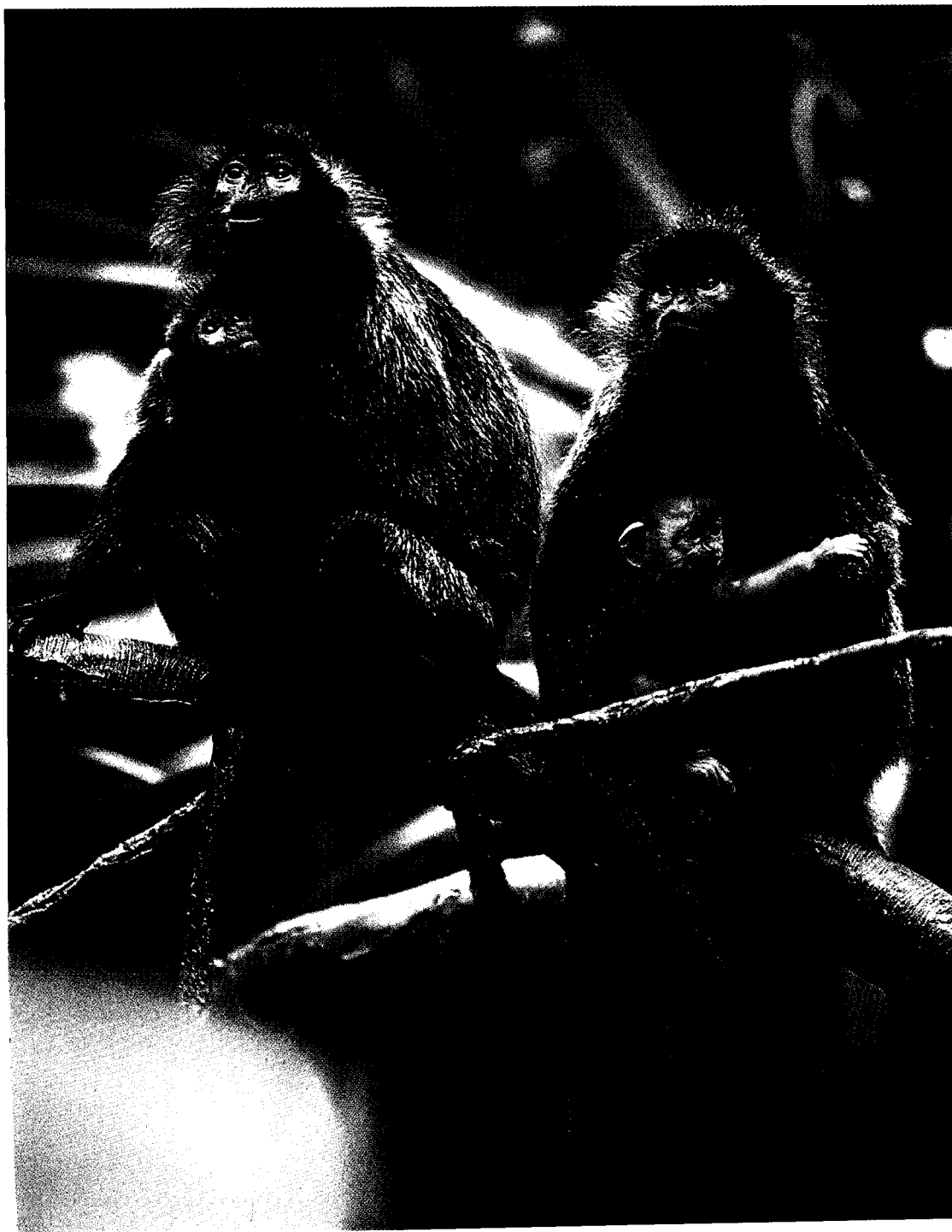




News

ISSN-1040-3027, VOL. 29, NO. 2

AUGUST 2002



INSIDE:

THE NIGERIAN GORILLA CONNECTION

Family of silvered
leaf monkeys with
their bright orange
baby

©Art Wolfe

THE "TAIPING FOUR" GORILLA DEAL

IPPL EXPOSES THE SORDID DETAILS

IPPL has now obtained crucial documents pertaining to the shipment of four infant gorillas from Nigeria to Malaysia in January 2002. A preliminary report on the shipment appeared in the April 2002 issue of *IPPL News*.

IPPL was tipped off about the presence of four young gorillas at Taiping Zoo in March 2002 and immediately initiated an investigation into the circumstances of the shipment because gorillas are an endangered species.

IPPL's first enquiry went to the Malaysian Wildlife Department, which confirmed that it had issued an import permit for gorillas to Taiping Zoo. The official stated that the department was now concerned about the circumstances of the shipment and had withdrawn permission to the zoo to import two more gorillas pending further investigation.

Two gorilla sub-species

Investigating the "Taiping Four" ship-

ment is complicated because there are two gorilla sub-species in Nigeria and its neighbor nation, Cameroon.

The Cross River gorilla (scientific name *Gorilla gorilla diehli*) lives only in Nigeria and a small area in Western Cameroon. The entire world population numbers only around 300.

The Western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*) is not found in Nigeria at all. It is found in Nigeria's neighbor Cameroon. Yet this is the gorilla species specified in the Nigerian health certificates issued by the Professor M. O. Akusu, director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at the University of Ibadan, and in correspondence to the firm NigerCom Solutions (apparently an animal dealer) from Kevin Lazarus, director of Taiping Zoo.

No gorilla of either species has ever been bred in captivity in Nigeria.

If the four animals were indeed *Gorilla gorilla gorilla*, they would probably have been smuggled from

Cameroon into Nigeria prior to their eventual export. Regardless of the species involved, the gorilla shipment would have been extremely harmful to gorilla survival in the wild.

International press coverage

IPPL worked hard with colleagues in Nigeria, Malaysia, and South Africa to interest reporters in covering the gorilla shipment. Both the Associated Press and Agence France Presse have reporters assigned to cover Nigeria. IPPL worked with both agencies' reporters. Since April, the "Taiping Four" situation has received worldwide press coverage.

A Malaysian reporter identified Ibadan Zoo, Oyo State, Nigeria, as the zoo from which the gorillas originated. AP reporter Glenn McKenzie and a Nigerian conservationist visited the zoo, and talked with zoo keepers. The zoo director would not talk with them.

Writing on 1 June 2002, McKenzie

ENDANGERED PRIMATES

Incident highlights illegal animal trade

Malaysian zoo denies gorillas were captured in Africa

By GLENN MCKENZIE

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IBADAN, Nigeria — Wildlife groups on Saturday demanded the return of four baby gorillas alleged to have been illegally captured and flown to a leading Malaysian zoo. Conservationists called it one of the most troubling cases yet in an international smuggling trade threatening Africa's great apes with extinction.

Malaysia's government-funded Taiping Zoo denies wrongdoing, saying the apes were bred in captivity in Nigeria and therefore eligible to trade under world wildlife protection accords.

Workers at a Nigerian zoo, however, said last week that the four infant gorillas passed through their zoo after being caught wild in the forests of Cameroon.

Conservationists also independently challenge the Malaysian zoo's account of the origins of the four apes, arguing, in part, that there is no known

breeding program for gorillas anywhere in Africa from which the animals could have been taken.

"This is clearly a case of smuggling ... the only real question is who is responsible," charged Muhtari Aminu-Kano, executive director of the Nigeria Conservation Foundation, an affiliate of the World Wildlife Fund.

Wildlife experts say the case highlights a growing trafficking market, exposed in September when Egyptian authorities drowned a baby gorilla in a vat of chemicals because the animal was alleged to have been smuggled from Nigeria. Airport veterinarians said they feared the primate might have carried diseases.

Gorillas, chimpanzees and drills, which are baboon-sized animals that are Africa's most endangered primate, also have been intercepted in the 1990s on their way from Nigeria to Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, the Philippines and Thailand.

Selling or trading apes caught in the wild is banned under the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species, which permits only those born in captivity to be exchanged for noncommercial purposes. Both Malaysia



SAURABH DAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

and Nigeria are signatories.

The latest case involves four young gorillas that turned up at Taiping Zoo in January.

Authorities at the zoo, 155 miles north of Kuala Lumpur, have refused repeated requests for comment about the animals' origins.

Speaking only on condition

they not be identified, Taiping Zoo officials said they received the infant gorillas as part of a trade with a Nigerian zoo. They repeatedly have refused to identify the Nigerian zoo.

The export documents list the gorillas as having been bred at Nigeria's University of Ibadan Zoological Gardens.

Ibadan Zoo officials say they have no such breeding program.

Olalekan Akanji, a zookeeper at the University of Ibadan Zoological Gardens about 70 miles north of Lagos, said the four gorillas "came from the jungle in Cameroon" and spent several months at the zoo before being flown to

A baby chimpanzee is displayed for sale for \$370 by a roadside animal trader in Abuja, Nigeria, in this May 4 photo. Nigeria often is used as the transit point for the illegal trade of great apes because laws are slack and fines are small.

Malaysia in January.

"If anyone else wants more gorillas, we can get some more," Akanji volunteered in front of several primate cages. "But they are very expensive."

Asked if the zoo ever had other baby gorillas intended for trade, he said "Yes, there have been many. But a lot of them died."

Wildlife groups say there are enough obvious questions marks about the origins of the animals that Nigeria and Malaysia should never have allowed their export.

"They could not legitimately have been captive-bred," said Shirley McGreal, chairwoman of the Summerville, S.C.-based International Primate Protection League.

Allowing the Malaysian zoo to keep the gorillas would set a "disturbing precedent," McGreal said.

Although the exact scope of the illicit trade of great apes is unknown, a growing number have been intercepted on their way from Nigeria to other countries, Nigerian and U.S. conservationists say.

"We fear the cases that have come to light are just the tip of the iceberg," McGreal said.

News of the gorilla shipment travelled worldwide.

of several primate cages. "But they are very expensive."

McKenzie asked if the zoo had ever held other baby gorillas intended for trade. Akanji responded:

Yes, there have been many. But a lot of them died.

Another Ibadan Zoo employee, guide Friday Ndubisi Onwuka, also said the four gorillas came from "the forest" and spent time in Ibadan before flying to Malaysia.

McKenzie contacted Shirley McGreal of IPPL:

"They could not legitimately have been captive-bred," said Shirley McGreal, chairwoman of the Summerville, South Carolina-based International Primate Protection League. "Allowing the Malaysian zoo to keep the gorillas would set a disturbing precedent and touch off a flood of similar shipments further threatening the already endangered primates."

McKenzie's article exposed to the world the disgraceful behavior of the Ibadan Zoo. It was carried in newspapers in many countries.

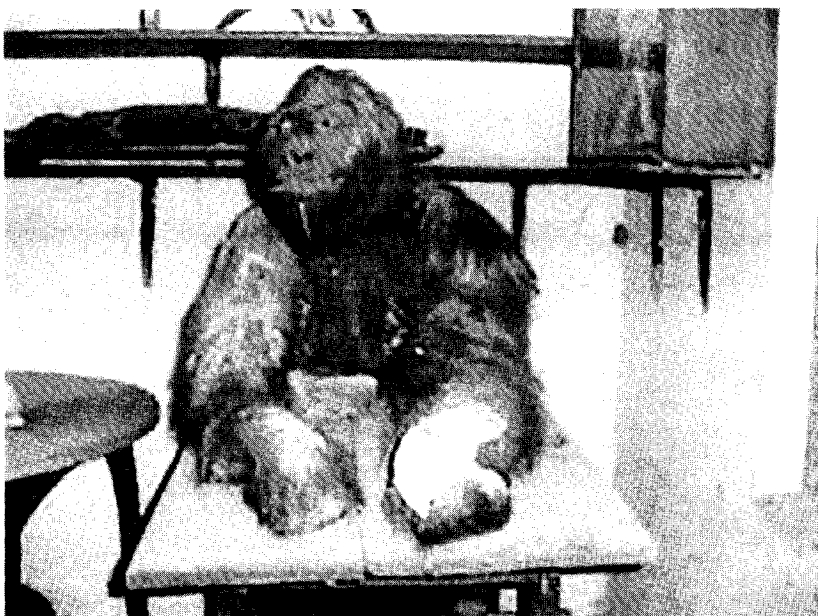
On getting confirmation that the Ibadan Zoo was procuring baby gorillas for export, IPPL sent a letter of protest to the zoo's director, Dr. D. O. Akinboye, requesting that she provide information about how the zoo is procuring the gorillas it exports. It is obvious, from the zoo keepers' comments, that the zoo has previously exported gorillas.

Press coverage in Nigeria

On May 20, 2002 Chinedu Uwaegbulam of the Nigerian newspaper **The Guardian** wrote a story about the gorilla deal. The story was written before IPPL obtained documents revealing details of the deal. Chinedu

noted comments by Taiping Zoo director Kevin Lazarus that the zoo planned to help in captive breeding of gorillas and that, "There should be a good stable group of gorillas in South East Asia as there is none at the moment."

When the Nigerian press obtained documents pertaining to the shipment, there was a great deal of publicity in Nigeria. John Odey Aduma wrote articles



Sire of four baby gorillas from Ibadan Zoo!??

about the shipment for 2 and 10 June issues of the **Daily Times**. Mr. Aduma reproduced in this two-part series all the crucial case documents and identified "all the conspirators in the deal."

