



# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

PO BOX 3650

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007

WINTER 1985/86

VOL. 34 No. 4

## Triumph for Dole – Brown laboratory animal bill

Just two days before Christmas, the legislation to minimize pain and distress of experimental animals, sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole (R, KS) and Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. (D, CA), became law when President Reagan signed the Farm Bill.

Senator Dole brought his bill to the Senate floor as an amendment to the Farm Bill on 25 October, and on 28 October, following intensive discussions and staff work, a modified version of S. 1233 was passed by unanimous consent. The basic provisions remained unchanged. But some opponents were not satisfied with the results of their negotiations which continued right up to the final minutes of the conference between Senate and House of Representatives on this part of the Farm Bill. At 10:45 p.m. 12 December the conferees agreed on the final version of the *Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act*. The Conference Report, which passed the House 18 December and the Senate 19 December, is reprinted in full on pages 8 and 9. This is a significant part of the legislative history indicating the intent of Congress in passing the new animal protective law.

For us in AWI the victory is especially sweet. Ever since our first beginnings back in 1952 we have striven for the enactment of a law giving proper protection to laboratory animals without impeding essential research. The original law came into force in 1966. Amendments were passed in 1970 and 1976. But only with the passing of this third Amendment has the law become truly rigorous. Our strivings will henceforth be directed to seeing that it is everywhere honored and obeyed.

## Minnesota boy loses toes in steel-jaw trap

Further proof, if proof were still needed, that the steel-jaw leghold trap is a vicious menace not only to wildlife but also to human beings has been provided by an appalling accident that has permanently blighted the life of a 14-year-old boy from Minneapolis.

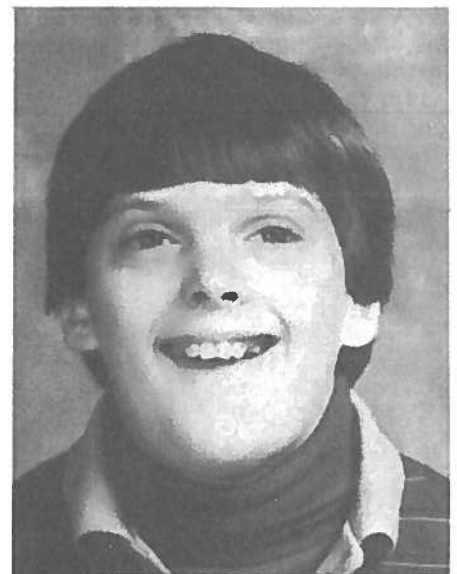
Last fall August Katzung and his brother Eric were playing near the Highway 12 railroad overpass by Penn Avenue. August climbed the embankment above the tracks. From there he moved on down into a small hollow—and put his right foot straight into a steel-jaw trap. In his struggles to free himself he fell down the cement-slabbed embankment, ripping the trap from his foot.

August says that a man with “long white hair and a beard” then carried him to where he could be seen by passersby. His screams were heard by his brother who found him and ran home to fetch his father. An ambulance took the boy, now bleeding heavily, to Hennepin County Medical Center. Both the man and the trap had vanished from the scene.

Three days later August had four toes amputated; attempts to save them had failed.

It is nearly a year now since HR 1809, a bill to outlaw the steel-jaw trap nationwide, was introduced in Congress with the support of more than 100 Representatives. Not until the bill becomes law will calamitous mishaps of this kind become a thing of the past. August was playing in an area “protected” by a city ordinance prohibiting the setting of steel-jaw traps. But while interstate commerce in these traps is not forbidden nationwide, evasion of local prohibitions will remain absurdly—and criminally—simple.

*Details by courtesy of Friends of Animals and Their Environment (FATE), Box 7283, Minneapolis, MN 55407.*



# National Library of Medicine accords recognition to non-animal testing

by Dr. George J. Cosmides, Deputy Associate Director for Specialized Information Services, National Library of Medicine

In this article George Cosmides explains that the National Library of Medicine now treats non-animal testing as a medical category in its own right. For doctors, medical researchers and others who need to keep abreast of what is going on in this important field, it is essential to have all relevant published material brought together under one index heading. Dr. Cosmides also gives details of the Library's intention to extend its coverage of non-animal testing by including as a regular component of *Tox-Tips* (its monthly publication) information on latest developments.

As an information service to all who have an interest in "animal testing alternatives," the National Library of Medicine (NLM) is now using this subject heading for appropriate articles from journals indexed in *Index Medicus*. The scope description for the index terms, "animal testing alternatives," published in *Medical Subject Headings, Annotated Alphabetic List, 1985*, includes "procedures, such as tissue culture, mathematical models, etc., when used or advocated for use in place of the use of animals in research or diagnostic laboratories."

Indexers will use this subject heading only for published articles which explicitly state that the test, assay or method is proposed as a substitute or alternative for procedures using live, intact animals; or if the in vitro

procedure is a predominant objective of the publication. *Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)* is the list of descriptors used by NLM for indexing articles from over 3000 of the world's leading biomedical journals. MeSH descriptors are words and terms which characterize an article's content.

Citations to the periodical literature of medicine are published in the monthly *Index Medicus* under appropriate MeSH terms. Books and documents are cataloged by subject, using MeSH terms, and are listed under these terms in the quarterly NLM publication, *Current Catalog*. MeSH terms are also used to catalog audiovisual materials; the resulting citations are then listed in the *Audiovisual Catalog*. By coordinating MeSH terms, citations may be retrieved online from the computer to satisfy the information needs of scientists, practitioners, and educators. This online system is called *Medline*.

Another project planned by NLM is an alerting service for alternatives to animal testing. Citations will be derived from *Tox-Tips* (Toxicology Testing in Progress), a monthly bulletin, *Toxline*, *Medline*, and/or other databases. *Toxline* is the NLM's extensive collection of computerized bibliographic information covering the pharmacological, biochemical, physiological, and toxicological effects of drugs and other chemicals. The primary purpose of this alerting

service is to highlight information about recent developments in toxicity testing employing in vitro methods. In vitro testing, in this alerting service, will include alternatives to the use of intact vertebrates in toxicity testing and biomedical research. Inclusive in this definition of scope are the use of invertebrates, microorganisms, in vitro techniques, and mathematical models.

*Tox-Tips* results from a cooperative effort to prevent the duplication of toxicity testing and epidemiology studies to determine toxic risks of chemical substances and other agents. It is sponsored by the Toxicology Information Subcommittee of the DHHS Committee to Coordinate Environmental and Related Programs. It is a product of the combined efforts of industrial, government, and academic organizations reporting on the initiation of testing projects and epidemiology studies. Because the emphasis of this publication is to provide a mechanism for the avoidance of inadvertent duplication of expensive tests, publication preference is given to long-term studies, although other projects are reported.

The publication already provides an alerting service for information about developments in "Methods of Testing Chemicals for Biological Effects." This section of *Tox-Tips*, extracted from the recent literature, is compiled by Dr. Williamina A. Himwich.

For inquiries and sample issues address the Editor, *Tox-Tips*, National Library of Medicine.

## NIH suspends Columbia's animal research funds

In January of this year the National Institutes of Health, for the first time ever, started making unannounced inspections of research facilities. As a result, following complaints by private citizens and deficiencies reported by the USDA inspector in December, federal funds for animal studies at Columbia University on all vertebrates above the level of rodent have been suspended (the inspection was on 23/24 January). This "cut-off" amounts to several million dollars.

Columbia was cited for deficiencies in four main areas:

- Too few veterinarians.
- Inadequate housing of dogs in quarantine.
- Inappropriate techniques for minimizing health risks to laboratory personnel.
- Lack of cleanliness in areas where animals recover from major surgery.



© Lijfora—Peter Hamilton

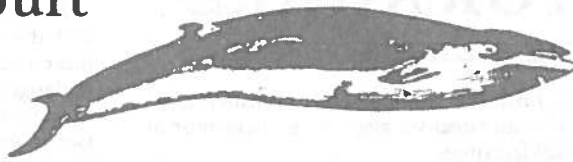
Implantation of electrodes into the brain may result in purulent infection at the surgical site. Note pus running down this cat's forehead.

**Beyond the Laboratory Door, Animal Welfare Institute, 1985, 266 pages, 33 illustrations, \$5.00.**

Nicely coinciding with the passage of the new laboratory animal bill, AWI has just published (December 1985) a book which documents massive noncompliance with the Animal Welfare Act in major universities and corporate research facilities across the country. *Beyond the Laboratory Door* reveals that abuse or neglect of laboratory animals occurred in no less than 82.7% of the 214 facilities studied over the past four years.

Part one of the book examines information on institutions which are not in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act. Part two contains photographs illustrating the suffering undergone by animals used in research. Part three is a compilation of excerpts from the scientific literature from 1978-1984.

## Supreme Court to decide on whales



On 13 January the Supreme Court agreed to hear the government's appeal of the U.S. District court's order that the Departments of State and Commerce cut Japan's fishing allocations in U.S. waters because of Japan's refusal to adhere to the International Whaling Commission decision for a moratorium on commercial whaling. The U.S. Court of Appeals twice supported the District Court order, but the government and the Japanese Whaling Association appealed to the Supreme Court. Nine organizations, including the Animal Welfare Institute, are represented *pro bono* by the law firm Arnold and Porter. William Rogers, former Under Secretary of State, will plead for the whales before the Supreme Court. His request for expedited argument, because whales continue to be killed pending a decision, was accepted by the court, and the case is expected to be heard in April. Friends of whales await the outcome eagerly.

## Japan is still a big importer of ivory—and most of it is illegal

Despite Japan's promise at the last CITES conference to cease trading in protected wildlife, Japanese imports of raw ivory, most of it illicitly procured, show no signs of dramatic decline. In the first half of 1985 Japan imported 218 metric tons of ivory. This means that imports are running at only slightly below the level of 1982, the year which heralded a sudden surge in the tonnage of ivory entering Japan.

New regulations which came into effect last April have eliminated the use of country-of-origin certificates for imports. A very large number of these certificates were bogus. Now only CITES export permits or equivalent documentation may be used. Yet analysis of CITES and Customs data shows that some 80% of Japan's ivory imports during the first six months of 1985 were probably illegal.

In April last and again in May Japanese Customs accepted ship-

---

*Analysis of CITES and Customs data shows that some 80% of Japan's ivory imports during the first six months of 1985 were probably illegal.*

---

ments of so-called Ugandan ivory, although Uganda is no longer trading in ivory. Then in June Customs allowed in some four-and-a-half tons of ivory from, allegedly, Rwanda, a country whose entire elephant population would hardly be able to muster such a tonnage.

---

*Last June Customs allowed in some four-and-a-half tons of ivory from, allegedly, Rwanda, a country whose entire elephant population would hardly be able to muster such a tonnage.*

---

TRAFFIC (Japan) has been assiduous in uncovering these curiosities and pointing them out to the authorities. The government for its part has not been unresponsive but it seems that as fast as loopholes are plugged, others emerge.

To its credit Japan has recently refused entry to several shipments of ivory, returning them to the last staging post which is usually Dubai. But since Dubai has now taken over from Brussels as the chief "launderer" of illegal ivory (despite the United Arab Emirates being a member of CITES), rejected shipments will, in all probability, soon be winging their way back to Japan brazenly kitted out with brand new sets of spurious documents.

## Brazil bans whaling for five years

Deeply moved, as he himself stated, by thousands of letters from children who wrote him asking for the end of the whale slaughter, Jose Sarney, President of Brazil, invited 300 children to attend a ceremony on 20 December in which he signed a decree forbidding whaling in Brazilian waters during the next five years.

"In signing this decree," President Sarney stated, "I associate myself with a movement that expresses the aspirations of the majority of the international community and Brazilian public opinion.

"What God created, only God has the right to make extinct. This happens with life; this happens with man, this should be the way to think about nature and animals," he added, emphasizing the need to fight against extinction through action and not just discussion.

The Presidential Act was fully supported by the Inter-Ministry Commission of Sea Resources, chaired by the Minister of the Navy, who expressed deep concern about the possible continuation of the minke whale slaughter.

After the ceremony President Sarney met the council member of the Brazilian Foundation for the Conservation of Nature, Jose Truda Palazzo Jr., who gave him a report on whaling in Brazil produced with the help of Nick Carter (of the Environmental Investigation Agency), symbolizing the support of all conservation organizations for his decision. President Sarney gave him a book in which letters from children asking for the prohibition of whaling were published.

A bill forbidding capture, killing or harassment of any cetacean in Brazil has been introduced by Deputado Gastone Right. It is about to be voted in the Federal Senate. Those wishing to help may write supporting this bill to: Honorable Jose Fragelli, President of the Senate Federal - Brasilia, DF 70160 Brazil.

# THE 1985 MONITOR AWARDS

## Nine honored for protecting animals

Last November former Attorney General William French Smith came to Washington to present *The Monitor Awards* for outstanding achievement in wildlife protection and animal welfare. In his welcoming address he emphasized the growing public concern over these issues—as did departmental officials when introducing their staff members who were being honored.

The Attorney General made presentations to eight federal employees and one citizen activist. The citations follow.

- **Don Schmidt**, the case agent, and **Jeff McPartlin**, a concerned falconer who assisted as a confidential informant throughout Operation Falcon, a three-year covert investigation into illegal activities involving birds of prey. This investigation uncovered the illegal commercialization of raptors, resulting in charges against subjects in 14 states, 4 Canadian provinces, and several countries in Europe and the Middle East. Among the violations cited were smuggling and illegally taking birds from the wild; incorporating such birds into raptor propagation facilities and representing them as captive-bred; using band manipulation to disguise illegally-taken birds; making false statements on records and reports; and selling or bartering wild-caught birds. At the time of the take-down, agents arrested more than 30 individuals and seized more than 100 live birds of prey, including gyrfalcons, endangered peregrine falcons, goshawks, Harris hawks and prairie falcons. One outgrowth of this investigation is the Interior Department's current review of regulations that apply to the sport of falconry and raptor propagation. At the present time, 55 people have been convicted of violating federal wildlife laws. Fines total \$324,921. Follow-up investigations are continuing and more charges are expected.

- **Christopher A. Nuechterlein** came to the Department of Justice in 1982 after clerkship with a federal district court, several years as a local prosecutor and a stint with a private

law firm. He immediately established himself as an effective, aggressive prosecutor of wildlife crimes.

In his three years with the Department's Wildlife and Marine Resources Section, Mr. Nuechterlein was responsible for dozens of convictions in cases involving the illegal taking and sale of protected wildlife. He helped to supervise several major undercover investigations which probed the pernicious interstate and international traffic in protected raptors and big game animals. He gained forfeiture of a large shipment (worth almost \$1,000,000 here) of exotic black palm cockatoos illegally exported from Indonesia. Most praiseworthy was his role in the Operation Falcon cases, in which he helped bring to justice more than 40 individuals who had unlawfully captured rare birds of prey or participated in black market transactions.

- **Rick Leach**, former Special Agent in Charge, Branch of Special Operations, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for continuing to develop, coordinate, and conduct major undercover investigations to combat the illegal taking and commercialization of wildlife. During the past year, the Branch, with Agent Leach as leader, uncovered significant traffic in birds of prey, trophy animals, and striped bass. Evidence that agents gathered has to date resulted in 125 successful prosecutions and fines amounting to more than \$550,000. Jail time features the two strictest sentences ever for violations of federal wildlife protection laws. These sentences came after juries in the cases of the two key figures involved in killing trophy animals, guiding illegal hunts, and selling wildlife parts, rejected allegations of entrapment and convicted the men, thereby upholding the Government's use of covert operations, which, though proven effective in documenting otherwise impenetrable activities, have been the focus of recent criticism.

- **John Gavitt**, Acting Special Agent in Charge, Branch of Special Operations, who was the case agent in Operation Trophy Kill, a three-year undercover investigation into the poaching and sale of domestic wildlife

such as bighorn sheep, mountain goats, elk bear, mountain lions, and golden eagles and the illegal killing and smuggling into this country of non-native species including endangered spotted cats. Using the "cover" of a tannery and taxidermy business, Agent Gavitt gained the confidence of subjects involved in poaching, particularly in the area of Yellowstone National Park. Many of the individuals involved in these activities had extensive criminal records, including a conviction for murder. One man vowed to kill anyone who might be a "Fed" and threatened indiscriminate killing of wildlife if he got caught. The 10 and 15-year sentences imposed on the two central characters reflect the Court's opinion of the seriousness of the violations of the "career criminals."

