

Letter from Michael Lankeit to Joseph Kemnitz dated 8 January 1998

"To be honest, EUPREN's focus of interest was the rhesus macaque colony of Vilas Park which obviously is not available. Stumptailed macaques are not very common in biomedical research in Europe so I fear there is no great interest to acquire the colony."

MONKEYS MAY BE REPLACED IN POLIO VACCINE TESTS

According to the World Health Organization, mice could take the place of monkeys in polio vaccine testing. Scientists have developed genetically engineered mice that are vulnerable to polio and could be used to test the vaccine. Currently each batch of polio vaccine is double-tested on large numbers of monkeys, who are administered the vaccine and later killed for tissue examination. Elimination of the use of monkeys in polio vaccine would save thousands of monkeys' lives annually. Sadly, mice would die.

In the past few years scientists in France, Japan, Germany and the United States have succeeded in developing a strain of mice which have certain human genes. These so-called "transgenic" mice can be used for vaccine testing.

According to WHO, use of mice would be far cheaper than use of monkeys — and "more acceptable to animal rights activists."

WHO is currently embarked on a campaign to eliminate polio. In 1997, 1.3 billion doses of vaccine were administered.

ODDS AND ENDS

Chimpanzee hangs

Rope can be an excellent enrichment for primates. They can be a valuable part of environmental enrichment. Properly selected and installed, they are greatly enjoyed by primates.

However, as a tragic incident at the Los Angeles Zoo, California, USA, shows, they can pose an extreme danger. On 20 August 1997, Jamal, a three year old chimpanzee, died by hanging when a rope twisted round his neck. Other chimpanzees tried to help him, but only drew the noose tighter.

Many ropes are treated with substances that could harm primates. Primates like to chew on rope. Natural manila fibers are safer than

ropes made from synthetic fibers.

Second-hand rope should be avoided as it is often contaminated, especially tug boat rope. Rope should normally be 1.5 to 2 inches thick.

Monkeys using colo-bridges

The Wakuluzu Friends of the Colobus Trust is a Kenyan organization that works to protect monkeys crossing the Diani Beach Road from being killed by speeding cars.

With assistance from IPPL and other organizations, bridges have been built to help monkeys get to the other side of the road without being in danger. The monkeys have already started to use the bridges.

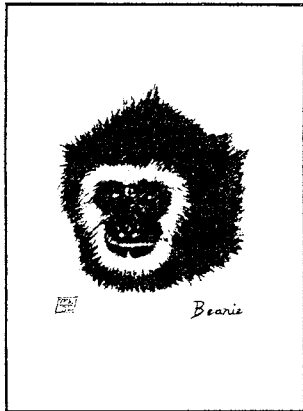
Update on Yaounde Zoo

Cameroon Wildlife Aid Fund, a British group, has recently come to the rescue of the primates held in appalling conditions at the Yaounde Zoo in Cameroon. Their plight was the subject of an article in the April 1997 issue of IPPL News.

Project Manager Chris Mitchell reports that most of the animals have been rehoused and that eventually the animals will all be moved into a spacious forest area close to the city of Yaounde which has been earmarked for the project by the Cameroon Government.

A longer article with photos will appear in a later issue of IPPL News.

GIFT ITEMS

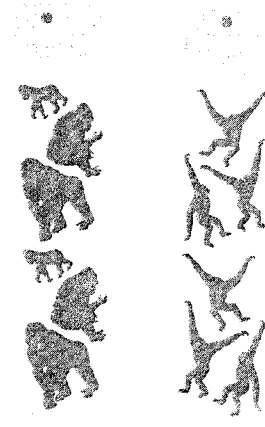


Lovely note cards featuring IPPL gibbons Beanie,
Igor, Shanti with Michele, and Arun Rangsi

Artwork by Michele Winstanley
12 for \$10 US, \$13 overseas



Gibbon gift wrap: \$4.50 for 3
sheets, \$6.00 overseas



Gibbon and Gorilla Stickers
5 assorted sheets, \$5 US, \$6 overseas



WILDSIGHT VIDEO
Starring Beanie and the
IPPL gibbons
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Overseas: \$20



"Among the Orangutans"
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Overseas: \$12

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Gorilla T: \$14
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