On 10 June he concluded:

As I cried out on May 20, 2002, that cry is being re-echoed and the Federal Government must act fast to bring all the culprits to book. I have taken the pain to list all the conspirators in the gorilla fraud, so that nothing can be swept under the carpet in the course of investigation. There shouldn't be any hiding place for all the conspirators. It is quite appalling that the Ministry of Environment charged with the responsibility of protecting the nation's wildlife is the one aiding and abetting this crime in flagrant disregard for Decree No. 11 of 1985 and the CITES law in which Nigeria is a signatory.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Nigerian Conservation

Foundation, the International Primate Protection League, the United Nations Environment Program, and all conscientious humanity should rise up with one voice and condemn this heinous crime forthwith.

Meanwhile the Federal Government should write a protest letter to the Malaysian Government condemning this illegality and ask for the return of the primates.

Yesterday Malaysia took our palm kernels and today we are importing oil from there. They have returned today to take away our gorillas and tomorrow we shall be importing gorillas from them.

On 3 July, the **Daily Trust**, a newspaper published in Abuja, Nigeria's capital, covered a press conference addressed by Nigeria's Minister of the Environment, Alhaji

Muhammadu Kabir Said. The Minister promised a review of wildlife regulations and improved law enforcement aimed at "bringing the culprits to book."

According to the article:

Alhaji Said said this move came in the wake of a series of letters to the Minister from various conservationists and environmentalists [emphasis added — note that most of these letters came from IPPL members] as well as from the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in Switzerland over fraudulent activities of some unpatriotic Nigerians and their foreign collaborators who forge travel documents to perpetrate their heinous actions which involve cruel and ill-treatment of animals.

The Minister referred to the drowning of a baby gorilla and chimpanzee at Cairo Airport and the export of four gorillas to Taiping Zoo.

LET'S DOUBLE IPPL'S MEMBERSHIP!

Dear IPPL Member,

I am writing to ask your help in making IPPL bigger and better by recruiting new members. Increasing our member base will allow IPPL to help primates in many ways.

* Larger income from dues will provide more funds to conduct in-depth investigations of appalling abuses of primates in trade (like the smuggling of the baby gorillas from Nigeria to Malaysia that you can read about in this issue). In the past our investigations have led to indictments and prosecutions of primate traffickers.

* Equally important is the larger clout we can wield with double the number of informed members writing letters to government officials who will feel increased pressure to take action.

* We want to provide more help to overseas activist groups such as **KSBK** in Indonesia. **KSBK** has brought the cause of primate protection to this island nation and had amazing successes, like the closing of two monkey meat markets in Sumatra that you can read about in this issue. This investigation of the markets was assisted by an IPPL grant.

* We want to increase our help to wonderful sanctuaries like **Pandrillus** in Nigeria, which just received three baby chimpanzees confiscated from traders. The heart-warming story of their rescue is covered in this issue of *IPPL News*.

* We have 34 gibbons here at IPPL's sanctuary who need daily care, like our blind gibbon **Beanie** and our injured infant **Courtney**.

In fact, we need to double IPPL's membership! Here's how you can help.

* Please consider asking your friends to join IPPL. If every member could enroll one new member, our membership would double. Please let us know if you want a supply of IPPL's introductory pamphlets.

* We are developing a slide show about IPPL, with a prepared script. We plan to have the program available by mid-September. Please let us know if you want to be updated on this project. The presentation will introduce IPPL's gibbons and some of the animals at overseas sanctuaries we help. If you know any clubs or schools in your area that have lecture programs, please ask if you can give a talk about primates.



For more information on how you can participate in IPPL's outreach program, please phone Shirley or Elizabeth at 843-871-2280 or write to IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484.

Shirley (in red suit) with group of IPPL members

port division gave an import-export document covering the shipment.

The article quoted Sherryn Thompson of the Wildlife Action Group (WAG), who commented that it appeared neither CITES officials nor the law enforcement unit at Johannesburg International Airport was aware of the deal. WAG commented:

This case shows how weak our CITES enforcement is. The moment Veterinary Services received the applications they should have notified CITES and the airport. Instead, they were totally ignorant of the significance of the deal.


South Africa's Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, which handles CITES matters, told McLeod that it had never heard of the case. Superintendent Benedict Benson, head of the South African police's endangered species unit, said it would investigate the case.

World Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

The World Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (WAZA) reacted to the shipment by suspending Taiping Zoo's application for membership. In a press release dated 2 June 2002, WAZA President Alex Rubel stated that, while export and import documents existed, any claims that the gorillas were captive-bred are clearly false as no gorillas had been born at Ibadan Zoo.

WAZA stated:

Members of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) have agreed to a strict Code of Ethics which guarantees the highest standard of care for the animals in their trust and to animals in general. The Code requests also that zoos acquiring animals be confident that such acquisitions will not be in violation of national or international law and will not have a deleterious effect upon the wild population. In case of doubt about the validity of a certificate issued under CITES, zoos should use all sources of information to ensure that all regulations have been respected.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
DEPARTEMENT VAN LANDBOU
DIREKTORAAT VIGTIGHEIDSKONTROLE
PRIVAATSAK/PRIVATE BAG X138

07 JAN 2002

National Department of Agriculture
IMPORTER:
CARGO MARKETING INTERNATIONAL
A/C THE OF MALAYSIA
TAIPING ZOO, 34008 PERAK
MALAYSIA

Directorate of Veterinary Services
Import-Export Control
Private Bag X138
Republic of South Africa
Tel: (27)-012-3197514
Fax: (27)-012-3298292
Permit no: 13/1/1/13/3-05
VALID FROM: 2002-01-07
EXPIRY DATE: 2002-04-07

VETERINARY IMPORT AND RE-EXPORT PERMIT
(Issued in terms of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984)

Authority is hereby granted for you to import into and re-export out of the Republic of South Africa

5 (FIVE) LOWLAND GORILLAS

from (consignor/address/district/country):

NIGERIA/ (IBADAN)

by air/rail/road in containers sealed by Veterinary authorities of the exporting country through port of entry

JOHANNESBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Tel: 011 973 2829; Fax: 011-973 2828 directly through the RSA for immediate export to (consignee/address/destination):

MALAYSIA

through the port of exit JOHANNESBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Tel: 011 9732827 Fax: 011 9732828 subject to the following conditions:

1. the consignment must be accompanied by:


1.1 this permit

1.2 veterinary import permit, issued by the importing country viz: no: N/A dated N/A issued by: N/A

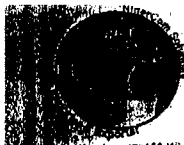
1.3 Veterinary health certificate issued by the exporting country, stipulating that the conditions of import of the importing country have been complied with.

1.4 the veterinary certificate overleaf, completed and signed by a Veterinarian authorised thereto by the government of the exporting country

This permit is valid from 2002-01-07 and 2002-04-07 for ONE CONSIGNMENT ONLY, and must be endorsed overleaf by the veterinary/customs official of the port of entry into RSA.


DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES

**South African
veterinary
permit for
import-export
of 5 gorillas**



NigerCom Solutions (M) Sdn. Bhd.
Block 8-2-3,
Malaman Damai, Lintang Kg, Rawa 1,
10160 Penang, West Malaysia.
Tel/Fax: +604-2833784 e-mail: ncsa1@hotmail.com

3rd December, 2001

Attention: Dr (Mrs) D. O. Akinboye

The Director,
The Zoological garden,
University of Ibadan,
Ibadan,
Nigeria.

Dear Ma,

REF: ANIMAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME WITH UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

In view of the fact that UI can not pay for the last gorilla which was supplied to the Zoo, we have made alternative arrangement to pay the money of the animal directly to the supplier and to be given to the zoo as animal donation from us.

This implies that the last gorilla is been donated to the zoological garden, UI by Nigercom sol. This arrangement is in order to enhance the transaction of the animal exchange programme between Nigercom sol and Taiping Zoo.

Thanks for your usual co-operation.

Yours faithfully,


NORZATI BINTI ABDULRAHMAN
Managing Director

**NigerCom
Solutions letter
raises
questions
about the
financial
aspects of the
gorilla deal.**

reported:

Malaysia's government-funded Taiping Zoo denies any impropriety, saying the apes were bred in captivity in Nigeria and therefore liable to trade under world wildlife protection accords.

Workers at a Nigerian zoo...told the Associated Press this week that the four infant gorillas passed through their zoo after being caught wild in the forests of Cameroon.

Conservationists also independently challenge the Malaysia zoo's account of the four apes' origins — arguing, in part, that there are no known breeding programs for gorillas anywhere in Africa from which the animals could have been taken.

Muhtari Aminu-Kano, executive director of the Nigerian Conservation Foundation, told McKenzie:

This is clearly a case of smuggling...the only real question is who is responsible.

McKenzie tried to get information from Taiping Zoo, but could get no official comment. He wrote:

Authorities at the Taiping Zoo, 250 kilometers (155 miles) north of Kuala Lumpur, have refused repeated requests for on-the-record comment about the animals' origins. Speaking only on condition they not be identified, Taiping Zoo officials say they received the infant gorillas as part of a trade with a Nigerian zoo. They have repeatedly refused to identify the Nigerian zoo.

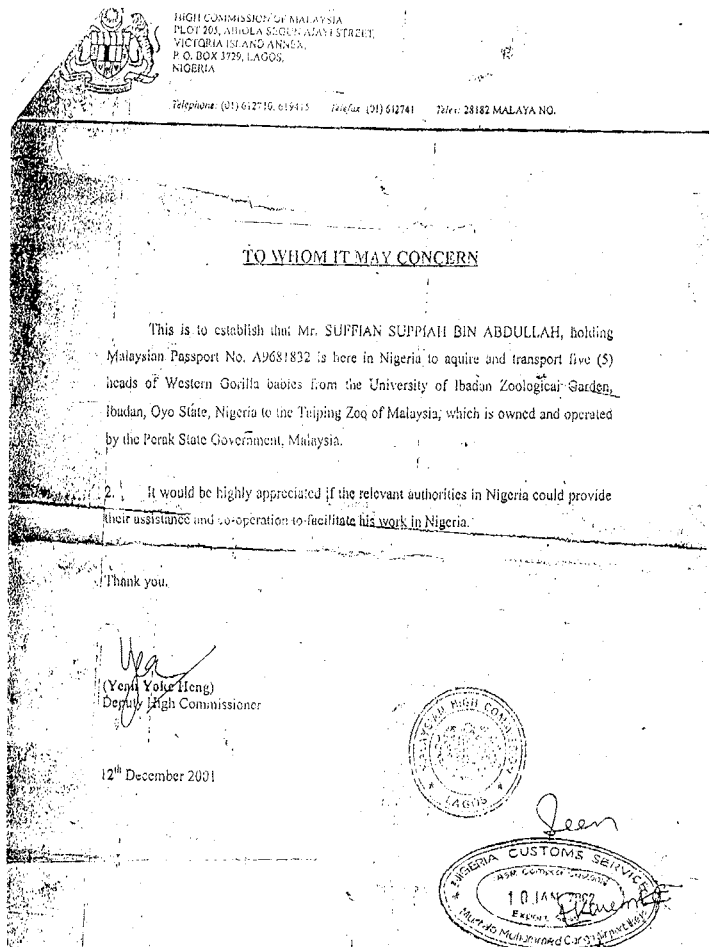
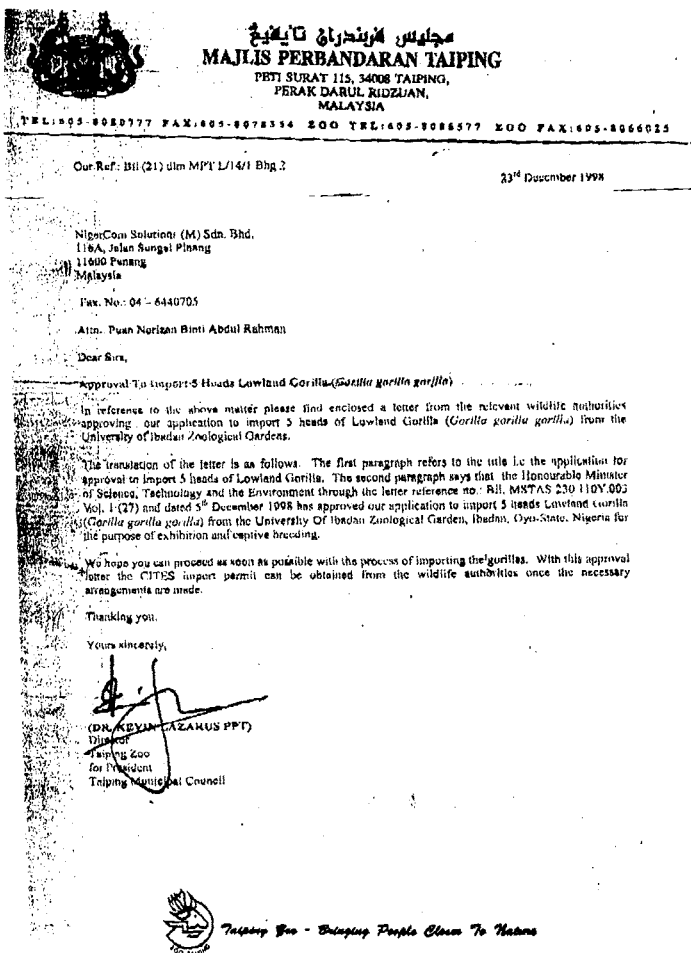
McKenzie was able to obtain copies of the Nigerian export documents, which listed the gorillas as having been bred at Nigeria's University of Ibadan Zoological Gardens. However, he

learned from the zoo that it had no breeding program for gorillas, and that the only gorilla currently at the zoo was a 37-year-old female long past breeding age.