- **Steven Hamilton**, the case agent for an investigation into cheating in big-money bass tournaments in Texas. Acting on a tip from a young participant, Agent Hamilton began looking into what turned out to be a well thought-out scheme whereby the ring leader, Elro Vernon McNeill, provided trophy-sized black bass from Florida to be entered into Texas tournaments in return for a major portion of the prize money. Scheme participants were so well prepared that they took drugs such as valium and qualude in order to pass polygraph tests that are routinely administered after such tournaments.

- In September 1982, Mr. **Michael McCann** Compliance Officer, with Veterinary Services, US Department of Agriculture, learned that a tiger owned by Gentle Jungle, Inc. Burbank, California, had died from apparent neglect after failing to recover properly from anesthesia. Gentle Jungle was a major supplier of trained animals for motion pictures and the animal was one of four which had been dyed black for an appearance in *The Beastmaster*.

McCann obtained evidence from more than 18 people who had knowledge of mistreatment of animals by Gentle Jungle. A case was submitted alleging that between June 1980 and March 1982 Gentle Jungle violated the Animal Welfare Act by neglecting and mishandling animals in need of veterinary care and by using cruel training methods on animals appearing in films. These actions had resulted in injury or death for several animals including a tiger, a leopard, a bear and an orangutan.

After submitting his case, Mr. McCann learned of mistreatment of an elephant belonging to Gentle Jungle and, following investigation, submitted a second alleged violation case; the formal complaint against Gentle Jungle was then amended to include improper treatment of three elephants.

In March 1985 it was ruled that Gentle Jungle had violated the Animal Welfare Act on 13 of 14 counts. A fine of \$15,300 was imposed, the exhibitor's license revoked and a cease-and-desist order issued.

- **Dr. Patricia Miller**, as a Regional Animal Care Specialist, has been instrumental in upgrading the quality of animal care.



Former Attorney General William French Smith presents a Monitor Award to undercover agent while Law Enforcement Division Chief Clark Bavin looks on. The ceremony took place at the home of Henry and Renate Heymann.

continued on page 10



# Big money for the richest prize on earth

The message seems to have struck home at last. The felling of the world's rainforests—a task which current projections see as being “successfully” completed within half a century—is not *just* wiping out incalculable numbers of plant and animal species; it is not *just* converting some of the richest ecosystems on Earth into unproductive moonscapes; it is not *just* creating appalling hardship for millions upon millions of poor people around the world. It is bringing about all these horrors—and more.

There is nothing new of course in the recounting of this litany of woes. Nor in bemoaning the salient causes: the doty high-tech development projects, the insatiable quest for firewood, the forest-gobbling methods of cultivation, the greed of the developed world—whose consumption of tropical timber is 18 times higher today than 40 years ago, and whose fast-and-furious methods of logging are unpardonably wasteful.

What is new, though, is the belated recognition that only action which seeks to address all main aspects of the problem stands any chance of final success. While the creation of national parks may for a time deter the men with the chain-saws, and while a nicely coordinated campaign of polite pressure and informed fulmination may even convert such august institutions as the World Bank to saner policies, these on their own are at best holding tactics which may slow but will not halt the destruction.

For they leave out of account what is probably the biggest single destroyer of the rainforests: slash-and-burn farming. Although hallowed by centuries of tradition, this type of cultivation, when practiced by hundreds of millions as it is today, is devastating in its effects. And it is this aspect of the matter which is central to the strategy of an ambitious new project whose prime mover is the Washington-based environmental think tank, World Resources Institute.

In pursuit of its goal of saving what remains of the rainforests, the Institute recommends a 5 year \$8 billion plan. Half of this money will come, it is hoped, from the big international agencies such as the World Bank and the UN Development Program. The other half will (hopefully) come from private corporations and the 56 tropical-forest countries themselves.

The collaboration of these countries is of course crucial. Without their commitment the huge educational task required will never get off the ground. The rural farmer must be enrolled as a willing and active participant in reafforestation and the practice of sustainable agriculture. And this will only come

about once he has a genuine and secure stake in the land—which at present in a great many regions, especially in Latin America, he does not. Feudal and repressive systems of land tenure are not only morally offensive, they are environmentally ruinous.

By and large, the governments of these countries now accept that economic development and social stability are bound up with the conservation of their forests. The purpose of this new initiative is to bolster government will not just to accelerate time-honored forms of conservation but to graft them on to a new ethos enshrining a profound change of attitude and methods at all levels. Local enterprises, such as the cultivation of tree farms and the making and selling of energy-efficient wood stoves, will be fueled by funds raised by the project and the expertise attached to it.

Every year the rainforests are losing an area the size of Austria. And we are all losers thereby. But at least the awareness of this is now more or less universal. The penny has dropped. And as a result \$8 billion are to be raised. Never have levels of interest been higher! It is an auspicious augury.

# Tree farming to the rescue?

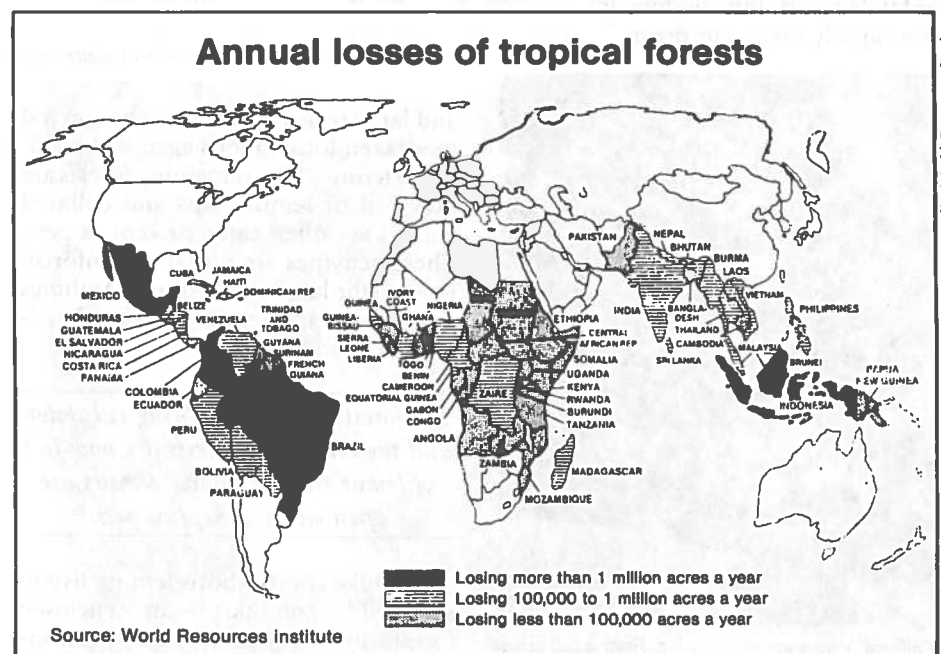
We all know that the tropical rainforests are fast disappearing. The reasons for this vanishing act are many and various but in southeast Asia a prime cause is the global demand for hardwood. The region supplies more than three-quarters of all tropical hardwood exports.

But for how long? On current trends several traditional exporters will soon be net importers. Thailand already is. (The situation is exacerbated by the forestry industry's numbing inefficiency. A hectare of forest produces little more than one cubic meter of marketable hardwood.)

One way round this problem—perhaps the only way—is tree farming. In Sabah, the Malaysian portion of the island of Borneo, is a 60,000-hectare industrial plantation, *Sabah Softwoods*. Despite its name its business is the growing of hardwoods. It is concentrating on just three species, one of which *Albizia* is reputedly the fastest growing tree in the world.

But this tree does present marketing problems. Timber importers are a conservative breed who do not take readily to species they know little about. Japan, the largest potential market, has placed few orders.

Overall, though, the auguries are quite promising. Established in 1974, *Sabah Softwoods* expected to make its first operating profit in 1985. And should the venture prove successful, it is likely to prove the model for many other parts of southeast Asia. If it should then spread to the rainforest lands of Latin America and Africa (and why not?), rather more of the world's primary rainforests than at present looks likely could yet escape the greedy attentions of the chain saw.



Credit: World Resources Institute

# Chiclette the collared lemur collars the headlines again

In April 1983 a collared lemur was born at the Duke Primate Center in North Carolina. Resembling somewhat a minute E.T., her picture appeared in papers all over the world and Chiclette fan clubs sprang up in several cities. Chiclette is one of only four female collared lemurs in captivity capable of breeding. That makes her rare enough. But what propelled her to stardom overnight was her miniature birth size: just one ounce or one-quarter of the normal weight.

Her mother was over 30-years-old—equivalent to 80 or 90 in human terms—and unable to produce milk for her daughter. So for almost two weeks Chiclette was kept in an incubator and tube-fed every two hours by round-the-clock volunteers from the Primate Center. Fortunately, another collared lemur, Nadia, then gave birth to a normal-sized daughter and took charge of the rearing of both infants. Last March, Chiclette herself gave birth to a healthy normal-sized son, by name E.T.

Chiclette's father, Chico, was rescued from villagers in Madagascar and brought to the Duke Primate Center in 1975. Taken from his mother as an infant, Chico was later kept with chickens and not with lemurs. On arrival at the Center, Chico was strongly imprinted on chickens and people but was extremely aggressive towards other lemurs. For eight years he was kept with many different females, patience finally paying off with the birth of Chiclette.

The natural home for these and other lemurs is the forests of Madagascar. But the forests are rapidly being cut down



*E.T. nestles against his mother Chiclette—now considerably larger than her one-ounce birth weight!*



*Collared lemurs are not very big. Even a full-sized baby like E.T. fits comfortably into a man's hand.*

and large scale re-settlement has served to weaken local taboos against the killing of lemurs. The remaining forests are now full of lemur traps and collared lemurs are often eaten or kept as pets. These activities are illegal but enforcement of the law is non-existent. As things stand many species of lemur are heading for extinction.

---

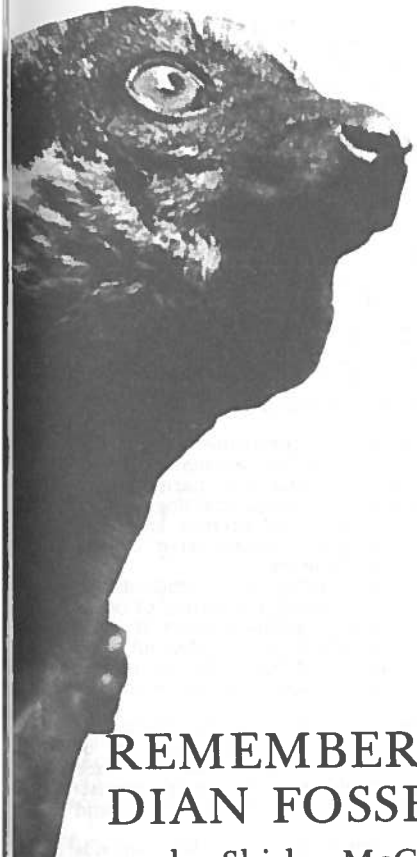
*The forests are rapidly being cut down and the remaining forests are now full of lemur traps. Collared lemurs are often eaten or kept as pets.*

---

At Duke captive-born lemurs live in semi-wild conditions—an enclosed forest where they are studied by conservationists. The Center's long-term hope

is to re-stock protected forests in Madagascar. "No serious re-introduction programs have yet been carried out for prosimians," says the Center's director, Dr. Elwyn Simons. "Captive breeding programs with consequent re-introduction of primates such as that of the golden lion marmoset in Brazil take at least 10 or 12 years to mount and require massive funding."

Duke is a "living library" for the study of prosimians and the world's largest reservoir of endangered primates in captivity. By maintaining and breeding captive populations of 22 different species and over 500 individuals, it stands as a second line of defense against extinctions in the wild with great potential for re-introductions to the wild when the time is ripe.



## REMEMBERING DIAN FOSSEY

by Shirley McGreal

As most readers will have heard, Dian Fossey was brutally murdered, probably by poachers, in her cabin in the Virunga Volcanoes during the Christmas season.

Following her death, the media carried exaggerated reports of her alleged eccentricities. Such reports do Dian a great injustice. Dian was a pioneer in active conservation: her studies brought unique insights into the lives of the dwindling population of mountain gorillas of Rwanda. At the same time, she worked vigorously to prevent poaching of her study animals and protect their shrinking habitat. It took real guts for a foreign woman to drive cows out of a national park or destroy poachers' snares and traps. Dian had guts. If there are any mountain gorillas left, we owe it in large part to Dian.

It is sad that Dian died at Christmas time. Christmas was always a joyous event at Karisoke Research Center high in the mountains. Dian held a traditional Christmas party for her African staff and their families. She wrote me about a memorable party in 1983, after her return to Rwanda following a 2-year absence to write her marvelous book *Gorillas in the Mist*.

On 24 December, I gave the men and their families a BIG Christmas party just as we used to do in the past. 81 climbed up

and 82 descended. In between passing out the food and gifts, I had to deliver a baby, a premature male fathered by one of my best trackers and named Karisoke.

Conditions at Karisoke were rugged: the 12,000 ft. elevation made for bitter weather and there was constant rain. I used to nag Dian to take better care of herself, knowing she'd never listen. In May 1984, she wrote me saying:

Dear Shirley, I am NOT "killing myself by neglect!" In 1963, a lung specialist warned me that it would be suicidal to climb to Kabara on that first memorable safari to Africa. I take vitamin pills, have bought a small oxygen machine, eat a couple of bananas a day to avoid potassium deficiency, and thrive on potatoes and eggs because of budget problems. In other words, I spoil myself!

Even when in Ruhengiri, the closest town to Karisoke, Dian longed to be back in the mountains with "her" gorillas. During a hospital stay in 1984, she wrote that she hoped her lungs would soon be "glued back together so that I can return to the mountains, though my idea of recovery is somewhat different from that of the local doctor!"

Dian took tremendous pride in the success of the anti-poaching patrols. In her last letter to me written on 17 October 1985, she summarized the previous year's successes:

As of September 1985, the Digit Fund patrols working from Karisoke spent 5%% more time in the field yet cut down 75% fewer traps than last year.

Following the terrible tragedies of

1977-78 in which several of the gorillas studied by Dian were killed by poachers, Dian started a group called the Digit Fund for the conservation and protection of mountain gorillas. Other groups also became interested in the plight of the mountain gorillas and considerable funds were raised, most of which went into a project which included promotion of tourism as an aim.

Dian was always concerned at the effects of tourism on mountain gorillas. She was aware of the financial benefits brought by the advent of tourism into mountain gorilla habitat, but felt that the human intrusion by tourists, added to the existing intrusion into gorilla habitat by grazers and poachers, would ultimately be harmful. In her last letter to me, she sadly wrote:

There is no way I can be optimistic about the species' survival, albeit the poachers don't roam like buffalo anymore, nor are traps easy to find now. It is the human pressure that is interfering with their privacy and preservation.

The Digit Fund, which always kept a low profile compared with the more highly-publicized, better-funded projects, still exists, and it is absolutely vital that Karisoke continue to serve as a base for study and conservation of the mountain gorilla. Readers wishing to help may send donations to *The Digit Fund*, P.O. Box 25, Ithaca, NY 14851.

In 1978, following the death of Dian, Dian wrote a touching article about his fate and the all-over plight of the mountain gorilla for IPPL. This special report is available free from *International Primate Protection League*, Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484.



Photo: Robert M. Campbell, ©NGS 1970

# Conference Report on the Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act

Reprinted from *The Congressional Record*

## Amendments to Animal Welfare Act

### (a) Short title

The Senate amendment designates this title as the "Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act". (Sec. 2001.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate amendment.

### (b) Findings

The Senate amendment declares the findings of Congress to the effect that the use of animals is instrumental in certain research and education or for advancing knowledge of cures and treatments for diseases and injuries which afflict both humans and animals; methods of testing that do not use animals are being and continue to be developed which are faster, less expensive, and more accurate than traditional animal experiments for some purposes and further opportunities exist for the development of these methods of testing; measures which eliminate or minimize the unnecessary duplication of experiments on animals can result in more productive use of Federal funds; and measures which

help meet the public concern for laboratory animal care and treatment are important in assuring that research will continue to progress. (Sec. 2002.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

The Conference intends that the adequacy of efforts to develop techniques that reduce or eliminate the use of animals be a matter of continuing concern and attention.

### (c) Standards and certification process

The Senate amendment revises the standards, required to be promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture, which govern the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of animals by dealers, research facilities, and exhibitors.

The Senate amendment provides that these standards would include minimum requirements for handling, housing, feeding, watering, sanitation, ventilation, shelter from extremes of weather and temperatures, adequate veterinary care, and separation by species for humane handling, care, or treatment of animals; and for the exercise of dogs and for a physical environment adequate to promote the psychological well-being of primates.

With respect to animals in research facilities these standards would include requirements (A) for animal care, treatment, and practices in experimental procedures to ensure that animal pain and distress are minimized, including adequate veterinary care with the appropriate use of anesthetic, analgesic, tranquilizing drugs, or euthanasia; (B) that the principal investigator considers alternatives to any procedure likely to produce pain to or distress in an experimental animal; (C) in any practice which would cause pain to animals (i) that a doctor of veterinary medicine is consulted in the planning of such procedures; (ii) for the use of tranquilizers, analgesics, and anesthetics; (iii) for pre-surgical and post-surgical care by laboratory workers, in accordance with established veterinary medical and nursing procedures; (iv) against the use of paralytics without anesthesia; and (V) that the withholding of tranquilizers, anesthesia, analgesia, or euthanasia when scientifically necessary would continue for only the necessary period of time; (D) that no animal is used in more than one major operative experiment from which it is allowed to recover except in cases of (i) scientific necessity; or (ii) other special circumstances as determined by the Secretary; and (E) that exceptions to such standards may be made only when specified by research protocol and that any exception would be detailed and justified in a report filed with the Institutional Animal Committee (established under the provisions of the bill).

Nothing in the bill would be construed as authorizing the Secretary to promulgate rules, regulations, or orders with regard to the design, outlines, or guidelines of actual research or experimentation by a research facility or Federal research facility. However, the Secretary would require every research facility to show that professionally acceptable standards governing the care, treatment, and practices on animals were being followed by the research facility during research and experimentation. No rule, regulation, order, or part of this bill would require a research facility to disclose publicly or to the Institutional Animal Committee during its inspection, trade secrets or commercial or financial information which is privileged or confidential.

The Secretary would require, at least annually, that every research facility and Federal research facility report that the provisions of the bill were being followed.

These research facilities would provide (A) information on procedures which were likely to produce pain or distress in any animal and assurances demonstrating that the principal investigator considered alternatives to those procedures; (B) assurances satisfactory to the Secretary that the facility was adhering to the standards described in this bill; and (C) an explanation for any deviation from the standards promulgated under this bill.

No State would be prohibited from promulgating standards in addition to those standards promulgated by the Secretary under the bill. (Sec. 2003)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision with an amendment to provide that an attending veterinarian would be responsible for ensuring that dogs receive a reasonable amount of exercise according to general standards promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Conferees intend the standards for exercise for dogs to offer a variety of possibilities to allow the animal motion. It could consist of regularly letting the dog out of its cage for a period of time, the use of dog runs, or allowing ample room in animal housing.

The intent of standards with regard to promoting the psychological well-being of primates is to provide adequate space equipped with devices for exercise consistent with the primate's natural instincts and habits.

The Conference substitute also amends the Senate provision to—

(1) except as provided in the Act, prohibit the Secretary from promulgating rules and regulations with regard to designs, outlines, or guidelines of actual research or representations by a research facility as determined by such research facility;

(2) except as provided in the Act, prohibit the Secretary from promulgating rules and regulations or orders with regard to the performance of actual research or experimentation by a research facility as determined by such a research facility;

(3) prohibit the Secretary, during any inspection, to interrupt the conduct of research or experimentation; and

(4) require every research facility and Federal research facility to show upon inspection and to report at least annually that the provisions of this Act are being followed.

While the main purpose of the amendments to the Animal Welfare Act is to improve the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to insure the proper care and treatment of animals used in research, the conferees are also concerned that responsible research not be interfered with inappropriately. Thus, the conference substitute includes a provision prohibiting federal inspectors from interrupting the conduct of actual research or experimentation. The language establishes the general areas in which the Secretary may promulgate regulations with regard to the conduct of actual research. These circumstances were made clear so that essential research not be impeded. As in the past, the Committee intends that the research facility show that professionally acceptable standards are being followed during the actual research or experimentation.

The Conferees intend that the Secretary of Agriculture will consult with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to avoid duplicative reporting requirements where possible.

The Conferees also intend to allow private research facilities to protect their intellectual property rights from disclosure. If such

see facing page

## University fined for cruelty to baboons

Last July, following sustained pressure by *People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals* and a preliminary report by NIH investigators, the government "suspended the use of federal funds for primate research on head injury at the University of Pennsylvania" pending a full enquiry (see *Summer Quarterly*, page 3).

In September, following this enquiry, the U.S. Department of Agriculture charged the University with serious breaches of the Animal Welfare Act. Bert Hawkins, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said: "Some baboons were apparently operated on without adequate anesthesia, some were operated on under unsanitary conditions and some were not given adequate care after they had been injured during experiments."

In November USDA announced that the University had agreed to pay a \$4000 fine and to abide in future by the regulations of the Animal Welfare Act.

Dr. Thomas W. Langfitt and Dr. Thomas A. Gennarelli, principal investigators in the baboon head injury project, were reprimanded by the University of Pennsylvania in a letter signed by the University's President, Sheldon Hackney, and the Provost, Thomas Ehrlich. The baboon head injury experiments have ceased.



# Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act: Conference Report

rights, in the opinion of the owner, may reasonably be compromised or subject to disclosure during an inspection of an Institutional Animal Committee, the owner may exclude the committee from inspecting the limited area within the facility during such proprietary activity.

## *(d) Institutional Animal Committee*

The Senate amendment would require the Secretary to require that each research facility establish at least one Institutional Animal Committee. Each Institutional Animal Committee would be appointed by the chief executive officer of each research facility and would be composed of not fewer than three members. These members would possess sufficient ability to assess animal care, treatment, and practices in experimental research, as determined by the needs of the research facility, and would represent society's concerns regarding the welfare of animal subjects used at the facility.

The Institutional Animal Committee would inspect at least semiannually all animal study areas and animal facilities of the research facility and review as part of the inspection practices involving pain to animals, and the condition of animals, in order to ensure compliance with the provisions of this bill and that pain and distress to animals is minimized. Exceptions to the requirement of inspection of study areas could be made by the Secretary if animals were studied in their natural environment and the study area is prohibitive to easy access.

The Institutional Animal Committee must file an inspection certification report of each inspection at the research facility.

In the case of Federal research facilities, a Federal Institutional Animal Committee would be established and would have the same composition and responsibilities. (Sec. 2003.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision with an amendment to delete all references to "Institutional Animal" after the first referral to the Institutional Animal Committee.

## *(e) Research facility training*

Each research facility would provide for annual training for scientists, animal technicians, and other personnel involved with animal care and treatment in the facility. This training would include instruction on the humane practice of animal maintenance and experimentation; research or testing methods that minimize or eliminate the use of animals or limit animals pain or distress; utilization of the information service at the National Agricultural Library, (established under the provisions of the bill); and include methods whereby deficiencies in animal care and treatment should be reported. (Sec. 2003.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision with an amendment to retain training requirements, but delete references to any "annual" training. The Conference substitute also clarifies that such training procedures would be subject to the requirements issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Conferees intend that instruction of research facility employees covered the basic needs of each species appropriate to the conditions of the animals and provide appropriate instructions for scientists as specified in the Act.

All personnel are intended to be acquainted with the provisions of this Act and instructed to report deficiencies promptly to ensure that the institution is in compliance at all times. No employee shall be discrimi-

nated against for reporting violations.

## *(f) Information service*

The Secretary would establish an information service at the National Agricultural Library. This service would provide information (A) pertinent to employee training; (B) which could prevent unintended duplication of animal experimentation as determined by the needs of the research facility; and (C) on improved methods of animal experimentation, including methods which could reduce or replace animal use, and minimize pain and distress to animals, such as anesthetic and analgesic procedures. (Sec. 2003.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

The conferees intend that all investigators be provided ready access to methods of research and testing involving fewer or no animals, or reduced pain or distress through the National Agriculture Library in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine. The conferees further intend that the National Agriculture Library maintains a data base of instructional materials to be available to research facilities to enhance uniformity of training.

## *(g) Loss of Federal funding*

In any case in which a Federal agency funding a research project determines that conditions of animal care, treatment, or practice in a particular project have not been in compliance with standards promulgated under this bill, despite notification by the Secretary or the Federal agency to the research facility and an opportunity for correction, the agency must suspend or revoke Federal support. Any research facility losing Federal support would have the right to appeal such loss. (Sec. 2003.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

## *(h) Inspections*

The Senate amendment requires the Secretary to inspect each research facility at least once each year and, in the case of deficiencies or deviations from the standards promulgated under the bill, to conduct such follow-up inspections as may be necessary until all deficiencies or deviations from the standards are corrected. (Sec. 2004.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

## *(i) Penalty for release of trade secrets*

The Senate amendment prohibits the release by any member of the Institutional Animal Committee of any confidential information of the research facility including any information that concerns or relates to the trade secrets, processes, operations, style of work, or apparatus, or the identity, confidential statistical data, amount or source of any income, profits, losses, or expenditures of the research facility. Members of the Committee would also be prohibited from using or attempting to use to a member's advantage, or to reveal to any other person, any information which is entitled to protection as confidential information under these provisions.

A violation of the confidentiality provisions would be punishable by removal from the Committee, and either a fine of not more than \$1,000 and imprisonment of not more than one year, or if the violation is willful, a fine of not more than \$10,000 and imprisonment of not more than three years.

Any person, including any research facility, injured in its business or property by reason of a violation of the confidentiality provisions could recover all actual and con-

sequential damages sustained. (Sec. 2005.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

The penalties in this Act are directed toward members of the Institutional Animal Committee which attempt to use facility intellectual property to their own benefit. It is not meant to interfere with standard reporting procedures outlined in this Act, or as determined by the Secretary.

## *(j) Civil penalties*

The Senate amendment increases the amount of civil penalties authorized under the Animal Welfare Act from \$1,000 to \$2,500 and from \$500 to \$1,500 for failure to obey a cease and desist order. The criminal penalty is increased from \$1,000 to \$2,500. (Sec. 2006.)

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

## *(k) Definitions*

The Senate amendment defines (A) the term "Federal agency" to mean an Executive agency, and with respect to any research facility, it means the agency from which the research facility receives a Federal award for the conduct of research, experimentation, or testing, involving the use of animals; (B) the term "quorum" to mean a majority of the Committee members; and (C) the "Federal research facility" to mean each department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States which uses live animals for research or experimentation.

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision with an amendment to define the term "Federal Award" as any mechanism under which Federal funds are used to support the conduct of research.

The Conferees expect the Secretary of Agriculture to have full responsibility for enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. However, the Conferees also recognize that a portion of the nation's research facilities fall under regulation from more than one agency. While the legislative mandate of each agency is different, and they may regulate different aspects of animal care, it is hoped that the agencies continue an open communications to avoid conflicting regulations wherever possible or practice.

## *(l) Effective date*

The Senate amendment provides that these provisions in the bill would take effect 1 year after enactment of the bill.

The House bill contains no comparable provision.

The Conference substitute adopts the Senate provision.

The Conferees are aware that zoological institutions already comply with humane care, handling, and transportation regulations promulgated pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The permitting system established under these statutes are not considered to be Federal awards by this Act. The conferees do not intend for this Act to alter the Secretary's determination in regard to the classification of zoological institutions as research facilities.

The conferees intend for the definition of pain to be pain other than slight or momentary, such as that caused by injections or other minor procedures.

The conferees recognize past difficulties in supplying Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service inspectors with adequate training. It is intended by the conferees that additional training will be provided.

# Are ducks going the way of the passenger pigeon?

The September-October issue of the hunting magazine *Sporting Classics* carried an article billed as "the most important in our 4-year history." It was titled *The truth about ducks* and makes bleak reading.

North America's spring duck population apparently dropped 18% between 1984 and 1985—the steepest one-year drop since the early part of the century. And compared with 30 years ago many of what are still regarded as the more common species—mallard, bluewing, pintail, black duck—are now at half strength or less.

The *Sporting Classics* article lays the main blame for this grim situation on habitat destruction coupled with prolonged drought which in the last five years has dried out thousands of potholes in what were previously nesting areas. The magazine admits, though, that "enormous hunting pressure is compounding the problem." And hunters are brusquely told that with some species, such as mallard, they are not "harvesting a surplus," but destroying the breeding stock.

This assertion has been flatly contradicted by *Ducks Unlimited* (a body dedicated to the promotion of waterfowl hunting) which has made much of a report by a Canadian biologist who claims that duck populations are recovering.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## Hunting pumas is no sport for sportsmen

In California a 13-year ban on the hunting of pumas expired at the end of last year and next fall could see hunters legitimately shooting pumas again. The state's Fish and Game Commission has moved to open a late 1986 hunt. Hearings will be in the spring.

That in some places some control is needed is not in serious dispute (attacks on livestock have sharply increased in certain areas) but ultimately the issue is not so much one of biology as of philosophy. Should control be exercised by Fish and Game or should it be left to hunters who are likely to compound the problem by killing the mature animals, so permitting the transient younger animals, which may find cattle an easier target than wild prey, to move in and settle in these critical areas?

But perhaps this question should not be decided until another question has

and the Canadian Wildlife Service, however, agree with the pessimists. They believe that the number of ducks migrating south in the fall of 1985 could have been the lowest on record. This dismal assessment has led the Delta Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Station to state: "We should recognize that the decline in duck numbers is unprecedented and extremely serious. This calls for an end to the bickering over the resource. If we don't act correctly now, there will be no ducks left to fight over."

In response to this call duck hunters are being faced with a curtailed 1985-86 season and a lower limit on the daily bag. The overall aim is to reduce the total of ducks shot by 25%.

Reduced hunting quotas, though, make no allowance for the huge numbers of waterfowl—an estimated two to three million ducks and geese every year—which die from swallowing the lead shot which litters their feeding places (and which may well be affecting the breeding performance of those less-than-lethally poisoned). Lead shot should be banned forthwith—and throughout the country, not just in a few token areas as at present.

been raised. Which is—Is puma hunting a sport? Says Susan de Treville, vice president of the Wildlife Conservancy: "Most of the work is done by the dogs. You have a cornered animal 20 or 25 feet away, and blowing it out of the tree doesn't take much marksmanship. Some houndsmen in Texas will tree a lion, radio back and bring in wealthy people by helicopter to shoot it." . . . Sport?



Photo: Steve Johnson

## Monitor Awards

continued from page 4

welfare inspections in each of the eight states assigned to the Western Region. She has planned, developed, and directed numerous local and national training programs and has been most effective as an instructor at many of these courses.

Recently retired, one of Dr. Miller's last official contributions to the welfare of animals was her comprehensive investigation of alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act by the City of Hope National Medical Center in southern California. Her diligence and attention to detail resulted in the successful prosecution of a case charging the facility with inadequate veterinary care, failure to provide adequate shelter for experimental animals, and failure to maintain proper records. A fine of \$11,000 was imposed.

• In June 1982 Dr. Homer Malaby, Jr., Veterinary Medical Officer, Veterinary Services (VS), California, was assigned the primary animal welfare inspection duties for the University of California at Berkeley. Dr. Malaby soon realized that deficiencies identified at several of the sites would readily be corrected as required only to reappear on subsequent inspections.

Dr. Malaby therefore chose to concentrate on the root cause of the problem, namely, management's reluctance to cooperate in setting matters right. Using the site's record of chronic deficiencies coupled with those identified on a current inspection, he submitted an alleged violation case in December 1982.

In January and again in August of 1983 inspectors revealed similar deficiencies. A formal complaint was then filed. As a result the University was ordered to cease and desist; to establish an advisory committee at the Chancellor level to oversee efforts to correct standards; to submit quarterly progress reports to the Chancellor and VS; to establish a training program for all personnel involved with animal care and handling; and to pay a \$12,000 fine of which \$10,000 was to be used by the Chancellor for training and other improvements in their animal care program.

This is the first time that a major university has been charged with violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

As is traditional, *The Monitor Awards* were standing sculptures created by John Perry of California, who has contributed striking wildlife statues for presentation to the winners each year. These were eagles, that reflected the soaring grace of these birds.