The web site for Oyo State, where Ibadan is located, shows a gruesome picture of the zoo's long-dead male gorilla, sitting embalmed at a table. www.oyostategov.com/tourism/zoo.htm

McKenzie interviewed Ibadan zoo keeper Olalekan Akanji, who reportedly said:

[The] four gorillas "came from the jungle in Cameroon" and spent several months at the zoo before flying to Malaysia in January. Akanji said he bottle-fed the young apes milk and sugar water, and even taught one to ride a tricycle. "If anyone else wants more gorillas, we can get some more," Akanji volunteered in front



Note how the Taiping Zoo director describes the gorillas as Gorilla gorilla gorilla, a species not found in Nigeria.

Malaysian High Commission facilitates the dubious gorilla deal.

LETTERS NEEDED TO HELP END GORILLA TRAFFICKING

Please send a letter to the Nigerian Embassy or High Commission in the capital city of your country of origin. Express your concern over the export of young wild-caught gorillas from Nigeria to Malaysia on export documents falsely stating that the animals were born in captivity at Ibadan Zoo.

Request that the Embassy inform relevant law enforcement authorities in Nigeria about the shipment so that Ibadan Zoo and the officials behind issuance of the fraudulent export permits be investigated and punished.

It is important also to request a response to your letter!

*His Excellency the Ambassador
Federal Republic of Nigeria
1333 16th Street NW
Washington DC 20036, USA
Fax: 202-986-8449*

*The High Commissioner for Nigeria
Nigeria House, 9 Northumberland Avenue
London WC2N 5BX, United Kingdom
Fax: 020-7839-8746*

*The High Commissioner for Nigeria
295 Metcalfe Street
Ottawa Ontario K2P 1R9, Canada
Fax: 613-236-0529*

Please send a letter to the Embassy of Malaysia (embassies are called High Commissions in Commonwealth countries), expressing your concern that Malaysia issued a permit allowing the import of four purportedly captive-born gorillas from Nigeria by Taiping Zoo in January 2002, when it would have been easy for the government, the zoo, and its supplier to verify that the claims of captive birth were false.

Request that Malaysia investigate carefully before issuing import permits for wildlife protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to which Malaysia belongs and that action be taken against anyone found to have acted improperly in connection with the gorilla deal.

*His Excellency the Ambassador of Malaysia
2401 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington DC 20038, USA
Fax: 202-483-7661*

*The High Commissioner for Malaysia
45 Belgrave Square
London SW1X 8QT, United Kingdom
Fax: 020-7235-5161*

*The High Commissioner for Malaysia
60 Boteler Street
Ottawa Ontario K1N 8Y7, Canada
Fax: 613-241-5214*

Please send a protest letter to the President of South African Airways expressing your concern at the airline having carried four gorillas from Nigeria via South Africa to Bangkok for onward shipment to Malaysia in January 2002. Request an investigation of how the animals were accepted as cargo. Note that gorillas are fully protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, of which South Africa is a member. Request also that South African Airways stop carrying any wildlife from Nigeria.

*Andre Viljoen, President, South African Airways
Airways Patk Building, Jones Road
Johannesburg International Airport
Johannesburg, South Africa*

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING IPPL'S INVESTIGATIVE WORK

IPPL is now in its 30th year of fighting the trade in live primates. It was IPPL that received a tip-off from a colleague about the presence of four gorillas at Taiping Zoo. We immediately contacted relevant government agencies and our worldwide network of contacts to get the facts behind the story.

Some courageous individuals obtained the core documents which may enable prosecution of the case. IPPL handed these documents to the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and to law enforcement authorities in several nations.

No other organization has been following this case closely. IPPL's well-known persistence will keep us working on this case for as long as it takes to see the "**Nigerian Connection**" closed. In the early '90s IPPL's work led to the incarceration of Matthew Block in connection with the "Bangkok Six" orangutan smuggling case — and the indictment in 2002 of the US company LABS and its former President David Taub for the international transportation of baby macaque monkeys just 3-4 weeks old and shipment of wild-caught monkeys on documents falsely stating the animals were captive-born.

IPPL would like to thank all our members without whose help our investigations and campaigns would be impossible. "Help" does not mean only your generous financial support — it includes volunteering your valuable time to write letters.

Press coverage in Malaysia

The Malaysian press has paid very little attention to the story of the four gorillas. The gorillas are kept off-exhibit and are not shown to the press.

Writing in the newspaper **Malaysiakini**, Kevin Tan quoted Taiping Zoo director Kevin Lazarus as saying that the transfer of the gorillas was "part of an exchange program and not a trade" and that, "we have all the proper documentation."

However, Lazarus refused to provide Tan with copies of any of the documents. Lazarus did state that Taiping Zoo planned to send sun bears, Malaysian tigers, and other animals to Ibadan Zoo.

IPPL is appalled that Taiping Zoo would send any wildlife to a zoo that teaches baby gorillas to ride tricycles.

The Malaysian environmental group **Sahabat Alam Malaysia** has an ongoing investigation into the transaction. The group sent enquiries to Malaysia's Minister of Science, Technology and Environment; the Nigerian Minister of Environment; and the Nigerian High Commissioner to Malaysia.

South African press

South African Airways carried the gorillas from Lagos, Nigeria, to Johannesburg, South Africa, and on to Bangkok, Thailand, where the ship-

ment was transferred to a joint Thai Airways/Malaysian Airways flight to Penang, Malaysia. The original plan had been to ship the animals via Dubai, probably on Egyptair, but Egypt had been the subject of international protests over the September 2001 drownings of a baby gorilla and chimpanzee at Cairo Airport and may have refused the shipment.

Fiona McLeod of the Johannesburg **Mail and Guardian** discussed South Africa's role in the shipment in an article dated 28 June 2002. The headline was "**Blind Eye Turned to Gorilla Trade.**" McLeod noted that the South African Veterinary Services import-ex-

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN, NIGERIA
VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL

Telephone: Ibadan (02) 8101100-8101104
8102070-8102074
Fax: 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368
E-mail: VTH@kdi.iobdun.gov.ng
Date: 10/12/2001

Dr. M. O. AKUSU, D.V.M., M.Vet.Sc., Ph.D.
(PhD) Grad. Dip. Anim. Reprod. & A.I.
(PhD) F.R.C.S.

CERTIFICATE OF ANIMAL HEALTH

This is to certify that I have this day examined the following animal:

Species: **Gorilla gorilla gorilla (Lowland gorilla)**

Sex: Female
Color: Black
Age: 33 months
Given Name: Alice

From the collection of:
**ECOLOGICAL GARDEN (ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN)
University of Ibadan, Ibadan
Oyo State, Nigeria**

before its despatch to:
**MAJLIS PERBANDARAN TAIPING
Peti Surat 115, 34008 Taiping
Perak Darul Ridzuan,
Malaysia**

The animal is apparently healthy and free from clinical signs of contagious and communicable diseases listed in Animal Diseases (Control) Act 1988.

During the last six months, no outbreak of contagious disease to which this species is susceptible, has occurred in the Ecological Garden of the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Consequently, the gorilla is fit to travel from Ibadan (Nigeria) to Taiping (Malaysia).

Professor M. O. Akusu
Director
VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

Health certificate for Alice, described as Gorilla gorilla gorilla, a species not found in Nigeria, issued by the director of a veterinary teaching hospital.

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN NO. 9112363

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

EXPORT ☒ RE-EXPORT ☐ IMPORT ☐

5TH MAY, 2002

4. Parties (name and address, country)

ECOLOGICAL GARDEN
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN
OYO STATE, NIGERIA

5. Special conditions

LIVE SPECIMEN (SUBJECT TO GUIDELINES) ON REGULATIONS AND EXPORTATION OF LIVE ANIMALS AND IATA REGULATION ON TRANSPORTATION BY AIR.

6. Name, address, country and county of origin

ZOO TAIPING
PETI SURAT SURAT 115
34008 TAIPING, PERAK DARUL RIDZUAN

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
(CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT)
CITES MGT. AUTH.
ABUJA, NIGERIA

7a. Purpose of transaction (see reverse)

7b. Scientific name (genus and species) AND COMMON NAME OF ANIMAL AND PLANT

DUICKERS
PHILANTOMBA OR CEPHALOPUS scuticula

LOWLAND GORILLA
Gorilla gorilla

CHIMPANZEE
Pan troglodytes

8. Description of specimens, including identifying marks or numbers (specimens if sold)

9. Assessed No and Source (NCA or C)

10. Quantity, Number of specimens and for not sold weight

CAPTIVE BRED FROM UI ZOO THREE PAIRS (6 PIECES)

CAPTIVE BRED FROM UI ZOO TWO AND A HALF PAIRS (3 PIECES)

CAPTIVE BRED FROM UI ZOO ONE AND A HALF PAIRS (3 PIECES)

11. Country of origin

NIGERIA

12. Country of destination

MALAYSIA

13. THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED BY

ABUJA

14. EXPORT ENDORSEMENT

15. Date of Issuance

16. Date of Expiry

17. Signature

18. Signature

19. Signature

20. Signature

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CITES export permit for five gorillas, three chimpanzees and six duikers. Four gorillas were shipped. IPPL does not know if the chimpanzees and duikers were also shipped or what became of the fifth gorilla.

MALAYSIAN RESORTS' PERFORMING ANIMAL SHOWS

Performing animal shows are unfortunately very popular in Southeast Asia. Exploitation of primates and other wild animals in shows is an unnatural life for wild animals and often involves removal of young animals from their mothers and stressful training protocols.



(Left) from Afamosa Resort web site

(Right) from Bukit Merah website

Afamosa Golf Resort, Malaysia

For some months IPPL has been receiving complaints about the Afamosa Golf Resort in Alor Gajah, near the town of Malacca.

This resort owns many primates, including orangutans, gibbons, siamangs, and monkeys. As many as ten orangutans may have reached the resort. The origin of the orangutans is unknown to IPPL.

Trainers, one reportedly brought in from Thailand, worked with the animals and some of them are now performing daily.

According to Afamosa's web site www.afamosa.com

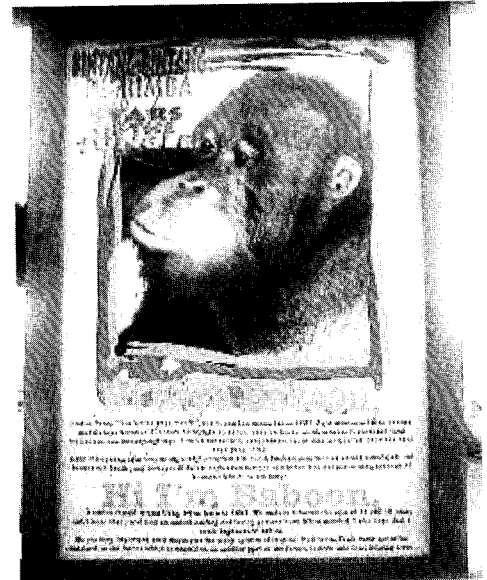
The Multi-Animal show opens with a pack of ferrets being chased by frisky dogs across the performance area. Visitors will be amused by the antics of a host of talented animals, including Sunny, the basketball-playing gibbon, Awang, the Pig-tailed macaque, who enjoys diving into water and Jobba, the Sun Bear with a knack for balancing acts. The kids will be especially thrilled by the rib-tickling performance of the Orangutans — Mina, Tata, and Lady — playing golf, taking part in a weight-lifting contest, cycling and mimicking a rock band. Various other animals perform including a smiling buffalo, a Sea Otter, an Albino python, squirrels, iguanas and dogs.

Bukit Merah Resort

Another resort in Malaysia is named Bukit Merah Laketown Resort, near the city of Taiping in the state of Perak.

This facility has a "Lunch with the Wild Man of the Forest" package. The orangutan sits at a table with a large group of humans, while a barbecue lunch is served. After lunch, members of the public can have their photos taken with a young orangutan.

Eleven orangutans live on an island at the resort. A visitor was told by keepers that they were wild-caught and came to Bukit Merah from Sepilok Center in Sabah and Matang Wildlife Center in Sarawak. Sabah and



Cooperative gorilla breeding programs are operated at a regional level by zoo associations belonging to the WAZA network. They have a growing population of gorillas and enough founding members to insure a genetically healthy population in the foreseeable future. The coordinators of these programs were not consulted by Taiping Zoo when they decided to acquire the animals from Nigeria.

Those associations and zoological institutions which do not adhere to a strict code of ethics and to international law have no place in our organization or in the professional zoo community.

The South East Asian Zoos Association

The South East Asian Zoos Association (SEAZA) has as members many of the area's larger zoos. It maintains a web site www.seaza.org

The SEAZA site has an "Animal Exchange" section. As of 2 July 2002, the Taiping Zoo still listed "2.2 Western lowland gorilla (*G. g. gorilla*) any number" in the category "Wanted — Mammals" (the original listing was in 2001).

SEAZA held its annual conference in Singapore from 23-27 June 2002. The director of Taiping Zoo left the meeting before the session of the Eth-

ics Committee. The gorilla case was discussed. SEAZA decided to accept any recommendation made by the CITES Secretariat regarding the gorillas' future.

CITES Secretariat

The CITES Secretariat is headquartered in Switzerland. Its Legislation and Compliance Unit has asked the governments of Malaysia and Nigeria to provide information about the shipment. IPPL has provided the Secretariat with all documents in IPPL's possession. The Secretariat investigation is not yet complete.

Difficult decisions

Without DNA testing that would identify the species to which each of the four gorillas belong, it will be difficult for the CITES Secretariat to make recommendations regarding the gorillas' future.

Obviously it is undesirable that the gorillas remain at the Taiping Zoo, especially under its present management. Nobody associated with the zoo has publicly expressed any remorse for placing an order for "captive-born" animals without verifying whether the claims of captive birth were true, thus probably causing the deaths of the young gorillas' mothers in the forests

of Africa.