Many recipients made moving and thoughtful acceptance speeches which made clear their dedication and their expertise. In the short time they have been in existence, *The Monitor Awards* have become established as cherished tributes to a very special breed of public servant.

# Black-footed ferret's toe-hold grip on life

A combination of bad luck and human error is leading the black-footed ferret to the brink of extinction. And not for the first time. Back in the early 1970s the population had shrunk to just one colony in South Dakota. And when in 1973 these few animals were exterminated by the poisoning of the prairie dog towns they depended on, the species was believed lost.

However, a small colony was discovered in 1981 near Meeteetse, Wyoming. As its numbers grew—to 129 by 1984—so optimism rose for the survival of this mammal. But by the summer of 1985, no more than 58 were found in the wild. The population continued to plummet until only eight were left. These eight were then captured in a last-ditch attempt to save the species.

Their decline was first blamed on an outbreak of the sylvatic plague among their prey, the prairie dog. Though the

ferrets themselves are immune to the plague, they depend upon an abundance of prairie dogs to sustain them throughout the harsh Wyoming winters. Wyoming Fish and Game battled the plague but wildlife officials were soon tackling a threat even more serious for the ferrets: canine distemper.

Fearing their rapid decline was leading to extinction, the Wyoming Fish and Game department took six ferrets from the wild to start a captive breeding program. Instead of isolating the ferrets as a precautionary measure, Tom Thorne, the primary veterinarian, placed all six in one room. "It's something I wish I hadn't done," Thorne said after it became apparent that all had developed highly contagious distemper. After four of those ferrets fell victim to the fatal disease (two remain ill), six more were captured and placed in strict isolation.

Tim Clark, a biologist who had been studying the ferrets for over a decade, was among those calling for a captive breeding program when the Wyoming colony was first discovered. When the plague hit the prairie dogs, Clark feared the ferrets could not survive the winter without adequate food and, with conservation groups, stepped up pressure for government action. But Wyoming Fish and Game argued that no such program had succeeded for the ferrets in the past and that they would fare better in the wild.

Their prospects now seem to hinge on the success or failure of the remaining ferrets to reproduce. Clark reports that "no other ferrets have been found in the wild... but it's very hard to survey. I think the species has a fifty-fifty chance for survival."

—Jessie Despard

# An award for TED

TED has been honored. This "turtle excluder device" (or "trawling efficiency device") has won the 1984 Special Group Award of Merit given by the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists. The recipient, on behalf of TED, was the Harvesting Technology Division of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

TED is a cage-like construction which fits into a shrimp trawl net. Its purpose is to cut the fishermen's "accidental" harvest (see fall 1983 *Quarterly*). In test trials it has been shown to reduce the catch of sea turtles (and other large creatures such as horseshoe crabs and finfish) by as much as 97%. But what particularly endears it to fishermen is that it also boosts the shrimp catch.

Nevertheless, at the present time, less than 10% of shrimpers are using the device, and those who are using it are doing this only to discard jelly fish and trash fish, rather than to save sea turtles.

The latest version of TED completely meets the original objections the shrimpers voiced, including a lighter, more easily handled model that reduces the risk of injury to the fisherman.

At present, we are one year away from the end of the 5-year period that the industry and government agreed upon as a trial time for the adoption of TED. We urge that the government promulgate "stand by" regulations to give it the authority to require the use of TED at the end of this period.

Friends of endangered sea turtles are invited to write to: *William G. Gordon, National Marine Fisheries Service, 3300 Whitehaven St., NW, Washington, DC 20235.*



Photo: Luther C. Goldman

*For the black-footed ferret the prospects for survival are no better than even.*

## Animal Welfare Institute

### Scientific Committee

Marjorie Anchel, Ph.D.  
Bennett Derby, M.D.  
F. Barbara Orlans, Ph.D.  
Roger Payne, Ph.D.  
Samuel Peacock, M.D.  
John Walsh, M.D.

### International Committee

Aline S. de Aluja, D.V.M. — Mexico  
T.G. Antikas, D.V.M. — Greece  
Ambassador Tabarak Husain — Bangladesh  
Angela King — United Kingdom  
Simon Muchiru — Kenya  
David Ricardo — Canada  
Godofredo Stutzin — Chile  
N.E. Wernberg — Denmark

### Officers

Christine Stevens, President  
Cynthia Wilson, Vice President  
Marjorie Cooke, Secretary  
Roger L. Stevens, Treasurer

### Directors

John Beary, M.D.  
Madeleine Bemelmans  
Gerard Bertrand, Ph.D.  
Marjorie Cooke  
Christabel Gough  
David O. Hill  
Sue Hunt  
Freeborn G. Jewett, Jr.  
Christine Stevens  
Aileen Train  
Cynthia Wilson

### Staff

Patrick Allen, Editorial Consultant  
Cynthia A. Bank, Executive Assistant  
Jessie Despard, Administrative Assistant  
Rose R. Eck, Administrative Assistant for Communications

Diane Halverson, Research Associate for livestock and poultry  
Lynne Hutchison, Whale Campaign Secretary  
Cathy Liss, Research Associate  
Nell Naughton, Mail Order Secretary

Greta Nilsson, Wildlife Consultant  
Adele Schoepperle, Assistant Treasurer  
Susan M. Wogan, Publications Coordinator  
Louise Wright, Research Assistant

## To the rescue — a humpback whale is freed!



The whale was dying. *Digit*, an endangered humpback that we had been studying since 1980 in a very special area off Cape Cod, was severely entangled in polypropylene fishing line. Swimming with much difficulty and unable to feed because of the line through his mouth, *Digit* was slowly starving to death. That was why 11 members of the Cetacean Research Program at the Center for Coastal Studies set out to rescue him. When the first attempt had to be called off at nightfall, the team stood by, ready to launch the rescue as soon as *Digit* was sighted again.

Ten days later, on the afternoon of 30 July, our waiting was over. *Digit*, looking very weak and emaciated, was found by a whale-watching vessel, and within an hour the team was underway. With methods borrowed from whalers' accounts and used successfully for the release of humpback whales *Ibis* in November 1984 and *Fern* in April 1985, we approached *Digit* in small inflatable craft and attached buoys to the line trailing behind him, intending

by this means to take him to the point that he would lie virtually motionless on the surface allowing us to cut the lines entangling him.

However, *Digit* had an immense reserve of energy that took everyone by surprise. After following him for nearly two hours, we were only able to remove about one-third of the line before *Digit* gave two powerful breaches, breaking the line to which the buoys were attached. The team watched as he swam off into the darkness, still entangled. The mood on our research vessel *Halos* as it headed back to Provincetown was somber. We could only hope that we would get another chance in the near future to completely free *Digit*.

Two weeks later our hopes were fulfilled, though not as expected. *Digit* was sighted actively feeding, all traces of line gone! Apparently the rescuers had cut enough of it for the rest to slip off by itself. The only visible traces of *Digit*'s traumatic experience were some rope scars, but who knows what other scars the animal carries with him?

*Digit*'s story had a happy ending, but every day marine animals are getting fatally entangled in the unattended fishing gear that fouls the world's oceans. The Center for Coastal Studies is trying to save some of those marine mammals and turtles, and in order for us to respond more effectively to emergencies we have established the Whale Rescue Fund. Any tax deductible donations will be deeply appreciated. They can be sent directly to: *The Whale Rescue Fund, Center for Coastal Studies, Box 826, Provincetown, MA 02657.*

—Marilyn Marx

## A fine nose for narcotics

*Man's best friend is also the drug-trafficker's chief foe. At airports, seaports and border check points across the U.S. trained dogs, belonging to the Customs Canine Corps, are sniffing out illicit shipments of narcotics—more than 4000 packages a year with a street value of around \$250 million.*

*While most of these dogs come from animal pounds, some are donated by citizens wishing to help the program. Pedigrees are unimportant but only about one dog in 50 measures up to the required standard. The animals must have an even temperament, be able to absorb intense training and to work long hours under strenuous conditions.*

*Dogs selected for training undergo a minimum of 14 weeks at the canine training center in Front Royal, Virginia. Here they must learn to distinguish from the hundreds of chemicals coming into the country the tell-tale odors of cocaine, heroin, opium, marijuana and other narcotics. Thereafter they are on 3-month trial with an officer who has himself, in all probability, just completed a training course. For the human half of the man/dog team must know how to respond to the detection signals of his animal.*

*This man/dog collaboration guarantees both speed and efficiency. A dog can check out a package in seconds and at border crossings a vehicle can be thoroughly searched in five minutes where a man operating alone would need 20 minutes to make even a cursory inspection. The customs service claims that every dollar spent on these teams results in the seizure of \$85 worth of drugs. For sheer cost-effectiveness what other government operation can match this?!*

*The average working life of the dogs is nine years. In retirement they usually live with their own team officer with whom a close bond will have been formed. But where this is not possible there is seldom any difficulty in finding a good home for these deserving and very friendly public servants.*





# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

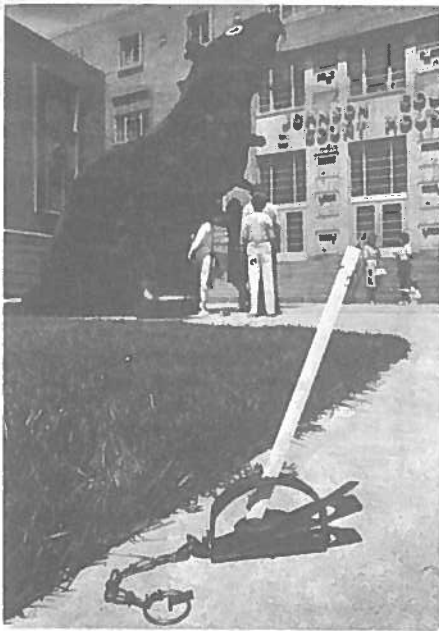
PO BOX 3650

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007

SPRING 1986

VOL. 35 NO. 1

## BETSY BEAVER TOURS THE NATION TO END THE USE OF THE STEEL JAW TRAP



Credit: Scott Smith/Olathe Daily News

A giant beaver inflatable propelled by volunteer activist Peter Millington from the Society for Animal Protective Legislation has been photographed and videotaped from coast to coast this spring in a bid to rid the United States of the most painful device for animal capture: the steel jaw leghold trap.

Starting with the opening of the International Fur Fair at the Javits Center in New York 12 April where police insisted that the fake-fur-covered Betsy Beaver be stationed across the street, a block from the entrance. Millington reappeared at Fred the Furrier's annual sale then headed for Hartford, Connecticut where he presented Betsy on the steps of the Capitol. The next appearances were on the Boston City Hall Plaza and the State House in Providence, Rhode Island, where the Governor smilingly observed Betsy (Rhode Island has al-

ready banned steel traps) and Burlington and Montpelier, Vermont (where legislation has been introduced but is fiercely opposed). A wildlife sanctuary near Albany, NY was the next stop then on to Buffalo and Niagara Falls where an Associated Press report noted, "A foreign visitor came to the western tip of New York as part of a nationwide drive to ban steel-jaw leghold trapping of fur-bearing animals . . . Englishman Peter Millington had a 22-foot inflatable beaver named Betsy strapped to his back on Tuesday. But his point was more sobering . . . Millington said the traps are always unduly painful, and they indiscriminately kill other species, such as bald eagles." Travelling by bus to Columbus, Ohio; Chicago, Louisville, and St. Louis, receiving favorable press

*continued on page 5*

## Federal judge condemns hot-iron face branding

Judge Michael A. Telesca, U.S. District Court Western District of New York, in issuing a preliminary injunction against hot-iron face branding of dairy cows, wrote a land-mark opinion 16 April 1986. The Judge stated, "It has long been the public policy of this country to avoid unnecessary cruelty to animals. Beginning with New York State in 1828, all 50 states and the District of Columbia had adopted anti-cruelty laws by the year 1913. (Animal Welfare Institute, *Animals and Their Legal Rights* 13-14 (1978).) The Federal Government likewise has enacted anti-cruelty laws, such as the Twenty-Eight Hour Law, 45 U.S.C. S 71 et seq. (governing transport of livestock by rail), the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act, 7 U.S.C. S 1901 et seq., and the Animal Welfare Act, 7 U.S.C. S 2131 et seq. (governing

*continued on page 2*



Cow protests painful burn.

Credit: AP/Wide World Photos

## Hot-Iron Branding, *continued*

laboratory animals, as well as shipments of animals and treatment of animals in zoos). The Food Security Act of 1985, the very statute under which the DTP was created, strengthened the safeguards of the Animal Welfare Act.”

The Judge's reference to “the DTP” is short for “Dairy Termination Program,” designed by Congress to solve the overproduction of milk by slaughtering some 900,000 to 1,500,000 dairy cows whose owners would be compensated by the government on agreeing to leave the dairy industry for at least five years. The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), the agency responsible for carrying this out, took a stand described by Judge Telesca as “arbitrary and capricious” in insisting that the dairy farmers brand all their cows and female calves with a three-inch “X” (two inches for calves) on the cheek using a hot-iron to identify them and avoid fraudulent “cow swapping.” ASCS issued a regulation, LD 249, and stubbornly refused to listen to dairy farmers, animal protective organizations or veterinarians experienced in the readily available alternative to hot-iron branding, namely the painless freeze-branding invented more than twenty years ago by a U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarian, Dr. Keith Farrell. To prove its painlessness, Dr. Farrell freeze branded himself. “The sensations are as follows,” he wrote, “for a very short interval after application of the super-chilled iron there is a distinct tingling sensation which I would not describe as painful. . . This tingling sensation was of very short duration, and after the tingling had ceased, I had no other sensation on the branded area.”

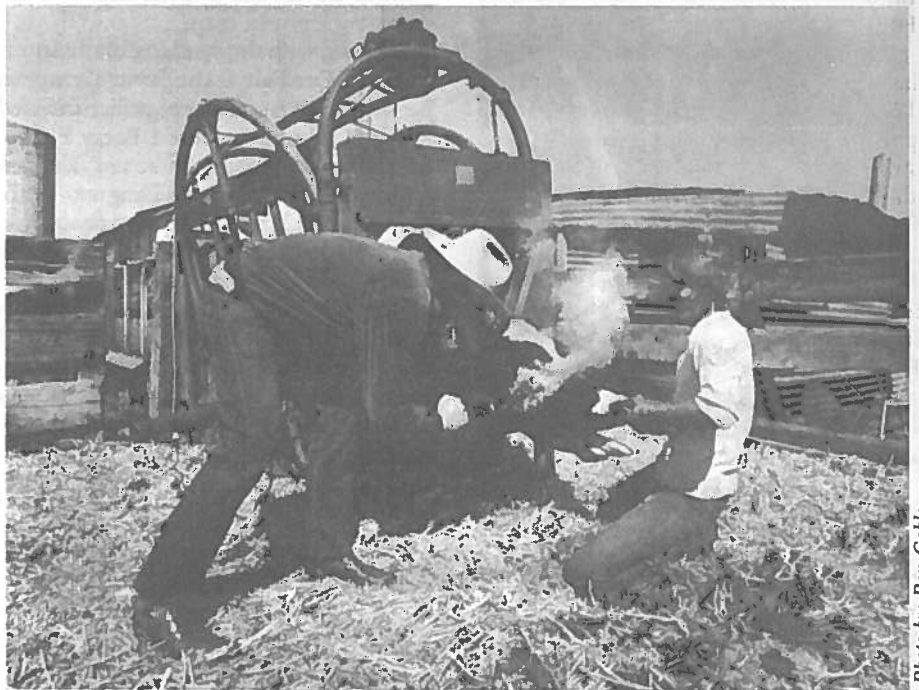
The Rochester and Monroe County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, joined by dairy farmers Douglas D. Burdick and Mary Jane Burdick successfully sued Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng and acting administrator of the ASCS, Milton Hertz, forcing them to allow farmers to use the painless freeze branding instead of compelling them to thrust a hot iron onto the faces of their cows.

Judge Telesca wrote, “. . . the testimony before me indicates that defendants have obviously entirely failed to consider an important aspect of the problem before them when they drafted LD-249. Defendants argue that they considered the aspect of cruelty to animals specifically when they rejected freeze-branding. I reject this as not credible . . . if cruelty to animals were indeed a consideration, LD-249 would



Tears form on the side of the cow's face after experiencing the pain of having the 3-inch “X” branded on her jaw. [Caption from *The Fresno Bee*]

Photo by: Ron Goble



Dairyfarmer and his son hot-iron brand a cow. Note nose tongs necessary to restrain the struggling animal.

Photo by: Ron Goble

not be drafted the way it is. The only testimony before me that hot-iron face branding was not unnecessarily cruel came from defendants' witnesses who had employed electric, thermostatically controlled hot-iron brands. Yet LD-249 is written to require farmers to brand solely with a hot-iron, whether or not they have access to an electric branding iron.

“It advises farmers that they can brand their cows by heating any three inch strip of iron, whether over a fire or with a blow torch then applying it to the cow twice to get an X. Farmers are advised

that an overheated iron can cause hair to burn which is particularly dangerous because the brand is being applied just below the cow's eye. Yet farmers are advised to keep on trying until they get it right. LD-249 clearly does not reflect the views of an agency which gave serious consideration to the prevention of cruelty to animals.”

“Accordingly, I find that plaintiffs have established a likelihood of success on the merits of their claim that LD-249 is arbitrary and capricious. Because I so find, I do not address the merits of

*continued on facing page*

# Infants abroad are being poisoned by US baby turtles

A highly authoritative source, *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (Vol 254 No. 2), reports that young children in other lands are succumbing to *Salmonella* poisoning from handling pet turtles imported from the U.S. This is deeply shocking. From a medical standpoint, though, it is totally unsurprising.

In the early 1970s very thorough investigation by U.S. health authorities revealed thousands of cases of salmonellosis in American children who kept pet turtles. As a result in 1975 the Food and Drug Administrations of the United States and Canada banned the domestic sale and shipment of these creatures.

Unabashed, the industry turned its attention to the overseas market. Between three and four million baby turtles are shipped out every year. Principal destinations include Japan, Hong Kong, France, Spain, West Germany, Great Britain. And right on our doorstep, Puerto Rico.

According to a 1983 study conducted in Puerto Rico, pet turtles accounted for 12-17% of reported cases of *Salmonella* poisoning in infants. The authors of the study (whose findings are published in the medical journal referred to earlier) point out that in the U.S. only 1% of *Salmonella* infections get reported. On the supposition that Puerto Rican citizens are similar in this regard, then one in every 10 turtles imported from the U.S. causes salmonellosis.

In support of this alarming conjec-

ture are the findings from tests done in 18 Puerto Rican pet shops. Six turtles per shop were tested. And in all 18 shops one or more turtles were found positive for one or another type of *Salmonella*. The most prevalent type, found in no fewer than 16 of the shops, was the rare *Salmonella pomona*.

At the same time pet turtles in Guam were also found to be positive for this rare type of *Salmonella*, while Yugoslavia reported its first-ever case. There is one U.S. turtle farm, and only one, who supplies Puerto Rico, Guam and Yugoslavia. The evidence is virtually conclusive that the infection was exported, along with the baby turtles; it was not home grown.

Where an industry is prepared knowingly to export infection abroad—and of a kind to which infants are peculiarly vulnerable—it is up to the government to step in and stop it. In this instance all that is required is to make the domestic ban on the sale of pet turtles a total ban.

As things stand, however, the pressure is in the reverse direction. The industry is challenging the domestic ban on the grounds that it has solved the problem of contamination. The proposed "solution" is a cruel one for the baby turtles since it involves removing them from any semblance of natural housing. Furthermore, according to an editorial which appears in the same issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association* as the report on the *Salmonella* study, we

quote:

"Disinfection of turtles by using gentamicin, referred to as the Siebling method, reduces but apparently does not eliminate *Salmonella* from turtles after hatching, and it would not prevent turtles from being recontaminated. The industry's answer to post-hatch contamination is a sterile plastic bubble for shipping and marketing. The potential for re-emergence of latent infection of cross-contamination in the home subsequent to sale is a real concern in an animal that serves as a biologic sponge for *Salmonella*."

The editorial is titled *Boundaries of Conscience*. Clearly the industry has overstepped these boundaries. And the government stands accused of guilt by association. It could have acted. It has not. It should do so—fast.

In addition to this health problem with disturbing moral overtones, there is also a conservation aspect and an important one. To replace breeding stock which has perished and which is needed to supply its huge export of baby turtles, the industry is taking an estimated 100,000 adult turtles from the wild every year. The baby turtles sold as pets rarely survive to adulthood. Most succumb to nutritional deficiency characterized by swollen eyes progressing to blindness. The suffering caused by this trade is intrinsic to it.

---

## Hot-Iron Branding, *continued from page 2*

plaintiffs' claims that LD-249 contravenes state anti-cruelty statutes, was enacted without publication in violation of 5 U.S.C. S 552, or constitutes an impermissible delegation of authority to the ASCS.

"I further find that irreparable harm would result to plaintiffs if an injunction were not granted. On the testimony before me, the hot-iron face branding of cows appears to constitute a violation of the state anti-cruelty laws which the Humane Society is sworn to prevent. In addition, by branding their cows, the Burdicks would expose themselves to prosecution for violation of New York Agriculture and Markets Law § 353. Even more important is the prospect of not qualifying for the program if they fail to brand their cows within 15 days of acceptance. Membership in the program

is limited to those applicants accepted as of 1 April 1986.

### Conclusion

"It is evident to me, as it should have been to the Department of Agriculture, that the type of branding espoused in LD-249 constitutes cruelty to animals. If the ASCS had been as concerned with cruelty to animals as they now claim to be, LD-249 would never have been adopted. The testimony before me clearly establishes that freeze-branding is a viable alternative to hot-iron branding since it causes less pain to cows and accomplishes all of the objectives outlined by defendants. Had defendants truly been concerned with preventing unnecessary cruelty to animals, they would have at least allowed farmers the option of either method."

In accordance with the Judge's ruling, ASCS notified its state and county offices to inform farmers that LD-249, the compulsory hot-iron branding rule, had been withdrawn. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, to whom the responsibility of providing advice was then delegated by ASCS, issued a statement that freeze branding was "the humane way to go."

Figures are not available on the numbers of cows and calves that suffered hot-iron branding on their faces before Judge Telesca came to their rescue. Diane Halverson, AWI's staffer on farm animals, learned of calves whose hot-iron brands became infected, causing still further suffering to these persecuted youngsters, victims of a stubbornly archaic ASCS bureaucracy and political influence.

*Is captive breeding for hard-pressed primates the solution or part of the problem?*

# Can captive breeding really help primates?

Man is one of around 200 primate species. But while his numbers are soaring the populations of almost all other primates have declined sharply. Indeed many have now sunk to the level where survival itself is at risk. And others are pointed that way. The principal causes of this decline are the destruction of the rainforests where most primates live and the plundering of species from the wild for the purposes of biomedical research. Since national parks have proved no secure sanctuary for hard-pressed primates, captive breeding increasingly beckons as the one solution that can guarantee species' survival with the hope of eventual repopulation in the wild.

Captive breeding, though, is no straightforward panacea. True, 127 of the world's 200 primate species have bred in captivity. But for only eight of these species does the *effective* population size, corrected for sex ratio, exceed 100 which is the figure regarded as providing a self-sustaining population. Captive breeding requires a lot of time and a lot of expertise.

It also requires a lot of money. With the collapse of primate populations during the 1970s and growing public

hostility to the primate trade, the National Institutes of Health decided to support the captive breeding of rhesus macaques and other primates.

Nowadays some 6000 captive-bred macaques are purchased annually by U.S. research laboratories at a cost of about \$1000 each. That's a total of \$6 million. Set this figure against the beggarly \$900 which is the entire national parks budget for Madagascar—all of whose primate species are in deep trouble—and the contrast is stark to the

point of absurdity.

There are those who seize on this and similar disparities (examples could be multiplied *ad nauseam*) to argue that if conservation were realistically funded, then local people could be better informed and national parks could be better protected. This would mean that many species would not be in the dire peril that they are—a peril that is exacerbated by captive-breeding projects which in their early stages need constant infusions of wild stock to build up numbers.

On the other hand there are those who contend that for many primates and other hard-pressed species, captive breeding—costly though it certainly is and risky though it may be—provides in a fairly desperate situation the best available defense against the ultimate tragedy, the "final solution," of extinction.

## USC code of ethics

The USC Animal Ethics Review Board holds monthly meetings and its members (composed of an inter-disciplinary group most of whom have no vested interest in animal research) have access to all activities involving the use of animals at the University of Southern California. The Board has adopted the following code of ethics.

1. Investigators have a moral obligation to abide by the humanitarian dictum that animals not be subjected to unnecessary pain or distress.
2. Alternative endpoints should be sought for all LD<sub>50</sub> studies such as toxicological and biological testing. The LD<sub>50</sub> requirement for an endpoint of death in the face of distinct and irreversible signs that toxicity, infectious processes or tumor growth have been reached and are causing severe pain and distress, *clearly is not in accord with the principles contained in this document.*
3. Approval of a protocol will not be based upon economic consideration or convenience of the procedures involved.
4. Experiments involving the withholding of food and water should be designed to be as short-term as possible and result in the least detrimental effect on the health of the animal.
5. Prolonged physical restraint procedures are prohibited. Short term physical restraint procedures should only

be considered after alternative procedures have been considered and found to be inadequate.

6. If pain or distress are necessary concomitants of an approved protocol, these should be minimized both in intensity and duration. In no case should pain and distress result in suffering, i.e., that degree of pain which causes significant behavioral distress or change in the animal.
7. An animal that is observed to be in a state of severe pain which cannot be alleviated should be immediately euthanized using a humane, acceptable method which must include, as an initial action, rapid inducement of unconsciousness.
8. No animal shall be subjected to multiple operations, except when they are interrelated and essential to the primary surgical objective.
9. Potentially painful experiments, otherwise consistent with the Code, may be conducted provided the animal is anesthetized and insensitive to pain during an entire procedure, and euthanized before regaining consciousness.
10. All protocols for experiments involving animals shall be approved by the Animal Ethics Review Board.
11. This University shall expect each Investigator to consider alternatives to the use of animals in research or teaching before presenting a protocol for the use of live animals. The signed protocol should contain a statement to that effect.

## Chimp Art Show

"Humane Research: Representational Art in Chimpanzees" was the title of an exhibition at the Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts last October. Museum Director Thom Smith was inspired to arrange the show by reading an article in *The Animal Welfare Institute Quarterly* (Vol. 31 No. 1) about the chimpanzees who use American Sign Language to communicate with one another and with Central Washington University Professor Roger Fouts and his staff.

Museum program notes state: "Represented in this exhibit are works executed by 20-year-old Washoe, whose signing vocabulary exceeds 175 words, 10-year-old Tatu, and 12-year-old Moja." All used sign language to give titles to their paintings and drawings. The Museum presented a video program "Friends of Washoe" to introduce the exhibit and invited contributions to the Fouts' humane research.

Those interested in subscribing to the newsletter on the chimps' activities may write to Dr. Roger Fouts, Department of Psychology, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926.



# The forests are being eaten

The forests are being eaten, the trees are coming down,  
And in their place the cattle ranches stand –  
For a year or two that is, till the soil is all turned brown  
And the time has come to eat more forest land.

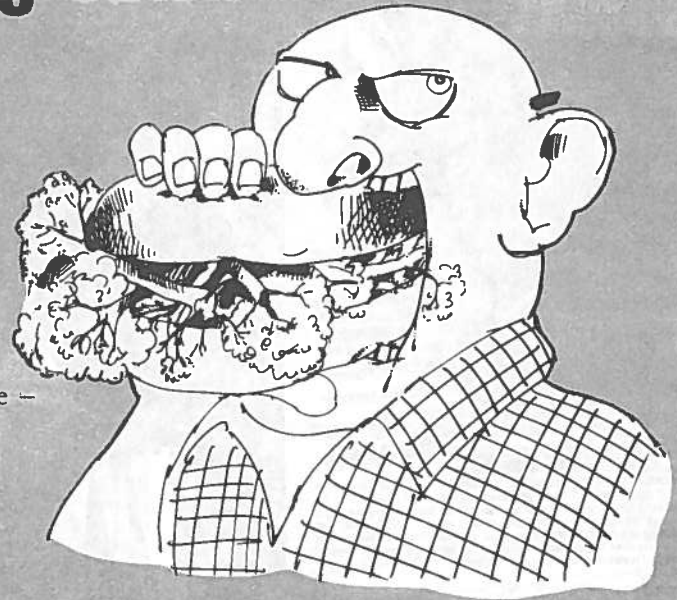
Make it into hamburgers  
(Multi-million gramburgers)  
That's the food for US to eat and eat.  
Though cutting down the trees  
Is a shame of course – don't *please*  
Imagine we'll be cutting down on meat.

Oh no!

The jungles are being gobbled – with species rich and rare –  
And in their place the placid cattle munch –  
For a year or two until, when the vegetation's bare,  
More trees must be converted into lunch.

Turn them into frankfurters  
(Burger King's rich bankfurters)  
They're the stuff to make US big and strong.  
Of course the econut  
Will complain as usual – but  
200 million people can't be wrong.

Oh, no?



## Rainforest alliance forged

*More than 80 conservation activists from the United States, Latin America, southeast Asia and Africa met in San Francisco for three days in November. They have forged a global alliance to stop the onslaught on the rainforests and to promote their sustainable use. A prime target will be "boondoggle" development schemes funded by the international banks and institutions.*

*One forest that is slated for priority*

*action is the last remaining rainforest in the U.S. This is in the Volcanoes National Park on the island of Hawaii. It is threatened by a geothermal energy project.*

*A big issue in Central America is the conversion of rainforest to beef cattle pasture to supply the fast-food chains in the U.S. and elsewhere. Since the pasture soon becomes unproductive the forests are under ceaseless attack and are vanishing fast. A*

*boycott of the offending restaurants is being planned.*

*Meanwhile, Friends of the Earth UK has also launched a tropical forests campaign. FoE claims to have reached agreement in principle with the Timber Trade Federation on a code of practice regarding tropical hardwoods. Consumers are being urged not to buy mahogany or teak furniture.*

## Our own best seller list

*The Endangered Species Handbook* by Greta Nilsson was first published in 1983. Because of the great interest this book aroused, The Animal Welfare Institute has just published a revised edition featuring an index, suggested by Sir Peter Scott, the eminent naturalist and winner of the 1986 J. Paul Getty Wildlife Conservation Prize, the "Nobel Prize of Conservation." Incorporated in the revision is an updated series of lists of endangered species, which has also been bound separately so that present owners of the first edition can purchase it and slip it into their volume.

The *Handbook* is divided into two general sections, 1) Vanishing Species, Causes and Consequences and 2) Legis-

lation and Programs, including International Treaties. There are still projects for classrooms and science fairs and collated lists of source material for student and teacher.

The price for the updated Handbook, \$5 is, miraculously, the same as the old. Teachers may, as before, order a free copy of the newly prepared endangered species listing by sending a request on their school letterhead. Others may send \$1 for the updated listings which include the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Red Data Book, the U.S. list and those of the states as well as the listing of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

## Betsy Beaver *continued from page 1*

coverage wherever he went, he demonstrated the power of the trap's steel jaws on a televised talk show in Kansas City, then flew to Denver and Los Angeles, with presentations in Palo Alto, Sacramento and San Francisco where hundreds of copies of informative leaflets about the needless agony being inflicted by steel traps were distributed. Millington's plans include stops in Houston, Texas; Mobile, Alabama; Atlanta, Georgia; Orlando, Tampa, Miami and Jacksonville, Florida; and Jackson, Mississippi.

Many local animal protective groups have taken active part in focussing attention on the message brought by the gigantic but lovable beaver.

BRADFORD, PA  
ETA  
D. 12,166

APR 08 1986



**RALLYING AGAINST LEHOLD TRAPS** — Peter Millington of London, England, guides his large inflatable replica of a beaver on the front steps of the State Capitol in Harrisburg on Monday addressing a rally urging the ban of use of legholds to trap animals. Millington, who claims to be a British environmentalist working with the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, came to Harrisburg to lend his support to passage of legislation banning such legholds.