Even though there are good wildlife sanctuaries in Nigeria, it is unlikely that the gorillas now in Malaysia belong to the Cross River species found in Nigeria.

It is most likely that the animals were removed from the wild in Cameroon (the Ibadan zoo keepers would have no motive to have lied about the origin of the animals). There are sanctuaries in Cameroon that could accept the gorillas if provided with funds for their lifetime care in as natural a setting as possible.

IPPL believes that the Malaysian state of Perak, which operates Taiping Zoo, should provide funds for the rehabilitation of the gorillas.

IPPL in action!

IPPL has sent letters to many government officials in Nigeria and Malaysia. Hundreds of members and friends have contacted Nigerian and Malaysian officials based on a request for letters in the April 2002 issue of *IPPL News* and a separate mailing about the shipment sent to US members. IPPL friends in several countries have worked hard to obtain important documents and make on-the-spot investigations.

DAILY TIMES Monday, June 23, 2002

OPINION

Page 11



JOHN ODEY ADUMA

E-mail:

johnaduma@hotmail.com

ON May 20, 2002, I drew the attention of the nation, and indeed, that of the international community to the plight of four young Gorillas (then believed to be of Nigerian origin) which had been shipped illegally to Taiping Zoo in Malaysia. Today, I intend to reveal to the reader all the conspirators involved in the shady deal. While most of my readers are likely to express surprise at the involvement of the Federal Ministry of Environment which is statutorily responsible for the protection/conservation of the

tually all the woes of their fatherland, but those who actually corrupted the military were the civil servants, I am not a military apologist, but this is the truth. It takes less than a week for the civil servants of all cadres to corrupt an idealistic and humanistic Nigerian who has just been appointed into a public office. The political appointee may have good intentions to serve his fatherland faithfully, loyally and honestly, which is why many of them do take their oath of office with all confidence, but soon as the appointee assumes office, he is brainwashed by the civil servants who have been working in that ministry/parastatals before his appointment.

When the appointee wanted to initiate policies that would smash traditions and re-orientate the psyche of the civil servants and that of the nation, they would do so to frustrate him. "Oga no be so we dey do am here - o," the appointee would be told. "Gofment work no be anybody

so I know what I am talking about. Civil servants have been playing the blind man's game with successive governments. They are ready to push any government in power into a deep pit just to satisfy their selfish interests.

Back to the main object of this piece. On 12th of December, 2001, Yean Yoke Heng, Deputy High Commissioner of Malaysia in Nigeria issued a letter introduc-

Deputy High Commissioner of Malaysia, Mr. Abdullah headed for the Zoological Garden, University of Ibadan where the Gorilla deal was struck. Contrary to the claim that the captive bred Gorilla would be got from the University of Ibadan Zoological Garden, the baby Gorillas were actually believed to have been captured illegally from Cameroon and transported to the U.I. Zoological Gar-

den. University of Ibadan is not a captive breeding centre. In fact, there is no such captive breeding centre in the whole of Africa!

Abdullah spent three weeks in Ibadan and departed for Malaysia after the deal between him and

through Alhaji L.O. Suberu of the Games Village arm of the Ministry in Lagos) asking for CITES permit was undated. The letter reads:

Further to my previous discussion with you about acquisition of animals for the University of Ibadan, I hereby write to intimate you with the plans of this University to acquire some animals for our Zoological Garden. The University of Ibadan has established an animal exchange programme with the Taiping Zoo, in Malaysia since 1999. In the programme, Taiping Zoo is willing to release wild endangered species of animals, which are not available in Nigeria, to the University of Ibadan Zoo. They have offered a wide variety of 13 different species of animals, out of which we may choose some or all, depending on our needs and interest. In return, some animals will be released to the Taiping Zoo from the University of Ibadan. It is important to note that the Taiping Zoo is ready to pay for

the transported from Malaysia to University of Ibadan. Specifically, the programme will benefit the University of Ibadan and the whole of Nigeria, immensely. The importance of the exchange programme is to enhance progress in the advancement of education, research, exhibition and captive breeding. This is an unusual opportunity for Nigeria to obtain different species of animals, which are not available within this country.

I hereby appeal to you Sir, to please authorize that CITES be issued to the Zoological Garden, at the University of Ibadan. Please, an accelerated consideration will be highly appreciated. (Sir, will it be possible that such a permit may be finally collected at your Zonal Office in Ibadan?). Your kindness will be greatly appreciated. Thank you sir.

That letter from Dr (Mrs) Akinboye to the Minister of Environment was stamped by the Nigeria Customs Service (Export Division) at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport on January 10th, 2002.

The Certificate of Animal Health giving a clean bill of health for the shipment of the Gorilla

Missing Gorillas: All the conspirators in the deal

While most of my readers are likely to express surprise at the involvement of the Federal Ministry of Environment which is statutorily responsible for the protection/conservation of the nation's wildlife, I will rather chuckle and say that it is the nature of the civil servant to act thus

ing one Mr. Suffian Suppiah Bin Abdullah holding a Malaysian Passport No. A9681832 whom he said was in Nigeria to acquire and transport five (5) heads of Western gorilla babies from the University of Ibadan Zoological Gar-

den. University of Ibadan is not a captive breeding centre. In fact, there is no such captive breeding centre in the whole of Africa!

Abdullah spent three weeks in Ibadan and departed for Malaysia after the deal between him and

First part of John Odey Aduma's outspoken articles denouncing the gorilla shipment

CHICAGO MUSEUM LEMUR KILLING PERMIT DENIED

On 3 April 2002, the US **Federal Register** announced that the Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois, USA, had applied to the US Fish and Wildlife Service to import a maximum of 95 mouse lemurs and 57 fat tailed lemurs. The animals, now living free on the island of Madagascar, would be killed for scientific/conservation purposes. In justifying the killing of these lemurs, the museum stated:

Salvaged or living specimens cannot provide the unique morphological and biochemical information that is obtained from a specimen killed and collected in the wild...A living animal can only provide some of this information, and a salvaged animal often cannot provide any of this information.

Malagasy wildlife authorities had reportedly agreed to the lemur killing because, according to the museum, "these lemurs are exceptionally common across their range, even in secondary habitat,

often reaching high densities."

Public comment on endangered species permit applications is allowed for a month after the application appears in the **Federal Register**. Unfortunately it took IPPL two weeks to receive a copy so comments had to be prepared hurriedly and requests for letters from others made immediately.

The main points made by Shirley McGreal, writing for IPPL, were that,

1. *Local people on the island of Madagascar are expected to abide by laws protecting lemurs; conservation efforts at the local level may be undermined if the Malagasy people observe foreign or local scientists killing large numbers of endangered animals with official approval, particularly in "protected" areas.*

2. *Considerable data for distinguishing between potential new species, the applicant's stated objective, can be obtained from hair samples, feces, blood, mDNA, external body measurements, and*

observations of functional morphology, all of which can be acquired without using lethal techniques. The methodology proposed by the applicant would have been more appropriate in the 19th century when alternative methods of data collection were not available.

Following an IPPL alert to members of our e-mail action list, many IPPL members sent letters. Among them was Corinne Lightweaver who wrote;

These animals, currently living free on the island of Madagascar, are not disposable. They are a great living treasure, which is the way they should stay... it is unclear what could be learned from killing 95 mouse lemurs and 57 fat tailed lemurs. There are plenty of non-invasive techniques that could be used to learn more about these lemurs.

On 30 May 2002, the US Fish and Wildlife Service denied the requested permit.

Thank You To Everyone Who Wrote Letters To Save The Lemurs

A LONG ROAD TO RESCUE

by KSBK members

In September 2001, members of KSBK (Animal Conservation for Life) living in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia, found two orangutans housed in a small cage at a luxurious home. The two orangutans had no room to exercise. The cage was also filthy as if it had not been cleaned for a long time.

The pitiful conditions in which the orangutans, whose names are Cheetos and Desy, were living reduced the KSBK members to tears. They realized that tears were not enough to help the orangutans and decided they should do something to free them. They found out the owner was a colonel in the Indonesian Army.

Compassion turns to action

Almost every day, KSBK members fed the orangutans and cleaned their cage. KSBK headquarters was contacted,

and the members were advised to contact Bandung KSDA (Local Forestry Department) and request that they confiscate the animals. The orangutan is a protected animal under Indonesian law and cannot be legally kept as a pet — even by a colonel.

On 20 February 2002 Bandung KSDA officers, together with staff of the Wanariset Orangutan Reintroduction Center, went to the colonel's house to seize the orangutans. However, the animals were not confiscated as the owner refused to hand them over. The Bandung KSDA officers could do nothing.

The orangutans turned out to belong to the Sumatran species. The Sumatran Orangutan Rehabilitation Center could accept the animals. KSBK members were extremely disappointed that the animals were not seized.

KSBK then asked its members to send

letters to the director of KSDA in West Java asking that the orangutans be rescued. More than 60 letters were received by the office. Officials were surprised at receiving so many protest letters.

Local zoo stalls rescue

The owner of the Sumatran orangutans did not want them seized by KSDA and in March 2002 he handed the animals over to the Bandung Zoo. Ironically, the zoo was willing to accept the orangutans even though they knew the animals were illegally held.

As conditions for orangutans at the zoo were distressing, KSBK asked the KSDA office in West Java to remove the orangutans from the zoo and send them to the orangutan rehabilitation center in Sumatra.

Based on Indonesian law, protected species belong to the government and can

IPPL LOSES A GREAT FRIEND

by Shirley McGreal

Dr. William George died at the Hamad General Hospital, Qatar, in the early morning of 1 June 2002. Dr. George was 79 years old and his life was one of devoted care for his medical patients, travels to remote areas such as the Hunza Valley of Pakistan, and above all, dedication to animals and those humans he liked (he loathed animal dealers!). Among his many positions was that of member of the Advisory Board of the International Primate Protection League.

I first heard of Dr. George when I read his devastating critique of the gruesome cat experiments at the American Museum of Natural History way back in the '70s. I could not believe a medical doctor could be so compassionate! That was in the days before doctors began to speak out against animal experimentation. In fact, I suspected that the critique was a fake of some kind, so I checked with the group sponsoring the cat protests and was told that Dr. George was indeed an MD, and that he practiced in Miami.

I was travelling to Miami shortly thereafter, so I picked up the phone and called Dr. George. He invited me to dinner. Given the name "William George," I expected a tall, fair skinned Anglo-Saxon Protestant (WASP) type! To my surprise a small dark man with curly hair and an infectious smile bounded into the hotel lobby and took me out for a lovely dinner. We stayed friends for the rest of his life. Dr. George was not English, but a US citizen of Lebanese extraction.

While practicing medicine in Miami, Dr. George visited the garage where the young animal dealer Matthew Block, later to be incarcerated for the international smuggling of six baby orangutans and two siamangs, kept monkeys as a young man in the days before he left home and established his own warehouse.

Later, Dr. George moved to Qatar in the Middle East. His pro-animal actions are too numerous to list, but two stand out.

** In the 1980s he adopted the identity of a Middle Eastern medical researcher seeking endangered apes and monkeys for research. He successfully entrapped a Belgian animal dealer who was exposed internationally for ape smuggling.*

** As late as September 2001, long after he was diagnosed with the cancer that was to take his life, he took part in a campaign to get two chimpanzees, confiscated from smugglers in Qatar, sent back to Africa. He got up*

from his sickbed and went to Doha Airport to say goodbye to the animals as they left for new homes at the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in Zambia.

Dr. George participated in all IPPL letter-writing campaigns. I was always jealous of him because he usually got answers when I didn't! Maybe this was because he was writing from the Middle East. Dr. George generously supported overseas rescue centers, including the Limbe Wildlife Center in Cameroon. While in Qatar, he adopted many stray cats and fed many more daily. His Letters to the Editor denouncing cruelty to animals frequently appeared in Doha newspapers.

Dr. George was a dermatologist. During one visit to IPPL, he removed a small growth from the finger of an adult female gibbon named Blythie. Blythie was not anesthetized — no mean feat. She barely noticed what was happening!

Dr. George attended several biennial IPPL Members' Meetings, the most recent being in March 2002. By then, he was very, very ill, but decided that he just had to be with his primate and human friends in Summerville one last time.

The animals have lost a wonderful friend. Rest in peace, Dr. George.



COURTNEY GIBBON IS DOING WELL

Courtney is an infant gibbon being hand-raised at IPPL due to injuries she received from her mother, Michelle, shortly after birth. Michelle was not producing milk, and attacked Baby Courtney when she was just 12 days old. Courtney was dehydrated and had severe leg injuries which have required two surgeries. She is thriving under the excellent follow-up care of our veterinarian Dr. John Ohlandt.

Courtney lives under the watchful eyes of IPPL's dedicated team of caregivers and volunteers. She goes outdoors to play daily. Her favorite spot is under the grape vines. Sometimes she tries to sing along with the big gibbons in her tiny voice! She especially likes to visit Igor, a retired laboratory gibbon over 40 years old. Igor was so terrified of the other gibbons at the lab that he self-mutilated whenever he saw one.

Igor lived behind black plexiglass for two decades and has been housed away from other gibbons since he came to IPPL in 1987. He has always enjoyed the IPPL dogs Bullet, Ivy and Patou, and his many human friends.

We decided to see if Igor, so terrified of gibbons his own size, would accept a very tiny gibbon, and were thrilled when he showed no fear of Courtney. He now enjoys her daily visits and shows no signs of stress.