### BETSY COMES TO BOSTON

BOSTON, MA  
THE BOSTON GLOBE  
D. 520,081 SUN. 797,788

APR 17 1986



(TX)  
Austin American-Statesman  
Friday, May 23, 1986

COLUMBUS, OH  
DISPATCH  
D. 206,210

APR 24 1986



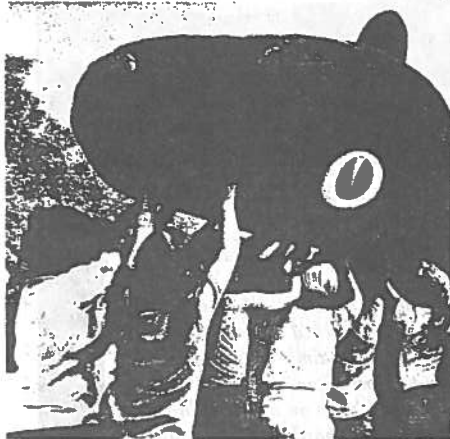
Dispatch photo by Tim Revel

THE TIMES RECORD  
TROY, NY  
D. 45,940

APR 22 1986



Not-so-tender tr  
Paul Millington sets off i



THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1986



BILOXI, MS  
SUN-HERALD  
D. 48,753 SUN. 49,502

MAY 17 1986

### 'Betsy Beaver' fights against steel-jaw traps

A giant inflatable beaver and her kit, currently touring the U.S. in support of legislation banning steel jaw traps, will be in Gulfport May 27 to entertain a crowd of elementary school students.

The Society for Animal Protective Legislation headquartered in Washington, D.C., and MAST (Mississippians Against Steel-Jaw Traps) of Biloxi, is sponsoring the visit of Betsy Beaver and her youngster.

Patricia Spinks, vice president of MAST, said elementary schools along the Coast have been notified and invited to attend the visit at the Bert Jones Memorial Park at 3:30 p.m. The event will end with the release of balloons, which will contain cards stamped on one side by MAST, and with an environmental message on the flip side written by the participating student.



A bill in the U.S. Congress would ban interstate commerce of the traps and shipment of furs caught by the devices. The society pressing for passage of the bill reports that although the traps have been outlawed in 63 nations, millions of trapped fur-bearers struggle for hours or days in agony.

Domestic animals which manage to drag the traps home often must have their legs amputated to prevent death from resulting injuries or disease.

Peter Millington, volunteer coordinator for the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, is presenting the beavers. The spring tour covers 8,000 miles and more than 30 cities.

### Trapping protest

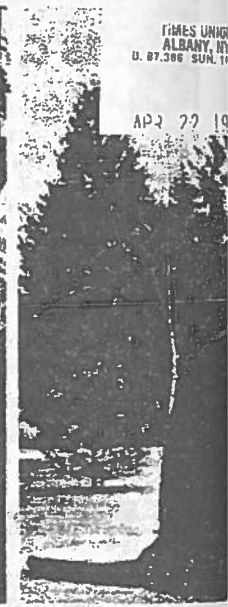


CHICAGO, IL  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE  
D. 776,350 SUN. 1,137,670  
SAT. 633,117

APR 26 1986

TIMES UNION  
ALBANY, NY  
D. 87,386 SUN. 71,111

APR 22 1986



FREDERICKSBURG, VA  
FREE LANCE STAR  
D. 31,447

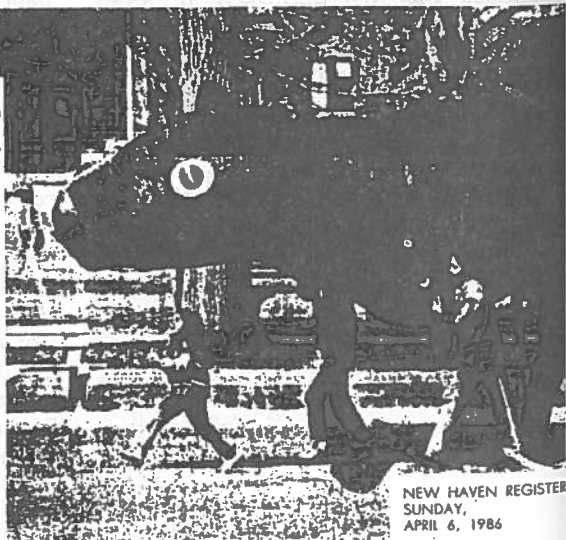
MAY 2 1986



MACON, GA  
TELEGRAPH AND NEWS  
D. 68,925 SUN. 80,100  
SAT. 67,212

BRATTLEBORO, VT  
REFORMER  
DAILY 9,000

SUMTER, SC  
ITEM  
D. 20,540



NEW HAVEN REGISTER  
SUNDAY,  
APRIL 6, 1986





ALAN FRIEDLAND / Miami Herald Staff  
Ron Palamara helps strap Peter Millington into Betty, the inflatable beaver he uses to gather support for a proposed federal ban on steel traps.

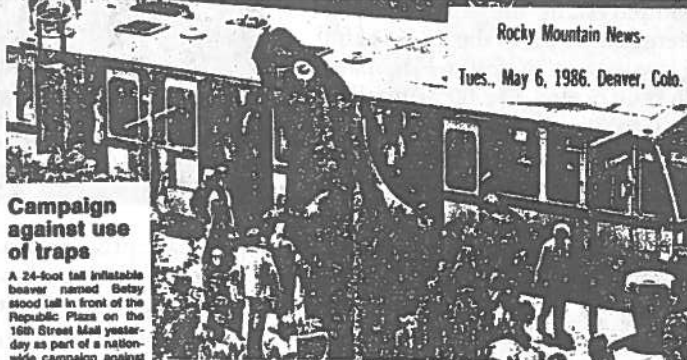
APR 18 1986



Journal-Bulletin Photo by FRIEDA SQUIRES

Rocky Mountain News

Tues., May 6, 1986. Denver, Colo.



### Campaign against use of traps

A 24-foot tall inflatable beaver named Betty stood tall in front of the Republic Plaza on the 16th Street Mall yesterday as part of a nationwide campaign against steel-jaw leghold traps.

Journal-Daily News, Wednesday, May 28, 1986



Steel-jaw leghold beaver trap

### Giving a 'dam'



NIAGARA FALLS GAZETTE  
NIAGARA FALLS, NY  
D. 29,269 S. 30,805

APR 23 1986



## Beaver bounces a message off Louisvillians

THE COURIER-JOURNAL  
LOUISVILLE, KY  
D. 174,400

APR 29 1986

By ROBIN GARR  
Staff Writer

Most people stopped and stared when they saw the 23-foot-tall, grinning, buck-toothed beaver bouncing down Louisville's Fourth Avenue mall yesterday.  
Then they laughed.  
And then they got a message.  
"People catch beavers in steel traps," said English actor and environmentalist Peter Millington, who wore the lowering beaver strapped to his back like a hiker's pack.  
"We think that's bad."

Ratdroops were spluttering the mall before midday when Millington, who's touring the United States under the auspices of the non-profit Society for Animal Protective Legislation, pulled the furry costume from a big canvas bag.  
He stretched it out beneath the canopy of the long-vacant J.C. Penney's store, wired a battery to a tiny air pump and stood back.  
It inflated in seconds with a hissing "pfffffft," puffing out to a beaver's jowly, rounded form, complete with big eyes, buck teeth and a

black, ridged-plastic tail the size of an air mattress.  
This was an unusual sight even by the casual standards of the mall's 300 block, home of the Derby Clock, vacant storefronts, wig shops and discount stores offering perpetual sales.  
Security guard Guy Howard said he's worked in the Penney's building for 23 years and has never seen such a thing as this.  
But he thought he knew what was going on.  
"It's for the parade, right?"

Nope.  
A woman chimed in: "Is it about the zoo?"  
Wrong again.  
Local animal-rights activist Tanya Tuell distributed literature urging taxpayers to write their U.S. representatives in support of legislation that would ban interstate sale of steel leghold traps.  
"We're not opposed to trapping but to this specific trap," Millington said.  
See BEAVER  
PAGE 7, col. 4, this section

## Beaver packs a strong message

Continued from Page B 1  
said. "It causes pain and it traps animals indiscriminately."  
Howard nodded.  
"It sounds like a good idea," he said, scrutinizing the beaver. "Looks real, too."  
Millington said the costume was made by a manufacturer of hot-air balloons. It weighs 46 pounds dry and a lot more wet, prompting him to keep it under the store canopy until morning showers diminished.  
Belinda King and Margaret Brodley couldn't resist petting the beaver's soft, furry hide.  
Ms. King asked the wrong question: "Is this real fur?"  
"No!" Millington snapped. "It's fake fur."  
"I see the same way," she said. "I can't kill animals."  
"I fish, but I won't hunt," a businessman said.  
Twins Gary and Gerry Beard scrutinized the group's poster, which featured snapshots of animals caught in traps and photos of fashionable women wearing fur coats.

"Look at this dog, man," Gerry told his brother in herring. "This dog got his little foot snapped off by one of these traps."  
The brothers said they liked the beaver and agreed with its message.  
"It's like right there in front of your face," Gerry said. "It's like-telling you, 'Stop and think.'"  
Millington kept it up as lunchtime brought more people into the street. He bobbed and weaved, ducked under a restaurant sign and posed for pictures alongside the Derby Clock.  
Two women spotted the beast just as they popped out of a store.  
"Oh, my goodness, look," one said. "We're following a beaver."  
Her friend asked: "Is that a beaver? With that size of a tail, it's got to be a beaver."  
The first woman agreed.  
"It's cute," she said.  
Millington bounced along and the beaver grinned back at the laughing crowds all the way from Guthrie to Chestnut Street, then north to Muhammad Ali and back to Guthrie again.



# Greece—land of furs unlimited

The sheer number of fur shops in Greece is staggering—the small island of Rhodes has over 200! The fur trade boom in this country is a result of low labour costs and low taxes (the lowest in the EEC) making it possible to retail furs relatively cheaply. In America and in other parts of Europe the tourist season is short and stores work with a high profit margin. However in Rhodes there are foreign tourists seven months of the year plus Greek tourists during the winter months enabling furriers to keep profit margins low throughout the year.

The fur trade in Greece dates back thousands of years to Kastoria a small town in the north of the country. Workers specialized in creating garments out of small pieces of fur, a unique skill which anywhere else in the world would double the price of the garment. Many

---

*The fur shops are packed with every type of ranched and wild skin including an abundance of CITES Appendix I species.*

---

Kastorian Greeks have moved and some have emigrated, thus keeping this skill alive. By working with small pieces and off-cuts of furs, they often do not need to purchase an entire skin and this factor contributes significantly to the low retail price.

The Greek fur industry is big business catering mostly to the foreign tourist. In 1985, 6.6 million tourists were expected. The fur shops are packed with every type of ranched and wild skin including an abundance of CITES Appendix I species. Every shop I visited (approximately 60) had a good selection of coats made from leopard, cheetah, ocelot

and jaguar. Some of the shop managers I questioned had no idea what constituted an endangered species and one manager informed me that there would be no problem in taking an ocelot or jaguar coat back to South Africa as they are not only indigenous there but abundant!

The general attitude of Greek furriers is that it is their duty to stock and supply the widest possible variety of pelts, and spotted skins are apparently in great demand. Some of the prices of full length coats were as follows: leopard, \$5,000; blue ocelot, \$5,500; wild sable, \$4,500; Canadian lynx, \$10,000.

---

*This blatant trade in garments made from skins of endangered species raises a number of doubts as to the bona fides of the International Fur Trade Federation.*

---

Clients and would-be fur buyers are being fed false information in order to secure sales. On enquiring about seal-skin coats I was shown something labelled "fish otter" and told that a fish otter and a seal are one and the same animal. On arguing the point it was finally admitted that seal skin coats are no longer labelled as such due to growing public hostility to seal-clubbing which has been publicized by the anti-sealing lobbyists.

In a large fur shop in Athens I discussed with the manager the possibility of having a cheetah coat made up for myself. He did not have cheetah skins on the premises but he informed me that he would have no trouble in obtaining skins. As CITES regulations are fairly well enforced in Britain I told him I was a British citizen and asked him if I



Photo: Beauty Without Cruelty International

would have problems in getting the coat through Customs. I was told that I would be given documentation stating that the skins were "old stock" brought prior to 1970. He informed me that false documentation is given regularly in order to get around this problem of import regulations in the various countries.

This blatant trade in garments made from skins of endangered species raises a number of doubts as to the *bona fides* of the International Fur Trade Federation (IFTF). This body, always intent on improving its public image, actively publicizes its support of "true" conservation issues and its concern for the protection of endangered species. Indeed the Federation has funded various IUCN projects such as the leopard and cheetah population survey in 1971. The IFTF claim that the results of this survey led to them introducing a voluntary ban on these species and they even go as far as stating that they were the prime movers in establishing the Washington Convention (otherwise known as CITES) in 1973 protecting all endangered species.

It is glaringly obvious that the token gestures to the IUCN in the form of funds is just a clever exercise in public relations. How is it possible that the most powerful conservation organization in the world is taken in by this ploy? While the acceptance of *Greenpeace* as an IUCN member was beset by controversy and delay, IUCN councillors readily granted membership to the IFTF. This is surely, in the light of the Federation's palpable unconcern for what is going on in Greece, a complete mockery of the conservation cause.

Christine Berry



Beauty Without Cruelty International



## Desperate plight of pedigree dogs in Japan

Once an animal becomes any sort of a problem to its Japanese owner, the usual solution is to get rid of it. Since there is still widespread ignorance of how to care for animals, such basic things as grooming, a nutritious diet, adequate shelter, exercise and a visit to a vet if the animal is ill or injured, are not necessarily envisaged as part of the owner's duty. Without proper care, long-haired breeds in particular can soon become unkempt, filthy, flea-infested and stinking and, therefore, "undesirable."

Though very high prices may be paid for a perfect purebred dog, there is no tradition of companionship between people and their animals. Any breeder considering the export of animals to Japan should attach great importance to these two facts, since perfection does not last and there may be no bond of affection for an animal to safeguard it through its declining years. For the progeny of a dog or cat which has been exported to Japan there can be no guarantee that a caring home will be sought.

The Japan Animal Welfare Society in England, which gets first-hand reports of animal abuse from JAWS fieldworkers in Japan, has for a long time been trying to persuade breeders not to export their animals to Japan. And in recent years the number of dogs exported from Britain and Europe has fallen dramatically. In 1984 the combined total was 322.

But that same year, 1984, the U.S. exported 7348 dogs to Japan—a country where owners discard something like a million animals a year. The local authorities, who are faced with the overwhelming problem of disposing of these poor creatures, destroy some and send some for research. There is a never-ending supply of dogs for experimentation and truckloads are regularly dumped at the back of medical colleges and teaching hospitals, just for the cost of the transport. In Japan, dogs are the cheapest experimental animals to obtain, house and feed—cheaper even than rats and mice.

Every breeder considering the export of animals to Japan should take note that thoroughbred animals are preferred by researchers as they are considered more docile. Fieldworkers visiting animal quarters in the hope of persuading officials to make improvements cannot easily forget the gentle purebreds they have seen shivering in dark corners, nor the vain pleas that some of them have made to be allowed to buy such pitiful animals.

Even educated Japanese may not see any cruelty in keeping a dog on the end of a chain for life. There is often little



*Ramshackle kennel; bowl of filthy water. Such conditions are all too common.*

understanding of the need for a good weatherproof kennel in a climate which ranges from below-zero temperatures in winter to scorching summer heat, oppressive humidity and monsoon-type rain. Magazines carry advertisements for pretty wooden kennels with barred fronts and corrugated metal roofs. The measurements are shown and beside each kennel stands a dog, pedigree of course, of a size which will "fit." But it is obvious that there is not sufficient room



*Barely recognizable as an American Cocker Spaniel after years of neglect; a walking skeleton, under filthy matted hair, infested with parasites; untreated cuts and wounds has resulted in massive infection, long curved toenails curved under and into his pads. Shocked fieldworkers asked why he had never been taken to a vet and were told that he was "too ill-tempered."*

for turning round or lying at full stretch. Animals are chained in these kennels and the door is locked. They may be let out for cleaning but there is a removable tray, so many dogs will be boxed in for life.

Over the years compassionate people, both Japanese and Westerners, have formed themselves into welfare groups dedicated to helping unwanted animals; all produce literature aimed at persuading owners to adopt a more responsible attitude. There are, of course, caring considerate owners, both well-to-do and poor, who will provide every comfort for their pet. But no fieldworker would ever be surprised to learn that the darling of the family was to be abandoned when its owners moved to an apartment where pets were not allowed, or when a human baby was on the way.

Founded in 1954, JAWS spent most of its early years campaigning, with other groups, for an Animal Protection Law. When this aim was finally achieved in 1973, it was felt that Japan had at last stepped into the ranks of the advanced nations; but this law has never been properly administered and animals still have little or no protection. For instance, fieldworkers found that neighbors complained about the noise—not the cruelty—when a mentally-disturbed youth sometimes tortured the animals he kept. No help came from the local police who said that if it were children who were being ill-treated, they could take action, but not as it was animals.

Ivy Ferguson  
Japan Animal Welfare Society, UK

## Kangaroo kill based on myth not science



Myth rather than science has legitimized Australia's mass slaughter of kangaroos and wallabies. So says the Australian Committee of IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) following an enquiry conducted with government wildlife agencies.

The IUCN Committee has found that national kill quotas (almost two million in 1985) are being set in the absence of reliable data and it has focused on the urgent need for research into the "pest" status of kangaroos. All nine of the wildlife management agencies involved in this issue were asked for their views on the matter.

Eight of the nine replied but only four agreed that research was required and none considered that it should receive higher priority than research into the smaller, less-well known marsupial macropod species. Yet the wholesale, government-backed slaughter continues.

Says Dr. Mosley, Director of the Australian Conservation Foundation: "We cannot go on killing kangaroos at this rate in the absence of solid scientific evidence. Most Australians are becoming aware that the industry is calling the tune—and it's the death-knell for a free and gentle animal that all around the world is the symbol of Australia."

The Australian Conservation Foundation has been in the van of attempts to achieve scientifically-based conservation of kangaroos. It is vehemently opposed to kangaroos being killed for their commercial value at the dictate of the kangaroo industry.

## Germans battle over hen battery cages

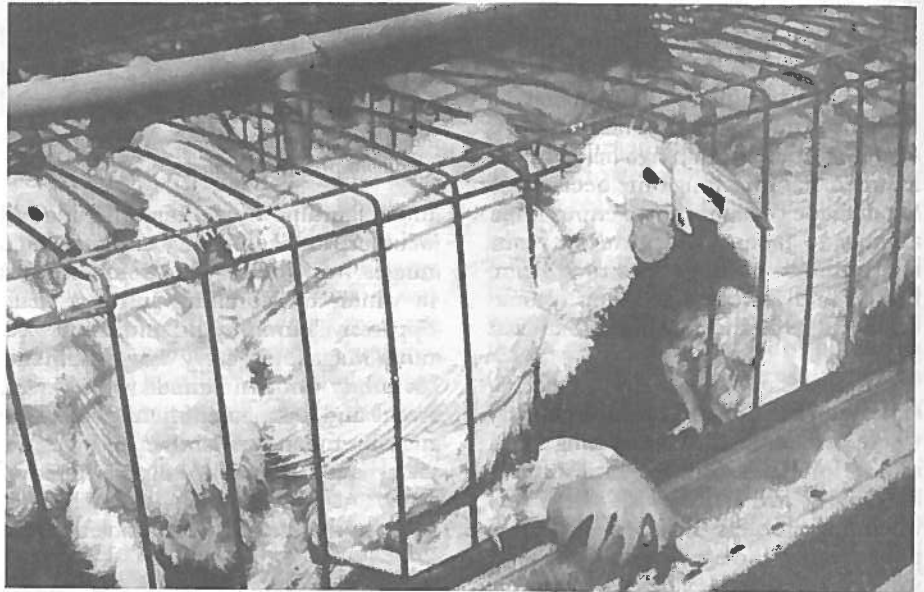
Is West Germany, or at any rate the State of Hesse within the Federal Republic, set to emulate Switzerland and outlaw battery cages for hens? If the Social Affairs Minister for Hesse, Armin Clauss, has his way, the answer is Yes.

A battle, which has so far lasted for all of eight years, is still going on to decide this issue in Hesse. Twice, first in 1979 and then again in 1985, a district court has rejected the charge of cruelty brought against some of the country's largest battery egg producers.

On the first occasion this decision was overturned by the High Court in Frankfurt. The German government then took the matter to the European Commission and sat back to await the verdict. They are still waiting.

Meantime, while the waiting game continued, Hesse's egg producers were permitted to carry on as if the High Court ruling had gone their way. But in 1984 Herr Clauss decided that failing agreement at European or federal level, the Frankfurt ruling must be upheld. He ordered the wind-up of all battery farming in the State.

Also that year a charge of cruelty was again filed by activists. In 1985 the case came up in the same district court as before—and again it was dismissed. Herr Clauss, though, says he will not be swayed by this verdict. Backed by the earlier ruling of Frankfurt's supreme court of appeal, he intends to press ahead with phasing out battery cages in Hesse.



*Battery hens scramble for standing room in cruelly cramped cage.*

## Danish representation

New International Committee Member Professor Klaus Vestergaard of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Copenhagen, has accepted the Animal Welfare Institute's invitation to represent Denmark on the Institute's International Committee, taking the place of retiring member, N.E. Wernberg, who greatly reduced animal suffering in slaughterhouses through anesthetization with carbon dioxide.

Dr. Vestergaard's studies of farm animal behavior are internationally recognized, particularly those on sows and laying hens. A film showing the powerful drive that leads hens to dust bathe was produced by Vestergaard and shown to scientific audiences throughout the United States during his recent lecture



tour. A member of the board of Foreningen Til Dyrenes Beskyttelse i Danmark, The Society for the Protection of Animals in Denmark, he is an accomplished bird watcher with broad ornithological knowledge.

# Advice from down under helps Humphrey

When Frank Robson, author of *Strandings*, saw television news clips in his native New Zealand about Humphrey the humpback whale whose migratory urge went wrong in California waters last October, he came to the rescue through long distance discussion with CBS radio.

As reported in New Zealand's *Daily Telegraph*, "Mr. Robson, 73, heard yesterday that marine mammalogists over-seeing the whale's journey had given up their attempts to turn the 45-ton whale back to sea. Latest reports put it at about 90 km up the Sacramento River.

"Mr. Robson has pioneered a method for turning around stranded whales, and he demonstrated its effectiveness during a whale stranding at Westshore about 18 months ago.

"CBS radio in California accepted his offer to help... Mr. Robson's rescue

method involves skiffboard riders leading the whale back to sea, with gentle coaxing from behind by boats. Skin-divers initially get the whale moving by touching the edges of its flukes which are sensitive. Mr. Robson described the method in two issues of the International Oceanographic Institute's publication *Sea Frontier*."

In a recent letter to the AWI about Humphrey's rescue, Frank Robson wrote: "To effect an 'about turn' we in New Zealand enter the water and make both physical and mental contact with the whale. The rescuers must be capable of conveying a mental picture of the terrain which is confusing the whale. We then demonstrate physically what we require the whale to do. Experience has taught us that when the minds of human and whale reach a compatible state, the whale wholeheartedly accepts

guidance from humans."

The Robsons were happy to view the last Humphrey television sequence showing the flotilla of small boats escorting the whale out into the open ocean.

In an article summarizing the much-publicized 3-week odyssey of the whale, Peter Aleshire of *The Oakland Tribune* estimated that funds spent to get Humphrey back to sea amounted to \$85,000, twenty-five thousand from the state of California, the rest from the federal government.

*Strandings, Ways to Save Whales*, by Frank Robson, the classic book on whale and dolphin rescue is now available at a third of the original publication price (see AWIQ vol. 33, no. 2 for a review of the book). Indispensable for individuals, organizations and agencies active in returning stranded cetaceans to the sea and in heading off threatened strandings. A limited number will be available from AWI at cost. \$16 hardcover. 124 pages. 27 photos. 20 illustrations.

## Rare dolphins being driven to extinction

The National Marine Fisheries Service has declared the cochito, the world's smallest cetacean, to be an endangered species. In truth this Gulf of California harbor porpoise has been severely endangered for a great many years. No cochito has been seen alive since 1980, although the remains of two cochitos were found on gulf beaches a year ago.

As with so many marine creatures, porpoises and turtles in particular, the cochito's parlous plight can probably be laid at the door of modern fishing fleets with their diabolical shrimp-nets and gillnets—gear guaranteed to snare any number of "unwanted" species.

The unfortunate cochito, though, could also have been hit by the damming of the Colorado River. No longer is the river unloading into the gulf generous supplies of nutrients which used to feed the fish that feed the cochito.

So the cochito is "endangered." That's official. But what happens next? Normally an endangered species is the beneficiary of a host of protective measures to aid it in its fight for survival. But the cochito inhabits only a portion of the north Gulf of California which is Mexican territory. Assistance must therefore be a collaborative effort with Mexico. Dr. Bernardo Villa-Roc of the

University of Mexico and Dr. Kenneth Norris of the University of California are continuing field work on the status of the cochito.

But another scientific project still further reduced the cochito population last year. Two males and five females, one of which was an infant, were entangled in the scientists' gill nets set to catch an endangered population of fish, the Totoaba. All the cochitos were dead. The project was directed by the Guaymas Regional Fisheries Research Center for the National Fisheries Institute of the Mexican Secretariat of Fisheries.

### Animal Welfare Institute

#### Scientific Committee

Marjorie Anchel, Ph.D.  
Bennett Derby, M.D.  
F. Barbara Orlans, Ph.D.  
Roger Payne, Ph.D.  
Samuel Peacock, M.D.  
John Walsh, M.D.

#### International Committee

Aline S. de Aluja, D.V.M. — Mexico  
T.G. Anikas, D.V.M. — Greece  
Ambassador Tabarak Husain — Bangladesh  
Angela King — United Kingdom  
Simon Muchiru — Kenya  
David Ricardo — Canada  
Godofredo Stutzin — Chile  
Klaus Vestergaard — Denmark

#### Officers

Christine Stevens, President  
Cynthia Wilson, Vice President  
Marjorie Cooke, Secretary  
Roger L. Stevens, Treasurer

#### Directors

John Beary, M.D.  
Madeleine Bemelmans  
Gerard Bertrand, Ph.D.  
Marjorie Cooke  
Christabel Gough  
David O. Hill  
Sue Hunt  
Freeborn G. Jewett, Jr.  
Christine Stevens  
Aileen Train  
Cynthia Wilson

#### Staff

Patrick Allen, Editorial Consultant  
Cynthia A. Bank, Executive Assistant  
Jessie Despard, Administrative Assistant  
Rose R. Eck, Administrative Assistant  
for Communications

Diane Halverson, Research Associate  
for livestock and poultry  
Lynne Hutchison, Whale Campaign Secretary  
Cathy Liss, Research Associate  
Nell Naughton, Mail Order Secretary

Greta Nilsson, Wildlife Consultant  
Adele Schoepperle, Assistant Treasurer  
Susan M. Wogan, Publications Coordinator  
Louise Wright, Research Assistant

## Dingo traps should be put on the scrapheap—not in the outback

What is the difference between the two steel-jaw dingo traps shown here? Precious little—except that the top one was manufactured 100 years before the “current model” beneath it. The Australian branch of *World League for Protection of Animals* has put the question: “Is this unchanged diabolical instrument of torture the best Australians can do in this age of high technology?”

The question is of course rhetorical—fired off in wrath at a dilatory government for its abject refusal, year after year, to act on the findings of an immensely painstaking study done by a “respectable” government body, *Wildlife and Rangelands Research*.

The study, which had the collaboration of 25 dingo trappers, lasted six years culminating in 1975. A further eight years passed before it was published. But it is up-to-date in the depressing sense that essentially nothing has changed.

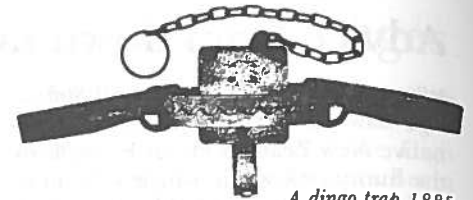
A prime excuse for the trapping of dingoes is that they commonly prey on sheep and calves. In fact only 26 of the 530 dingoes caught and examined had sheep or cattle remains in their stomachs—remains which in any case were quite often in the form of carrion.

The authors of the study point out that stomach contents were in general meagre. They suggest as a probable cause the length of time the dingoes were alive in the traps. In the remoter parts of the Australian outback trap lines, each with perhaps 50 traps on it, may be set for a period of 2-12 months!

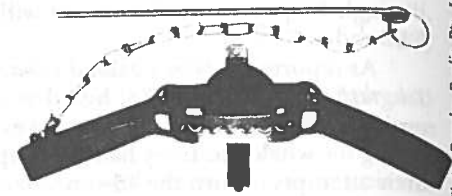
Small chance here of the trapper being on hand to put a trapped animal out of its misery.

American experience would predict that non-target animals would also suffer hideously. And so it turns out. The study reports that over 20 species of protected wildlife were caught in the traps at the rate of two to three such species for every dingo.

Humane organizations in Australia, as here in the U.S., are pressing hard for a total ban on steel-jaw traps. But there, as here, they are finding prejudice and bureaucratic prevarication hard obstacles to overcome. In the meantime the *Australian Conservation Foundation*, supported by the WLP, is calling for the conservation rather than the mandatory destruction of dingoes and their removal from “all noxious animal, pest and vermin lists.” Animals so listed are



A dingo trap 1885



A dingo trap 1985



Dingo pups

not protected from the steel-jaw trap even in states—such as New South Wales—which otherwise prohibit the use of this fiendish device.

## Trapping “Heritage”: big traps with teeth

A self-styled “master trapper-instructor” is resurrected in the Spring 1986 issue of *The Voice of the Trapper* as a “Heritage Feature” from 1948. Recommending huge traps with teeth for catching foxes, the four-page article by the late John Ehn states:

“Even on bare ground the big traps will make more catches. Of course, No. 4 traps catch many fox feet entirely too high up where the legs have fewer cords, causing some fox to wring out, but to balance this many more fox are taken to start with. More are taken by two feet making wring-outs almost impossible, and at the end of the season the big trap trapper will find he has more fox skins than if he had used smaller traps. More foxes have left toes in small traps than have left entire feet in big traps, no matter how high they were caught.

“I made my best catches of foxes in snow sets with No. 48 Newhouse traps.

This is the No. 4 with teeth, the jaws come close together. (Do not confuse the 48 with the Newhouse 14, which is also a No. 4 with teeth but with jaws that do not close tight; they were sold long ago as deer traps.) There is most always something between trap jaws as they come together, crusts of frozen soil, leaves, ice, etc., whatever stuff the trapper hid it with, and snow, sleet, dust, etc., that fell or blowed or washed onto it by rains after it was set. Teeth have the advantage that they pierce through this stuff into the foot where smooth jaws can only squeeze this stuff together on each side of the foot. Often an animal can strip its foot out because the trash offered padding and prevented the jaws from biting into the foot. Worthy of consideration is the fact that any make or size of trap is most effective in the hands of expert trappers. This means that beginners need good big traps worse than anybody else, but I often

see an inexperienced trapper trying to trap with traps that are too small and other equipment that even an experienced trapper couldn't get many animals with. The controversy concerning No. 2 and larger traps for fox finally simmers down to this: trappers who get fox with No. 2 traps would get more with No. 3 or 4s and those that can't catch them with No. 4s will gain nothing by trying smaller traps. And here is another angle to the efficiency of big traps:

“Trappers who set only a few fox traps and look at them every morning will get most of the foxes caught by the toes before they have time to escape, while longline trappers who can't tend every set as early or often have a bigger percentage of escapes; their catch per trap per season is less than that of the shortliner, but because they have so many traps their season catch is high.”





# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

P.O. BOX 3650

WASHINGTON, DC 20007

SUMMER 1986

VOL. 35, NO. 2

## WHALING: Norway escapes sanctions . . .

In early June, with Norwegian whalers once more about their deadly business, the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, as required by the Pelly Amendment, certified Norway for its flagrant breach of the IWC moratorium. The certification empowers the President to embargo Norwegian fish exports to the U.S.—worth \$150 million a year—and requires him to report his decision to Congress within 60 days.

The President duly reported on 4 August. His letter stated that following the Norwegian government's undertaking, given on 3 July, to cease commercial whaling at the close of the 1987 season, he would not at present impose sanctions.

Certification of Norway continues, though, until the country withdraws its objection (as Japan has now done) to the IWC moratorium. Sanctions thus remain an option should future developments require them. Norway has intimated that it may switch to "scientific" whaling after 1987.