Although Courtney's birth was not planned, we feel that her existence has been a blessing because a very old deserving gibbon is at last accepting another member of his own species.

Thank you to the many members who have made a special place for Courtney (the "cover girl" of the April 2002 issue of *IPPL News*) in their hearts.



Photos of Courtney by Shirley McGreal

Sarawak from East Malaysia and are part of the island of Borneo, which is one of the only two islands where orangutans live.

At Bukit Merah the orangutans do not participate in performances. According to a recent visitor, two macaws play basketball, a stump-tail macaque runs up a small tree and releases a coconut, and a short-clawed otter puts water bottles and soda cans in a small trash can marked "Recycle Bin."

The Bukit Merah resort also has free-living squirrel monkeys and three

gibbons living in a small cage. They are identified on the sign as "Bornean gibbons." Members of the public are allowed to feed the squirrel monkeys as long as they buy food from the resort.

Unfortunately monkeys may catch diseases should any of the humans feeding the animals have an infectious disease.

Malaysia's weak wildlife laws

According to an article in the 19 February 2002 issue of the Malaysian newspaper, *The Star*, Malaysia has no

meaningful animal protection legislation, although international trade in wildlife protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species is regulated.

According to *The Star*, Section 92 of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 provides fines and imprisonment when animals are abused or starved, but the law is not enforced. Unfortunately there are no legally binding guidelines or standards to protect animals living in Malaysia's zoos, animal parks, resorts, aquariums, or butterfly parks.

SINGAPORE ZOO ENDS APE "PHOTO-OPS"

Singapore Zoo was formerly notorious for providing opportunities for the public to be photographed with animals, including orangutans and chimpanzees. On a recent visit to Singapore Zoo, IPPL Advisor Dianne Taylor-Snow learned that neither orangutans nor chimpanzees are currently being used for photographs.

Taylor-Snow was told that the chimpanzees were now too big for photo sessions, but that sessions would resume as soon as babies were available.

The Singapore Zoo web site states that:

Breakfast with the Orangutans, High Tea with the Orangutans, Primate Shows, and photography with the Orangutans have been canceled indefinitely. In place of the Orangutans, breakfast and high tea

programs will be conducted with a "mystery" animal. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

It is not clear whether public contact with orangutans will be reinstated. There has been a serious disease outbreak among the zoo's large orangutan collection. The cause is not yet known, which may explain the cancellation of the programs.

On 6 March 2002 the US Fish and Wildlife Service issued an emergency exemption to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia, USA, to import biological samples from one captive-born female Sumatran orangutan and three Bornean orangutans, two male and one female, from Singapore Zoo. All the orangutans died of unknown causes.

One Bornean orangutan died on 20 January and another died on 21 January 2002. At this point the Agricultural and Veterinary Authority of Singapore asked the CDC for help in determining the cause of death of the four orangutans and in looking for possible infectious agents. It is possible that the orangutans may have caught a disease through contact with humans. It is also possible that humans could get infected if they handled infected animals.

In January 2002, infant chimpanzees used as "photo-props" at Singapore Zoo were returned to their family groups following a campaign led by Louis Ng of the Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES). This campaign was supported by international groups including IPPL.

UGANDA NABS CHIMPANZEE SMUGGLERS

The 7 July 2002 issue of the Ugandan newspaper *New Vision* reported that Ugandan authorities had broken up a chimpanzee smuggling ring. Four suspects were arrested and two chimpanzees were confiscated. The suspects were all nationals of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Two white people, including Debbie Cox of the Jane Goodall Institute branch in Uganda, posed as buyers.

Dr. Arthur Mugisha, acting director of the Uganda Wildlife Authority, told *New Vision* that his agency would crack down on chimpanzee smuggling. Under

Ugandan law, the suspects, if convicted, would pay a large fine and/or be sent to prison for up to five years.

One of the suspects was released on a bond of 200,000 shillings (US \$346) on 7 June 2002. *New Vision* commented that the bail was trivial, and that:

He will probably jump bail even though he deposited his passport with the court. It is very disturbing that the magistrate's court can release a suspect of such a serious offence on such a minimal bail... Uganda has to conserve its environmental resources if it is to develop

its tourist industry in the long term. Magistrates should not dismiss animal smuggling as a trivial matter. The Congolese smuggler should have been kept in jail until his trial was complete. If he had to be given bail, it should have matched the value of the chimp which is 8 million in Kampala shillings [equivalent to US \$4,600] and 70 million shillings [US \$40,000] in Europe.

Congratulations to Debbie Cox and her colleagues for their daring efforts to end chimpanzee smuggling from Uganda.

GREAT NEWS

UGANDAN PRESIDENT BANS WILDLIFE TRADE

On 19 June 2002 Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni called for an immediate ban on export of wildlife from Uganda.

While launching a conservation endowment fund at the Uganda Wildlife Centre in Entebbe, President Museveni said that Uganda's wildlife should be promoted as a tourist attraction, rather

than being exported. The President donated US \$100,000 to the endowment fund.

The Wildlife Centre's executive director, Beti M. Kamya, commented:

Uganda has a competitive advantage because it has half the world's population of mountain gorillas, over 1,000 bird

species, and a diverse ecosystem.

Many IPPL members wrote letters to President Yuseveni expressing concern over Uganda's plans to re-enter the wildlife trade, as requested in the April 2002 issue of **IPPL News**. Thanks to everyone who sent letters — they may well have contributed to the President's decision.

DIRECTOR OF THAI SANCTUARY MURDERED

William Deters, director of the Highland Farm Gibbon Sanctuary in Thailand, was brutally murdered on 10 May 2002, along with Ratchanee Saengkhamlue, Laeng sae-Lang, a three-year-old girl named Artitaya Anupongworadej, and a fifth person whose name is not available to IPPL.

The sanctuary, founded in 1991, is located in the province of Tak in the mountainous region of Thailand's north-western region. It is 43 kilometers (27 miles) from the town of Mae Sot, which is close to Thailand's border with Myanmar (Burma).

Highland Farm is home to over 40 gibbons, many victimized by the pet trade. Some of the gibbons have been seriously injured and one is blind.

Mr. Deter's widow, Khun Pharanee, was in Bangkok at the time of the killings and plans to continue the sanctuary's work. A Dutch volunteer residing on the premises hid and narrowly escaped death.

Edwin Wiek, director of Wildlife Friends of Thailand (WFT), along with WFT volunteers Chanapa, Louise Anderson, and Paula Sanfey, immediately traveled 500 miles to Highland Farm to help with clean-up of the gruesome murder scene and with care of the sanctuary's gibbons. This took great courage as no arrests had yet been made.

An ex-employee of the farm was arrested in connection with the killings. Two people were arrested for possession of guns allegedly stolen from the Deters' residence.

John Kannady and Courtney Helfrecht spent two months as volunteers at Highland Farm. They told IPPL:

We were fortunate enough to see firsthand how these gibbons' lives changed when they were adopted by this wonderful sanctuary. I know that Bill always

stood up for these animals and their rights, and we simply cannot allow this tragedy to deter the Highland Farm from its goal of helping every animal in need. I also know that Pharanee and the gibbons, and all the other animals who live at Highland Farm, need our support. Please, let's not let this loss grow even greater.



Pharanee and William (Bill) Deters at Highland Farm Gibbon Sanctuary in Thailand



Cheetos, now rescued

members involved in the evacuation process were weeping with joy. The KSDA officers were also weeping as they felt sympathy towards the KSBK members who had struggled so hard for the orangutans' freedom.

On 7 June 2002, both orangutans were finally sent to Sumatran Orangutan Rehabilitation in Sibolangit, Sumatra. KSBK hopes that Cheetos and Desy will live "happily ever after" in their native habitat.

Please thank Mr. Adi

The rescue of Cheetos and Desy could not have happened without the support of Mr. Adi, Director of KKH. We would like IPPL members to express their appreciation to Mr. Adi for his compassionate rescue of these orangutans.

Address for cards or letters:

*Ir. Adi Susmianto, Director
KKH, Forestry Department (PHKA)
Gd. Manggala Wanabakti Blok 7 Lt. 7
Jalan Gatot Subroto
Jakarta, Indonesia*

Overseas postage from the United States to Indonesia costs 80 cents per ounce.

be seized by the KSDA at any time. KSBK held a dialogue with the management of the Bandung Zoo asking that they hand over the orangutans for return to Sumatra.

However, the zoo said that KSDA should get permission from the owner of the orangutans. If the owner still wanted to keep the animals at Bandung Zoo, the zoo people could not cooperate. KSBK was disappointed with this answer.

KKH director intervenes

For two months the orangutans languished at the zoo; there were no signs they were to be sent to Sumatra. In May 2002 Hardi Baktiantoro, Coordinator of KSBK's Jakarta office, contacted the Director of Conservation of Biodiversity (KKH) of the Forestry Department. Hardi reported on how difficult it was to get the orangutans out of Bandung Zoo and Mr. Adi Susmianto (head of KKH) ordered that the animals be sent immediately to Sumatra.

On 4 June 2002, after receiving the order from Mr. Adi, officers of KSDA of West Java, accompanied by several KSBK members, went to Bandung Zoo to take the orangutans. However, the zoo again refused to hand over the animals because the staff member in charge was absent. Again, KSBK members were disappointed.

The next morning, officers of KSDA and the KSBK members returned to the

zoo. This time KSBK invited reporters from three TV stations. After a long discussion the zoo was finally willing to hand over Cheetos and Desy.

But the process was not as smooth as hoped, for there were three padlocks for the cage; rescuers were given only two keys. Eventually the third padlock was broken. During the orangutan rescue, KSBK members were mocked by the zoo staff.

Hard-earned success

At last, Cheetos and Desy were successfully rescued. All the KSBK



KSBK team helps with confiscation

IS ORPHAN CHIMPANZEE TRAFFIC ON THE RISE?

by Liza Gadsby, co-director, Pandrillus Sanctuary, Nigeria

The Drill Ranch in Cross River State, Nigeria, is well known as the world's most successful facility for highly endangered drill monkeys — 62 orphan drills have been recovered from the bushmeat trade over the last 14 years and over 80 drills have been born to these successfully rehabilitated animals. We hope to release one of our five drill groups back to the wild in future.

Many people don't know that Drill Ranch is also home to 22 chimpanzees — from 25-year-old "Jacob" to tiny "Ndolo," just eight months old. No chimpanzee reproduction is allowed.

On 22 April 2002, Ndolo and 16-month-old "Balinga" were spied at Calabar's bus station by Austin Igbebor, a keeper from the **Cercopan** sanctuary. The two little chimpanzees were piled with cargo and luggage about to be loaded into the overnight bus to Lagos.

When confronted by Mr. Colo Agbor, Forestry Commission Permanent Secretary, a well-dressed Cameroonian couple claimed ownership, insisting they had "settled" customs officials and so the animals were legally theirs to sell in Nigeria. Mr. Agbor ordered the animals seized on the spot and taken to the project by Austin and Drill Ranch co-director Peter Jenkins.

Chimp keeper Irene Edem had her hands full with Balinga and Ndolo when "Buster" arrived from Lagos, just five days later.

Younger than Balinga, Buster was rescued by Elvina Ibru in January from street traders in Lagos.

Ms. Ibru learned of Drill Ranch from her close friend Cross River State Governor Donald Duke, and arranged for Buster's flight to his new home in Calabar. That Buster was lovingly cared for in Elvina's home was evident from his excellent condition and cheerful personality.

Since arriving in April, Ndolo has learned to walk, and the three infants enjoy each others' company through-

out their daily routine of naps, feedings and playtime. Drill Ranch thanks IPPL for a generous grant of \$1,000 to refurbish an outdoor play area and construction of a new sleeping shelter for when they are old enough to sleep outside.

During the 1990s, nearly all our chimpanzees were donated or confiscated here in Cross River State — they had been orphaned in local forests or adjoining areas of southwestern Cameroon.

When two years went by with no new chimpanzees, we hoped local education campaigns had been successful and that wild chimpanzees were benefiting from greater protection. However, in 2000, chimpanzees began surfacing at an alarming rate from major urban areas like Lagos, Abuja and Kano, all far from chimpanzee habitat, meaning each animal had been traded and transported far from its birthplace. Most of these animals are suspected to have originated in southern Cameroon.

Of the seven chimpanzees acquired since 2000, only one appeared locally — and the last five arrived in just five months. Does this reflect an increasing number of animals in trade?

Or, does the alarming increase in frequency of orphan chimpanzees reflect a greater national awareness such that illegally held orphan apes are recognized and confiscated? If not the latter, wild chimpanzees are at greater risk than ever.



Caregiver Irene Edem with a handful of chimps

MONKEY SLAUGHTER HOUSES RAIDED!

Follow-up Report From KSBK on the Sumatra Slaughterhouse Scandal

Just one day after KSBK and ALAS Foundation announced the results of their investigation into the "Primate Meat Trade" in the Lampung province of the island of Sumatra, dozens of officers of the Conservation Unit of the Forestry Department (BKSDA II) Lampung conducted raids on two slaughterhouses in Bandar Lampung (the capital city of Lampung Province).

The surprise raids were conducted on 15 March 2002. Besides the slaughterhouses, the Khuak Lok, a restaurant mentioned in the report, was raided (see April 2002 issue of *IPPL News*). Every Saturday this restaurant sold foods such as soup and "satai" containing monkey meat.

During the raid, the officers found several monkeys awaiting slaughter. The owners of the slaughterhouse were accused of breaking the UU Kehutanan (Forestry Law) No. 41/1999 and face one year in prison and fines up to 50,000,000 rupiah (US \$5,500.00).

According to the law, even though the long tailed macaque monkey is not fully

legally protected, trapping cannot be done in forest areas.

During the investigation conducted from September to November 2001 KSBK, in cooperation with the Yayasan (Foundation) ALAS, a local NGO based in Lampung, Sumatra, found out that thousands of long tailed macaques are caught directly from the wild and slaughtered for meat at two slaughterhouses in Lampung.

The number does not include primates killed at other slaughterhouses. Hence, the number of monkeys killed is certainly far larger than what KSBK and Yayasan ALAS estimated. In fact, the trapping quota issued by Indonesian authorities is only 500 individuals each year for the entire province and is far exceeded.

To make things worse, the killing procedures are very brutal, sadistic, and inhumane. KSBK and Yayasan ALAS witnessed and filmed monkeys being killed. The monkeys are often burned alive to keep their blood inside the meat as many consumers of primate meat, mostly Chinese,

believe that such a killing method makes the meat taste more delicious and gives more power and strength to the person eating it.

Following the investigation, outraged KSBK members held press conferences in Sumatra and a protest demonstration in Jakarta.

In April 2002, one month after the raids, KSBK rechecked the restaurant that was selling primate meat in late 2001. The good news is that KSBK learned the restaurant no longer sells monkey meat. The restaurant has even changed the previous menu, which included primate soup and "satai."

Sadly, while the case has been under way, another shock came with the tragic news that the Head of BKSDA Lampung, Ir. Kurnianto, passed away. His death was a terrible blow as he was the one who really wanted to eradicate completely the primate meat trade in Lampung. Thank you, Mr. Kurnianto, for all your dedication and hard work.



KSBK demonstrators protesting Sumatra's monkey slaughterhouses

DUTCH LAB CHIMPS TO BE RETIRED

by Wim de Kok, Consultant, Stichting AAP

Fifty-nine chimpanzees from the Biomedical Primate Research Center (BRPC), Rijswijk, The Netherlands will be retired to the AAP Sanctuary for Exotic Animals, Almere, The Netherlands.

The Dutch government, which earlier this year decided to ban the use of great apes in biomedical research, has agreed to the transfer of the chimpanzees to AAP and to provide funding based on building expenses and costs of lifetime care.

The chimpanzees, who range in age from three to 40 years, will be transferred to retirement facilities operated by AAP in The Netherlands and Spain during 2003 and 2004.

The BPRC came under heavy fire early last year after a coalition of Dutch and British animal protection groups working under the name CEECE (Coalition to End Experimentation on Chimpanzees in Europe) launched a public awareness campaign.

Being the last biomedical research laboratory in Western Europe still using chimpanzees, while at the same time keeping its 1600-plus primates in what we considered to be appalling conditions, the almost bankrupt BPRC became a campaign target. Since the institute obtains a substantial part of its funding from the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science, the Dutch government had a deciding vote in its future.

In March 2002 the head of the Ministry, Loek Hermans, decided to:

** amend the Law on Animal Experimentation to include a ban on the use of great apes in biomedical research. This ban still has to be approved by the new Parliament and government which were newly elected in May 2002;*

** make 35 million euros (US \$34.7 million) available for new housing for the*

remaining 1260 primates at BPRC (1030 used for breeding, 230 used for research) and increase its annual subsidy to 7 million euros;

** allow greater public scrutiny of biomedical research conducted in The Netherlands;*

** hand over 36 non-infected chimpanzees to the AAP Sanctuary for Exotic Animals in Spain. After considerable international pressure and by a unanimous vote in Parliament, the Minister was forced to agree to hand over an additional 23 animals infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV), and hepatitis C (HCV);*

** transfer all remaining chimpanzees to zoos considered "reputable" by the government.*

While the BPRC still continues its operation involving the imprisonment of over 1200 other primates, the release of all chimpanzees and funding for their retirement is a major victory. Details of the transfer are to be worked out between the government and AAP in the coming months.

Stichting AAP's Sanctuary for Exotic Animals, commemorated its 30 years of existence in April 2002. As Europe's first and primary center for rescue, rehabilitation/re-socialization and out-placement of exotic mammals, AAP developed in the nineties a plan for permanent retirement of primates and other animals for whom a suitable home in wildlife parks or zoos cannot be found. AAP's director David van Gennep has been the Dutch IPPL representative for many years now.

Primadomus ("house for primates") is AAP's new lifetime care center for primates. It is currently under construc-

tion at Costa Blanca in the southern part of Spain. The 36 chimpanzees from the BRPC in The Netherlands will be the first residents of the center, which will also be home to the ten chimpanzees that AAP currently houses. The 23 infected chimpanzees will stay at the AAP facility in Almere where they will receive special care.

The property was formerly a 100-acre almond farm. With a varied terrain of flat lands, hills, and river beds, this property has the ideal characteristics to provide housing and care for animals used to warmer climates.

Within the European Union it is less complicated to transfer animals between countries than to transfer animals into and out of the EU. This will allow AAP to expand further its role as Europe's primary sanctuary for exotic animals. The new center will work closely with Dr. Olga Feliu (IPPL-Spain) of **Fundacion MONA**, a chimpanzee sanctuary outside Barcelona.

Over the years AAP has been working closely with government officials in many European nations to facilitate the confiscation of illegally held exotic animals. Eventually **Primadomus** will become the permanent retirement place for hundreds of primates.

NOTE: IPPL congratulates Stichting AAP and the Coalition to End Experimentation on Chimpanzees in Europe on this successful campaign, which will be of benefit to many extremely deserving apes and monkeys.

Among the many hard workers were David Van Gennep, Wim de Kok, Hilko Wiersema and Janie Reynolds.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many US companies help IPPL through matching employees' donations, usually on a one dollar to one dollar match, but sometimes at two or even three dollars to one. IPPL has a list of most companies which match employees' gifts. Please contact us if you are not sure what your company's policy is.

CHINESE ZOO TO SHIP ANIMALS TO KABUL ZOO

Kabul Zoo in Afghanistan has long had a reputation for poor treatment of animals. After the bombing of Kabul, international animal organizations found the zoo in a shambles and provided assistance to the zoo to help with the costs of feeding and housing the animals.

Now the Badaling Safari World, which is near Beijing, China, has announced plans to donate animals to Kabul Zoo.

According to the 12 July issue of **China World**, an agreement was signed on 10 July between the China Wildlife Conservation Association and the Embassy of the Interim Administration of Afghanistan. Under the agreement animals would be shipped to Kabul, including two lions, two bears, a wolf, two deer, and other animals. According to the article:

Provided by Beijing Badaling Safari World, the animals, mostly in couples, are expected to breed babies and take root in the war-ravaged nation. To foster friendship between the Chinese and Afghan people, and in order to bring happiness to Afghan children, Safari World decided to make a free donation of animals.

The American Zoo Association (AZA), which has raised funds for

Kabul Zoo, expressed its opposition to acquisition of new animals by the zoo. Dr. David Jones of the North Carolina Zoo, who has been AZA's liaison with the World Association of Zoos and Aquarium's Kabul Zoo Relief Program, commented:

For those of us trying to help with the existing situation at the Kabul Zoo, this is not welcome news. We have made some progress in providing properly for the animals that have survived the war, but the Kabul Zoo is in no condition whatever to take on additional animals. We have barely scratched the surface of what needs to be accomplished before animals are added to the collection. It's still not easy for the staff to provide for the few animals that they have, and to bring in more would simply complicate and delay the rehabilitation efforts.

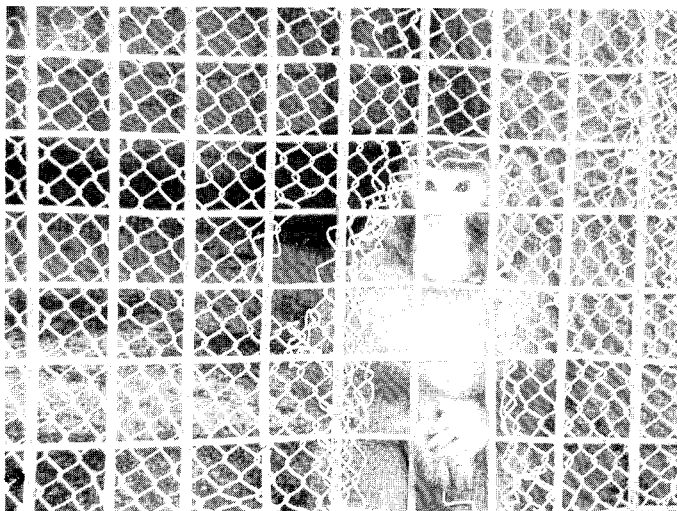
Dr. Jones and AZA have raised over \$530,000 to help Afghan animals. The zoo staff were paid back wages. A stable source of water, food and veterinary care for the animals was established. Jones commented:

It would be absolutely counter-productive to our continued progress rebuilding the zoo to have to spend these donated funds on new mouths to feed. This is not what our donors intended.

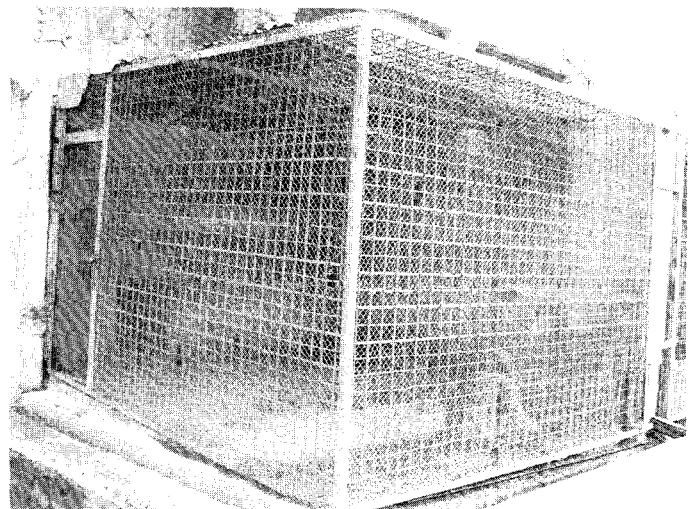
Graham Garen, who visited Kabul recently, has set up a web site about Kabul Zoo www.cefn-yr-erw.co.uk/kabul_zoo.htm

The site describes "Kabul Zoo as it really is." According to Garen:

The people who have been so kind to donate money should be asking the question of why these animals are being left in Afghanistan and not being removed to safe havens.... On a recent trip to Kabul [spring 2002] I saw for myself the way the locals, and of more concern the keepers that the zoo world left in charge of these animals, are actually abusing them. There was very little evidence of food available, and signs supposedly erected by one of the caring societies telling the locals not to tease animals were not in evidence. The keeper was showing the locals how monkeys reacted when poked with a long branch...then came the other monkey cages and the keeper was amusing the locals by shooting small stones at the monkeys who in turn thought, after it had hit them and fallen to the floor, that it was food and would chase after it. Seeing this was the final straw and the keeper was left in no doubt as to my views on his actions. The restocking of Kabul Zoo should never take place. Has someone forgotten this is still a war zone?



Monkey at Kabul Zoo



Deplorable monkey cage at Kabul Zoo

MOUNTAIN GORILLA MOTHERS MURDERED

On Thursday, 9 May 2002, two adult female gorillas were found dead in the Parc des Volcans, Rwanda. Both females had babies and one of these babies is missing. The other was returned to her family group and is being kept under observation.

The gorillas belonged to the Susa Group, a group living in the national park. The group has been visited by tourists for 20 years. One female died of a gunshot wound, another of a stab wound in the abdomen. The fate of one of the babies is unknown. The animal appears to have vanished into thin air.

The known surviving baby, a male aged around 13 months, who was given the name Ubuzima, was found with his dead mother. He was treated for dehydration by Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project (MGVP) veterinarians, and returned to the Susa Group where he was "adopted" by a blackback male.

The rescued animal is being kept under close supervision by MGVP staff led by veterinarians Tony Mudakikwa and Jode Garbe and, as of 10 July, he was alive and beginning to recover from his traumatic start to life.

With only 650 mountain gorillas left in the wild, the loss of two breeding females, shot in a national park, is a devastating blow to the species' future.

On 14 May, the Associated Press reported that the Rwandan police had arrested two suspects who had admitted involvement in the case and stated that they planned to sell the babies to an unnamed buyer.

The Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project is operated by the Morris Animal Fund, based in Englewood, Colorado, USA.

WHY IPPL DOESN'T RUN E-MAIL CAMPAIGNS

In the past IPPL has asked readers to contact government officials by e-mail. We have found that this is a poor tactic. E-mail addresses are frequently changed so, by the time an issue of *IPPL News* appears, the e-address may no longer be valid. Recipients tend to resent e-mail blitzes. After the first messages, targets of e-mail campaigns often close the account so the mail never receives attention. In some countries people still pay for receiving e-mail and resent being deluged with messages. These are the reasons why IPPL believes that letters and faxes are more effective.

IPPL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



The International Primate Protection League is constantly working to increase its membership. If you have received this magazine and are not currently an IPPL member, your membership will guarantee that you continue to receive *IPPL News* and that IPPL can continue, and expand, its primate protection programs.

Every donation helps, especially in these difficult times. Basic membership dues are \$20 (US); sustaining dues are \$50 and patron dues are \$100 up; students/hardship dues are \$10.

Name _____

Address _____

Amount of donation: _____ check _____ or credit card _____ (fill in details below)

Card type _____ Name on card _____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Please mail form and your payment to: **IPPL, PO Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA**. IPPL accepts checks or credit cards (AMEX, Visa, MC, Discover). You can also use our secure web site **www.ippl.org**

RECOMMENDED READING

In My Family Tree — a life with chimpanzees

In a time when violence, poverty, and epidemics of biblical proportion are daily truths in the human condition, hope and heroism often spring from unexpected places.

On a cattle ranch in central Zambia David and Sheila Siddle were given the choice to enjoy a relatively comfortable retirement or spend their time, passion, and peace on a group of animals who were total strangers and were going to strain their financial and emotional resources, and add enormous challenges to every moment of the rest of their lives.

By accepting responsibility for the care of a young, battered, and starving chimpanzee, they seized the opportunity to make their lives extraordinary.

In her book *In My Family Tree* IPPL member and longtime supporter, Sheila Siddle describes the journey that began with the rescue of Pal in 1983 and culminated in Chimfunshi becoming the largest chimpanzee sanctuary in the world.

Chronicling the stories of the chimps and the other animals (including many monkeys and Billy the Hippo) who have come to live at the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, this book is also a testimony to the spirit of a couple who have chosen to spend their lives protecting our closest genetic relatives.

This book is both compelling and difficult to put down. If you need a reminder that wonderful things and wonderful people still exist in the world around us, this book is for you.

In My Family Tree is available from your bookseller or for \$17.50 from www.amazon.com

Reviewed by Brenda Barrington

Primates Face to Face

Primates Face to Face is sub-titled *The Conservation Implications of Human-Nonhuman Primate Interconnections*. The authors are Agustin Fuentes and Linda D. Wolfe. Linda is a long-time member of IPPL's Advisory Board. The book is dedicated "To all the primates (human and nonhuman) struggling to survive in a rapidly changing world."

The book is published by Cambridge University Press. According to the preface:

By examining the diverse and fascinating range of relationships between humans and other primates, and how this plays a critical role in conservation practice and programs, Primates Face to Face disseminates the information gained from the anthropological study of nonhuman primates to the wider academic and non-academic world.

Among the contributors are IPPL advisors Frances Burton, who writes about the role of the "Monkey King" in Chinese culture and how this first "super-hero" can become an inspiration for conservation, and Dr. Ardith Eudey, who discusses "The primatologist as minority advocate." During her studies in Thailand, Ardith became an advocate for the nonhuman primates in her study area in Thailand and also an advocate for the Hmong people who live there.

Primates Face to Face can be ordered from your bookseller or from www.amazon.com for \$90 (US).

Reviewed by Shirley McGreal

SHEILA SIDDLE VISITS IPPL

During her book tour of the United States, Sheila Siddle visited IPPL Headquarters for the first time on 11 May. We had a wonderful visit and Sheila escorted Courtney Gibbon on her visit with Igor. Sheila went with Shirley McGreal to see the wild dolphins at Breach Inlet which separates the Isle of Palms from Sullivans Island. One doesn't see them every time one visits the inlet, but they came out in force for Sheila as if to honor her! We saw as many as six at a time. It was a special thrill for Sheila as her chimpanzee orphanage is in the land-locked nation of Zambia.



Sheila, Shirley, and Courtney visit Igor

PRIMATE USERS AND DEALERS MEET IN WASHINGTON

From 17 to 19 April 2002, the Institute of Laboratory Animal Research (ILAR), a component of the US National Academy of Sciences, held a three-day workshop in Washington, DC, USA. The subject of the workshop was “**International Perspectives — the Future of Nonhuman Primate Resources.**”

Shirley McGreal and Hardy Brown of IPPL attended the workshop.

Workshop goals

The goals of the workshop were, according to ILAR:

1) to determine the best international strategies and practices for providing non-human primates for biomedical research while ensuring appropriate conservation practices,

2) to define genetic and microbiologic concerns and appropriate management practices, and

3) to identify mechanisms for facilitating the humane transportation of nonhuman primates internationally.

The conference was attended by government bureaucrats from several nations, many international animal dealers and primate users from pharmaceutical companies, contract laboratories, and universities.

Also present (to the displeasure of some of the users) were a small number of primate protectors.

Overseas speakers

The overseas speakers were all supportive of, or active in, primate experimentation. Some were already in active collaboration with US users.

Among them was **Dr. Jason Mwenda** of Kenya who directs the Institute for Primate Research in Karen, Kenya. He reported that the Institute houses 12 monkey species and conducts experiments, including infectious disease research. The Institute is also involved in field studies of some of Kenya's rare primate species such as the De Brazza's and colobus monkeys and monkeys living in the Tana River Na-

tional Primate Reserve. Dr. Mwenda also discussed the problem of crop-raiding primates and forest destruction.

Joko Imung Pamungkas of the Institute of Primate Research, Bogor, Indonesia, described the laboratory's work and told about the breeding island of Tinjil off the coast of Sumatra. For many years the Institute has had close relations with the Washington National Primate Research Center, Seattle, Washington, USA (formerly known as the Washington Regional Primate Research Center).

Dr. A. Jagannadha Rao of the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore complained bitterly that primate experimentation in India was at a near standstill due to government restrictions.

Among the Indian facilities using primates he mentioned facilities in Chandigarh, Jaipur, Lucknow, New Delhi, Pune, and Bombay.

Rao blamed non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for obstructing primate research in India. He accused NGOs of being “emotionally attached” to primates.

In contrast Rao described them as a menace, in large part because of increased human-monkey conflicts resulting from habitat loss and human over-population.

Rao stated that India should establish primate centers for local use and that the country should consider exporting macaques again.

In 1977 India banned primate exports to protest their use in appallingly cruel experimentation at US military laboratories. The export ban is still in place.

In response to an IPPL question about whether, if his efforts succeeded in getting India's monkey trade reopened, India would have any ethical concerns about the uses to which exported monkeys would be put, Rao was evasive.

Another speaker was **Mukesh Kumar Chalise**, who was flown in from land-locked Nepal, a nation that has never exported monkeys in the past and that the US government has apparently targeted as a new source of rhesus

monkeys. In the past Chalise had been protective of primates. The workshop program listed his affiliation as the “Natural History Society of Nepal.”

Chalise reported that Randall Kyes, head of International Programs at the Washington National Primate Research Center, had been to Nepal several times. Kyes was there in conjunction with the establishment of a primate program that would be associated with the Washington Primate Center. Chalise has also visited the center in Washington.

Chalise favored both local use of monkeys in Nepal and export of live primates. He noted that Nepal had no rules governing farming and breeding of monkeys. He presented plans to establish a primate facility in the Kathmandu Valley.

Chalise described local peoples' resentment of crop-raiding monkeys and assured the audience that Nepalese are not like Indians, and do not feel the same concern for monkeys.

Chinese government official **Zhiyong Fan** described the use of primates in research and breeding in China.

Huge numbers of crab-eating macaques (over 53,000) have been imported from Vietnam for breeding purposes, although the species is not native to China. About 25,000 rhesus macaques, a species found in the wild in China, are also maintained in captivity.

China has been exporting rhesus monkeys since 1984. Export of crab-eating macaques began in 1990. Fan reported that there are 24 “monkey farms” in China, two of which hold over 10,000 primates.

In the past IPPL has received complaints from Chinese sources that wild-caught monkeys from Vietnam are being imported to China and re-exported on documents stating that they are captive-born. However, there is no way to tell the difference between wild-caught and captive-born monkeys.

Further, China has no animal welfare legislation. Unfortunately there are very few animal protection groups in China, which may make the nation attractive to

experimenters who dislike being regulated and monitored by the public.

Unfortunately many Chinese people use monkeys as food and in general view them as a commodity.

Bears at Chinese bear bile farms receive appalling treatment in bear farms and there are even zoos where live prey animals are fed to predators for the entertainment of the public.

In 2001, China exported 3,802 rhesus and 8,482 crab-eating macaques to many countries, including the USA, Japan, the United Kingdom, France, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Spain, South Africa, and Canada.

Fan reported that Chinese domestic use of laboratory primates was increasing.

Mario Baudoin, a Bolivian government official, commented that 54% of Bolivia was still forested — an area as large as Germany and France combined. Northwest Bolivia's forests hold 14 primate species.

Bolivia does not export monkeys, although large numbers of squirrel monkeys were exported to the United States prior to 1987, some illegally.

Baudoin commented that people living close to the forest were poor and that setting up a monkey breeding and export program would give value to the forest in their eyes. He seemed enthusiastic about the prospect of Bolivia re-entering the monkey business.

Many speakers used expressions that showed contempt for primates: they were described as “pests,” “heads,” and a “cash crop.” One speaker even talked of “selling weeds at a good price.”

US government agencies

The international speakers were followed by speakers from various US government agencies. Throughout the conference, personnel from the US National Institutes of Health spoke and participated in panels.

There were some speakers from other

agencies.

Tom DeMarcus of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) told about CDC's monitoring of primate imports. DeMarcus commented that primates could be imported for experimentation and exhibition, but not for sale as pets. All imported primates must pass through import stations registered with the CDC.

DeMarcus reported that in 2002 a total of 14,710 primates entered the United States, of whom 81% were crab-eating macaques and 13% were rhesus macaques. Small numbers of marmosets and owl monkeys were also imported.

A total of 107 animals were either dead on arrival or died in quarantine. During quarantine 526 monkeys suffered from stress and/or diarrhea and 28 were found to have tuberculosis.

DeMarcus quoted US Fish and Wildlife Service statistics showing that, between 1981 and 2000, 265,521 primates were imported to the United States, an average of 13,276 monkeys per year. He noted that primate imports were steadily increasing.

He also reported that many airlines refused to carry primates. He blamed this on labor issues — cargo handlers working for many airlines did not wish to handle monkey crates. The airlines receive low revenue from the primate trade, and receive unfavorable publicity.

Other presentations were made by officials of the US Department of Agriculture and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Other speakers

C. K. Hsu, a Chinese animal dealer who operates a company called Shared Enterprises, gave a talk which sounded like a sales pitch for monkeys. He reported that three Chinese airlines were willing to carry primates overseas.

In another discussion Dr. Frank Ervin of St. Kitts, a Caribbean island nation

with a large population of vervet monkeys, offered a free shipment of 20 vervets to any experimenter willing to consider substituting vervets for macaques.

The monkeys of St. Kitts are probably descended from monkeys who reached the island on slave ships several centuries ago. They are considered “pests” and are heavily persecuted due to their raids on sugar cane crops. Export and local experimentation are allowed.

The banquet speaker was **Russell Mittermeier**, President of Conservation International (CI). Given the pro-trade tenor of the entire workshop, this seemed a strange choice for a banquet speaker. Mittermeier discussed CI's primate programs but did not address the trade issue.

Several speakers pointed out the need for large numbers of monkeys to be used in “bioterrorism” research. Huge funding is reportedly pouring into this area of research.

Shirley McGreal of IPPL asked about the ethics of using monkeys in such research since monkeys don't start wars, nor do they mimic the often belligerent behavior of the human race. Nobody was able to answer that question — or appeared interested in considering it.

Conclusion

During a panel discussion one participant suggested that the US National Primate Plan was outdated and should be replaced by a new National Primate Plan or even an International Primate Plan. The original National Primate Plan was published in the early 1980s and outlined ways to make sure that experimenters could obtain all the monkeys they wanted.

The workshop was funded with US taxpayers' money. However, in many ways it resembled a sales convention, a world primate supermarket where users and sellers could get together and make deals and foreign collaborators could be “cultivated.”

CHECK OUT IPPL'S WEB SITE

IPPL regularly updates our web site which is **www.ippl.org**

We invite you to visit our site regularly. You can join, renew, make extra donations, and make purchases by our secure server. We also exchange links with other organizations sharing all or part of our goals.

TAKING CARE OF PRIMATES — NOW AND FOR EVER

Over the years, IPPL has greatly benefitted from caring supporters who have remembered IPPL in their wills. Thanks to those wonderful people, IPPL can continue and expand its program of investigations and can help horribly abused primates in rescue centers in Africa and Asia. We assist groups working to help wildlife in remote parts of the world, and take care of the 34 wonderful gibbons, many of them research veterans, living at our headquarters sanctuary.

In 1999 we built a much-needed education center, thanks to a bequest from Swan and Mary Henningson.

One kind member left a special gift for Igor, our lab gibbon who had spent 21 years behind black plexiglass because he self-mutilated at the sight of other gibbons.

Igor has spent 13 years in “retirement” with IPPL.

We also care for our gentle blind gibbon Beanie (seen right with his friends Bullet, our blind rescue dog, and IPPL animal caregiver Donetta).

These departed members’ compassion and thoughtfulness survives their leaving this world.

We hope that you will consider including IPPL in your estate plans, to ensure that primates in need will have our hard-working and experienced organization to stand by them now and in the future.

Please contact **IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA**, if you would like a pamphlet about providing enduring help for IPPL.



Photo: Tiffany Runion, Summerville Journal Scene

SPECIAL GIFTS

- * Mary and Richard Taylor, for Courtney gibbon, in memory of their daughter Courtney Laine
- * Ann Hughes, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Benjamin A. Dent, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Harvey and Karen Putterman, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Danny and Lai Mei Ying, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Ms. Cindy Syme, in memory of her husband John Bernstein
- * Cynthia and Gary Lund, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Nancy J. Johnson, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Geraldine Braden, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Marjorie L. Davis, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Jillene and Thomas Kingstedt, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Teresa A. Thell, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Diane Syme, in memory of John Bernstein
- * Dianne Taylor-Snow & Pepper Snow, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Joanne Wilkinson, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Mr. and Mrs. Larry Giammaria, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Idalane George, in memory of Dr. William George
- * William A. Laudani, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Shirley McGreal, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Bob W. Goy and Miriam Sciala, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Amal and Tony Corey, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Mrs. Aline Nini Chahine, in memory of Dr. William George
- * The Nini Family, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Norma M. Kwiecien, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Mrs. Mary E. Dressler, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Ms. Margaret Lloyd, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Clare and David Gillespie, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Mrs. Jane Blessley, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Helen Nation and Bob Nation, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Horace & Goldie Thompson, in memory of Dr. William George
- * Shirley McGreal in memory of Charles Vorhees, a great friend to IPPL and all animals
- * Mrs. Eldora Low, in memory of her cat Calico
- * Ms. Karen B. Dantinne, in honor of her cat Tuffet
- * Margery and Carl Hensel, in honor of Meta Werner
- * Mrs. Joy Wahl, in honor of Amanda Cohen
- * Mrs. Darwinna A. Wathne, in honor of Lisa Wathne
- * Florence Simpson, in honor of her son Don Simpson & friend Melody Cooper
- * Violet A. Soo-Hoo, in honor of Courtney gibbon
- * Donna and Bob Litowitz, in honor of Courtney gibbon
- * Larissa and Christopher Hepler, in honor of her parents Seth & Doreen Heimlich

BRAZILIAN MONKEYS SEIZED FROM SCIENTIST

On Wednesday 24 July 2002, Reuters news service reported that Brazilian wildlife authorities (IBAMA) had raided the premises of primatologist Marc van Roosmalen and confiscated 31 animals, including 27 primates, alleging they were illegally trapped and maintained in custody.

Two of the primates were members of a newly-discovered species of titi monkey. The discovery of two new species of titi monkeys was announced to the press by the US group Conservation International on 23 June 2002.

Van Roosmalen is a scientist of Dutch origin who now has Brazilian citizenship. He has studied Brazilian primates for many years.

During his years of study in the Amazon, van Roosmalen, who works closely with the US-based organization Conservation International and its president

Russell Mittermeier, has discovered several new primate species living in the Amazon rain forest.

These discoveries have always made headlines. Addressing the Institute of Laboratory Animal Research meeting on 18 April 2002, (see pages 25-26 of this issue), Russell Mittermeier noted that discovering new species in the 21st century brought sure-fire publicity, making front page headlines in major publications.

About a decade ago, Swiss animal dealer Marco Schwarz was active in Brazil. Members of a newly discovered marmoset species were trapped in the Amazon and taken to Schwarz's premises for captive study and breeding.

It appears that representatives of at least one of two more newly discovered species were trapped and were among the animals confiscated from van

Roosmalen's home.

Brazilian law bans capture and maintenance in captivity of Brazilian animals. Explaining the confiscation, Jose Leland Barroso of IBAMA stated:

Van Roosmalen does not have the right to collect, transport, or maintain Brazilian animals in captivity...Roosmalen knows Brazilian legislation, but insists in not obeying it because he has an international name and good relations with bodies that finance research...Here in the Amazon, any researcher will have to respect the rules of access to the genetic wealth.

In July 2002 van Roosmalen was caught transporting four monkeys in the Amazon without proper capture and transport licenses and was fined \$1,700 (US) by IBAMA.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Agency investigates zoo deaths

The US Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, which is responsible for the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, is investigating the death by suffocation of three gorillas, members of a group of 12 lowland gorillas housed at the Gladys Porter Zoo, Brownsville, Texas, USA. The gorillas died during the night of 6 January 2002. Another gorilla died later as a result of the tragedy.

A space heater was apparently placed on top of a large plastic bucket containing calcium hypochlorite (granulated chlorine tablets), causing noxious chlorine gas fumes.

Poetry reading in baboon cage

A group of seven Chilean poets held a poetry reading in an enclosure at the Metropolitan Zoo, Santiago, Chile. During the reading, poet Guillermo Garcia spoke directly to them,

Yesterday, my dear baboons, I had a profound dream. I dreamt that one day humanity would again live in harmony with you.

UK establishes Wildlife Crime Unit

In April 2002 the British government established a National Wildlife Crime Intelligence Unit. The unit will be based at the London Headquarters of the National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS). NCIS director John Abbott commented,

Wildlife crime is motivated by profits and greed and the perpetrators display other hallmarks of organized crime.... Expert these criminals may be — but they use violence, corruption and extortion to obtain and traffic the wildlife.

Hong Kong monkeys

Human pressures are leaving the wild monkeys of Hong Kong with little space to live. About 1,400 monkeys live in country parks, and the number is growing.

Veterinarians are using chemical sterilization to control numbers at the Kam Shan Country Park. The sterilized animals are to be released in the park. If successful, the method would be used in other parks.

Indonesia-Sarawak smuggling itinerary

The border between Indonesian Borneo (Kalimantan) and Sarawak (an area of Borneo which is part of Malaysia) is unguarded at most points.

The town of Serikin is a notorious crossing point for smuggled wildlife and the 23 August 2001 issue of the Business Times reported that banded and maroon langurs, Bornean gibbons, slow lorises, flat headed cats, and other animals were on open sale in the town.

Datuk Amar James, Sarawak's Environment Minister, stated that his department would take stern action against anyone found to be involved in this illegal trade.

British animal dealer off to prison!

In January 2002 British animal dealer Raymond Humphrey was sent to prison for six and a half years after a British court found him guilty of smuggling 60 animals, including a highly endangered concolor gibbon from Thailand.

GIFT ITEMS



GIBBON T-SHIRTS



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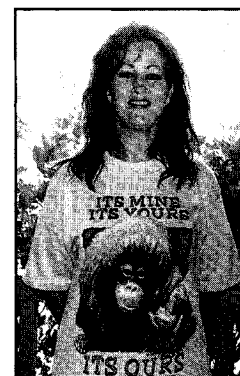
Gibbon T: \$15 (US)
\$21 overseas air
XXL, XL, L, M
Black Cotton



6 Primate Species T: \$14 (US)
\$21 overseas air
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White Cotton

Gibbon Ring-tailed lemur Squirrel monkey
Gorilla Orangutan Chimpanzee

Orangutan T: \$14 (US)
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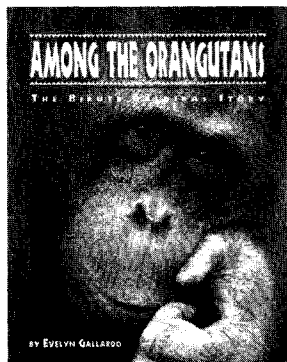
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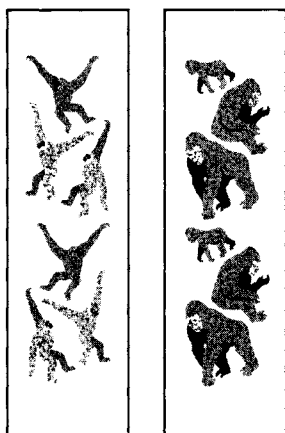
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"Among the Orangutans"

Book by Evelyn Gallardo: \$8 (US)
\$16 overseas air, \$12 overseas surface



Gibbon and Gorilla Stickers

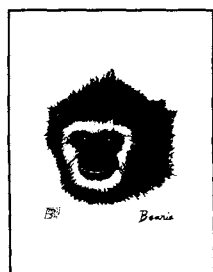
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WILDSIGHT VIDEO

Starring Beanie and the
IPPL gibbons

\$16 (US), \$22 overseas air



Lovely note cards featuring IPPL gibbons Beanie,
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Artwork by Michele Winstanley

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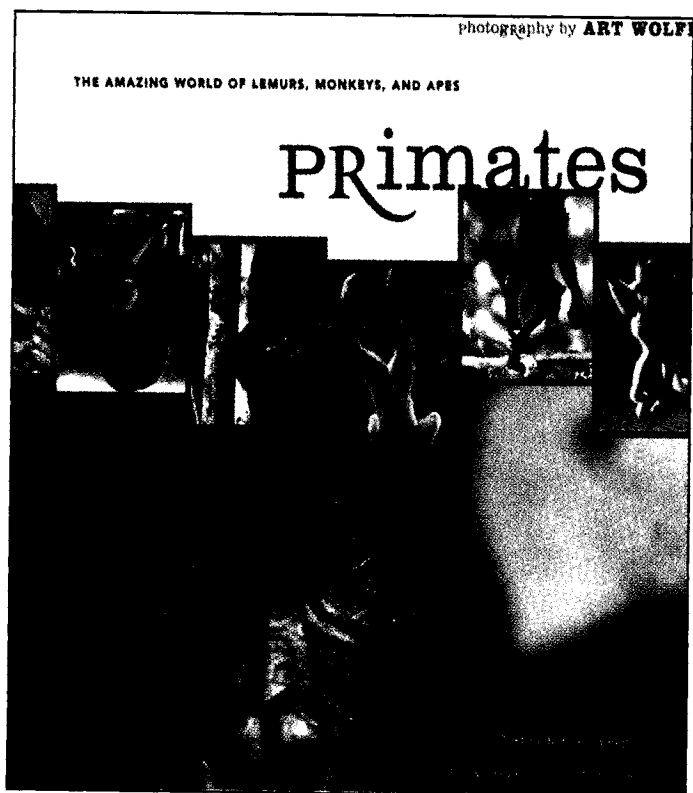
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PRIMATE PARAPHERNALIA!



GREAT PRIMATE BOOK!

Award-winning wildlife photographer Art Wolfe takes wonderful photos and Barbara Sleeper is a first-class writer. Together they created **Primates** – sub-titled **The Amazing World of Lemurs, Monkeys and Apes**. This book is a delight to read and suitable for people of all ages.

It contains hundreds of the most spectacular and colorful primate photos you'll ever see. The book costs \$20. Add \$5 for shipping and handling in US, or add \$20 overseas air or \$10 overseas surface. You can use your credit card to place your order.

LEMUR T-SHIRTS

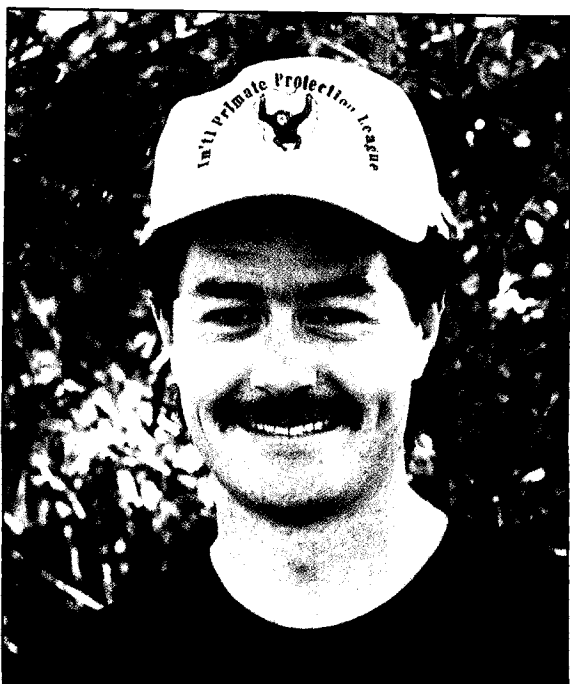
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Adult sizes: XXL, XL, L, M

Kids' sizes (Lemur Ts only): L, M, S

Cost: Adults \$14 (US) \$21 overseas air

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IPPL BASEBALL CAPS

IPPL now has baseball caps for sale. They feature IPPL's name and a swinging chimp. One size fits all as the cap is adjustable. Color is khaki cotton. Cap costs \$12 to the US, \$16 for overseas air delivery. Price includes postage. Please use order form on page 29.

THANK YOU, IPPL MEMBERS!

By Jo Thompson

Dr. Thompson is Director of the Lukuru Wildlife Research Project

Thanks to the generosity of IPPL readers and the IPPL-US matching donation, the Lukuru Wildlife Research Project (LWRP) "Outfit a Ranger" campaign (see the April 2001 issue of *IPPL News*) has reached its goal to provide a standardized uniform for all Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN) Gardes de Parc (park rangers) across the whole of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Thus, the fund drive for this campaign has concluded successfully.

The Garde de Parc uniforms had been confiscated by military troops or had worn out and not been replaced since 1996, due to the developing and ongoing war.

Although producing the new Garde de Parc uniforms was one of the highest priorities established by the ICCN, the agency had not been capable of providing this signature outfit for its employees. This had become a serious concern since uniforms are essential to the Gardes' identity, motivation, sense of unity, and primary source of professional pride.

A complete uniform includes: hat, shirt, trousers, boots, and four insignia patches (one on the hat, one on the breast pocket, and the two on the left sleeve). The opportunity to marry economic development and conservation was exemplified well with this project.

Although the patches were produced in the United States (Texas), the uniforms were manufactured at Utex Africa



(Usines Textiles Africaines) and the gumboots at Bata, both facilities based in Kinshasa (the capital of the DRC). This provided an economic boost to the urban population of Kinshasa.

In addition, womens' groups in Kinshasa were contracted to undertake the project of sewing the patches on the new uniforms. The LWRP purchased and donated manual hand-crank sewing machines, which will afford future income-producing opportunities to the women. Eighty percent of the project costs were thus spent in Kinshasa for economic development.

The distribution of uniforms is now underway and, as a result, morale across the ranger community in the country is extremely high in anticipation.

The photo on this page shows the exhilaration of one Garde in anticipation of his new uniform. The ranger is carrying a gun because these park guards are armed against poachers who have bigger, and badder, weaponry.

Unfortunately, Anga lies exactly along the frontline of the war where fighting is heaviest between government and rebel territories.

I will personally be making distribution expeditions in the coming months and will share a photographic essay of the experience in a later issue of *IPPL News*.

Please accept my deepest gratitude for your commitment and actions to help save the biological diversity of the DRC.

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