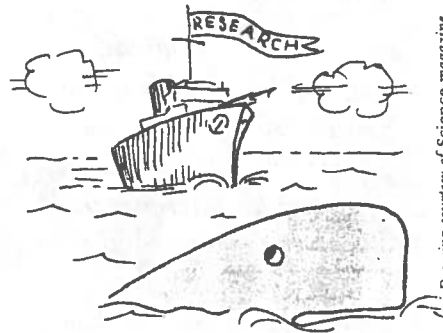
## . . . Iceland plays "science" card

At the end of July the Icelandic Prime Minister, complaining angrily that Washington had issued an ultimatum to cease whaling or face a "crippling boycott" on fish products, ordered the whalers to stop. In fact the so-called ultimatum was simply the mandatory certification served—as in the case of Norway—for resumption of whaling. It did appear, however, that Iceland, whose fish exports to the U.S. account for 30% of all Icelandic exports, had belatedly seen the error of its ways.

Not so. The "stop" order turned out to be merely a ruse to gain time. The intention is, as before, to continue kill-

ing 120 whales a year under the guise of "scientific catch" despite the blunt insistence of the IWC Scientific Committee that the kill would add nothing to existing knowledge and could therefore have no scientific justification.

On 6 August Iceland informed the United States that its domestic consumption of whale meat would be sub-



*"I strongly mistrust science based on dead whales when we have so many available techniques for studying the living whale. Killing whales in the name of science contributes nothing to conservation or science."*

—Sir Peter Scott

stantially increased—Japan having refused to import (without U.S. approval) any meat from whales caught in 1986. Iceland also bizarrely asserted that this action was consistent with the IWC's recent resolution on scientific whaling. To which Secretary Baldrige riposted: "The decision announced by Iceland is clearly not in the spirit of IWC conservation goals. We are very disappointed and cannot condone it."

## Animal Welfare Act Funding Increased

Although the President's budget would have zeroed out the federal Animal Welfare Act by eliminating all appropriations for its enforcement, the House and Senate Appropriations Committee not only restored the funds but increased

## Supreme Court vs. Whales

The Supreme Court of the United States seemed haunted by the passionate whale killers of the past in issuing its 5-4 decision against the whales on June 30, 1986, reversing decisions of the District Court and Court of Appeals.

The Majority opinion begins; "For centuries, men have hunted whales in order to obtain both food and oil, which in turn, can be processed into a myriad of other products. Although at one time a harrowing and perilous profession, modern technological innovation have transformed whaling into a routine form of commercial fishing and have allowed for a multifold increase in whale harvests worldwide."

Note the words "processed," "products," "harvests" as if today's pitifully reduced population of the great whales still could support the business enterprises that once made men rich.

There is no hint in the opinion written by Justice White of any understanding of the endangerment of whales, of the potential of their enormous and highly convoluted brains, of the history of the long worldwide struggle to control the rapacity of Japan in destruction of the different whale species. Although the majority decision is twice as lengthy as the minority opinion, it rests on legal grounds so narrow as to be invisible to the layman's eye, and it naively assumes "the certainty of Japan's future compliance."

Already Japan has announced its intention of calling the killing of sperm

*continued on page 2*

them and specified that the information service provided under the Dole/Brown Amendments be funded. The Senate Appropriations Committee reports:

"For enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act . . ."  
*continued on page 12*

## Supreme Court vs whales, *continued from page 1*

whales along its coast "subsistence" and of issuing itself "scientific permits" for what it terms "investigative whaling." The results, of course, to be sold in the form of meat and oil.

The minority opinion written by Justice Marshall minces no words. "Since 1971, Congress has sought to lead the world, through the repeated exercise of its power over foreign commerce, in preventing the extermination of whales and other threatened species of marine animals. I deeply regret that it will now have to act again before the Executive Branch will finally be compelled to obey the law. I believe that the Court has misunderstood the question posed by the case before us, and has reached an erroneous conclusion on a matter of intense worldwide concern. I therefore dissent."

He describes the efforts of Congress to ensure effective action by the Executive Branch and continues: "In 1984, the Secretary of Commerce for the first time declined to certify a case of international whaling in excess of established quotas. Rather than calling into play the Packwood Amendment's mandatory sanctions by certifying to the President Japan's persistence in conducting whaling operations, Secretary Baldrige set about to negotiate with Japan, using his power of certification under domestic law to obtain certain promises of reduced violations in future years. In the resulting compromise, the Secretary agreed not to certify Japan, provided that Japan would promise to reduce its whaling until 1988 and then withdraw its objection to the international whaling quotas. Arguing that the Secretary had no discretion to withhold certification, respondents sought review of the Secretary's action in federal court. Both the District Court, 604 F. Supp. 1398 (DC 1985), and the Court of Appeals, 247 U.S. App. D.C. 309, 768 F. 2d 426 (1985), found that Congress had not empowered the Secretary to decline to certify a clear violation of International Whaling Commission (IWC) quotas, and ordered the Secretary to make the statutory certification. This Court now renders illusory the mandatory language of the statutory scheme, and finds permissible exactly the result that Congress sought to prevent in the Packwood Amendment: executive compromise of a national policy of whale conservation."

Citing correspondence between Senator Packwood and Secretary of Com-

merce Baldrige, showing that they agreed that whaling after the moratorium would clearly diminish the effectiveness of the IWC, Justice Marshall wrote, "The Secretary's manipulation of the certification process to affect punishment is thus an attempt to evade the statutory sanctions rather than a genuine judgment that the effectiveness of the quota has not diminished.

"The Secretary would rewrite the law . . . the Secretary has settled for continued violations until 1988, and in 1988 all that Japan has promised is to withdraw its formal objection to the IWC moratorium; I see no indication that Japan has pledged to 'cease commercial whaling by 1988'; . . . or to 'dismantle its commercial whaling industry.' "

---

*. . . whether Leviathan can  
long endure so wide a chase,  
and so remorseless a  
havoc; whether he must not  
at last be exterminated  
from the waters, and the  
last whale, like the last  
man, smoke his last pipe,  
and then himself evaporate  
in the final puff.*

—H. Melville, *Moby Dick*

---

After documenting Congressional intent, Justice Marshall skillfully pinpoints the basic unsoundness of the majority opinion by revealing the narrowness of the perch on which it seeks a foothold:

"The sole support that the Court offers for its position is the unobjectionable proposition, in a House Report, that "[a]n isolated, individual violation of a convention provision will not ordinarily warrant certification under this section." *Ante*, at 15 (quoting H.R. Rep. No. 95-1029, p. 15 [1978]). Petitioners indeed have a respectable argument that the Secretary was left with some inherent discretion to ignore violations of a *de minimis* nature. Such an argument, however, has no relevance to this case. It is uncontested here that Japan's taking of whales has been flagrant, consistent and substantial. Such gross disregard for international norms set for

the benefit of the entire world represents the core of what Congress set about to punish and to deter with the weapon of reduced fishing rights in United States waters. The Court's decision today leaves Congress no closer to achieving that goal than it was in 1971, before either Amendment was passed."

In conclusion Justice Marshall wrote: "I would affirm the judgment below on the ground that the Secretary has exceeded his authority by using his power of certification, not as a means for identifying serious whaling violations, but as a means for evading the constraints of the Packwood Amendment. Even focusing, as the Court does, upon the distinct question whether the statute prevents the Secretary from determining that the effectiveness of a conservation program is not diminished by a substantial transgression of whaling quotas, I find the Court's conclusion utterly unsupported. I am troubled that this Court is empowering an officer of the Executive Branch, sworn to uphold and defend the laws of the United States, to ignore Congress' pointed response to a question long pondered: 'whether Leviathan can long endure so wide a chase, and so remorseless a havoc; whether he must not at last be exterminated from the waters, and the last whale, like the last man, smoke his last pipe, and then himself evaporate in the final puff.' H. Melville, *Moby Dick* 436 (Signet ed. 1961)."

## Airline settles cruelty charge

American Airlines has agreed to participate in the making of a videotape film at Washington National Airport to settle charges of violating the Animal Welfare Act. Airline training officials will show this film to all employees handling live animal cargo in 17 major cities and airports across the country.

The company was charged on two occasions with accepting dogs for transport in cages that were too small. Other violations occurred when animals were left outside the terminal for at least 45 minutes in temperatures close to 100 degrees. In August 1983 one dog died from heat exhaustion on a flight from Phoenix to Boston and seven others were dead when arriving in Boston on a flight from Portland. They had apparently died because of poor ventilation and prolonged exposure to extremely high temperatures.



Four-legged special agent Tommy the dog and a U.S. customs officer with cocaine seized in the Queens bust.

## Dog leads feds to \$40 million cocaine stash

The credit for one of New York's largest drug seizures goes to Tommy, a golden retriever. Tommy, in the company of federal agents checking a Colombian cargo ship in Brooklyn last May, sniffed out a 500-pound stash of cocaine with a street value of \$40 million.

The feds allowed the drugs to be landed and taken to a bugged garage. A few days later they overheard the remark: "The merchandise will have to be moved tomorrow." They moved in swiftly and made two arrests. Thanks, Tommy.

## Two medical schools stand pat on dogs

Despite the appalling mistreatment of animals they document, a series of nine front-page stories in *The Post-Crescent* of Appleton-Neenah-Menasha, Wisconsin have failed to alter the attitude of the University of Wisconsin-Madison or The Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, toward dog dealer Ervin Stebane. Spokesmen for both institutions state they will continue to purchase dogs and cats from him.

Jim Flasch, who wrote the reports, quotes Dr. Ellis Seavey, Director of Animal Care at the University, as follows: "We require Mr. Stebane to sign a paragraph that says in essence that he is the lawful owner or the authorized agent and that he obtained the animals in a lawful manner and complies with the Animal Welfare Act. . . . That puts the responsibility back on him, and that is virtually our whole approach to that." Dr. Seavey is also quoted as saying that Stebane provides "80-85%" of the dogs and cats used annually. The total numbers used by the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1985 were 1,049 dogs and 740 cats.

Following are further excerpts from the 1986 *Post-Crescent* articles, including the date they appeared.

"Fromm Labs, Grafton, Wis., which makes dog, cat and parvovirus vaccines, also purchases dogs from Stebane. Fromm Labs has a holding facility for puppies listed under Stebane's federal dog vendor license. (8 July)

"The lack of identification of dogs has also been listed in USDA reports for Fromm Laboratories, Grafton, Wis., which is listed under Stebane's federal dog license.

"In a USDA inspection conducted Oct. 26, 1983, Stebane was reported to have 156 animals without identification at his compound.

"During a Dec. 30, 1983 inspection at Stebane's, at least '50% of the (88) dogs lacked any identification.' . . ." (6 July)

"A Fox Cities area farmer found his missing coonhound at [Stebane's] Circle S Ranch a few years ago.

"A neighbor had noticed a strange pickup truck in the area which was traced back to Stebane's, the farmer said today.

"A visit to Stebane's brought an invitation to look for the dog.

"I whistled for the dog and the dog responded right away," the farmer said.

*continued on page 8*

Live Sheep trade to the Middle East resumed

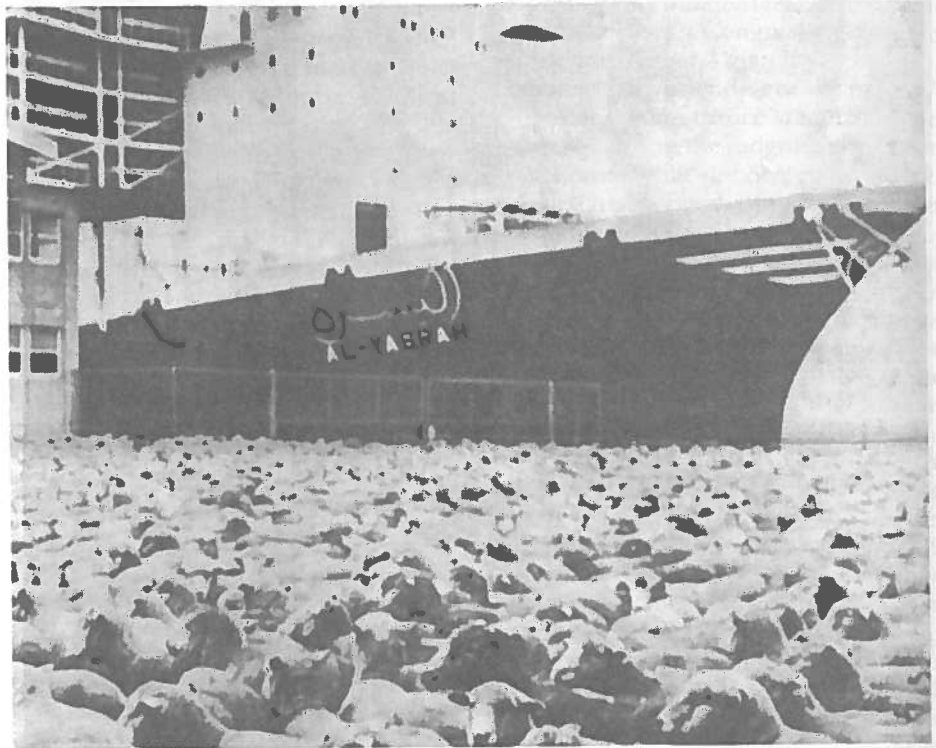
## New Zealand lifts long-standing ban on death ships

The *Quarterly* has previously reported (Spring 1983) on Australia's iniquitous trade in live sheep to countries in the Middle East—and the appalling suffering of animals crammed together in their tens of thousands for weeks on end. At that time there was a ban on this trade in New Zealand following public outrage at the brutality of Arab crewmen. In full view of on-shore loaders, sheep had had their eyes poked out with sticks while those intended for immediate consumption were hung up to bleed to death with their throats cut.

Now however the New Zealand government has yielded to strident demands from sheep farmers and lifted the ban on this disgraceful commerce. Early in the year the *Merino Express* took two shipments of sheep to Mexico—which lacks the refrigeration facilities to deal with large imports of frozen mutton. On arrival in the port of Manzanillo the surviving animals (around 5% died during the 3-week voyage and the days immediately following) were loaded with extreme brutality into ill-equipped trucks and driven nearly 500 miles to a primitive abattoir in Guadalajara. Here throats are cut without pre-stunning.

New Zealand shipments to Mexico have now been suspended—the contract having gone to U.S. competitors whose sheep are driven overland from Texas under conditions even worse than in the *Merino Express*. But New Zealand's trade has not ceased. In the last few months four shipments have gone to Saudi Arabia, the two most recent ones carrying a cargo of around 100,000 sheep *each*. And more will follow.

The 8000-mile voyage through some of the hottest regions in the world takes 4-5 weeks. New Zealand sheep, even less than Australian sheep, are not con-



Credit: World Society for the Protection of Animals

ditioned to such extreme temperatures. All the animals will have been under severe stress; many thousands will have died. And should the weather turn even more hostile than usual, the death rate can be expected to soar. Only last year (July 1985) excessive heat and humidity killed 15,000 sheep out of a total of 90,000 on a voyage from Adelaide to Saudi Arabia.

But in a sense those which die at sea are the fortunate ones. For on arrival the survivors face being disembarked—a process involving savage manhandling and the likelihood of quite inadequate food and water—and then being trucked to a *hal-al* slaughterhouse where Moslem law forbids pre-stunning.

New Zealand banned this trade for

humanitarian reasons. Those reasons still apply. The ban should be re-imposed.

### The mob gets its claws in poultry

The President's Commission on Organized Crime has uncovered the unsavory fact that in New York City the wholesale meat and poultry business is increasingly in the hands of the mob. The commission needed to show how the tentacles of organized crime reach out to entrap even legitimate producers.

To assist in this task it interviewed (stressing that this was not a fault-seeking interrogation) "chicken czar" Frank Perdue, boss of an East Coast poultry empire. With much of New York's wholesale poultry business in the hands of *Dial Poultry* owned by Paul Castellano Jr.—son of the Mafia boss who was gunned down last year on a New York City street—getting a decent share of this lucrative trade means dealing with the mob. Perdue agreed to sell his chickens to *Dial* in the 1970s.

In the early 1980s he attempted to use his Castellano connection to help him in a tussle with the union. He got no help but, as the President's Commission points out, the Perdue-*Dial* relationship shows how "legitimate businessmen may decide that doing business with organized-crime-connected companies" is their only option.

The shipping of livestock to distant lands raises two separate but related welfare issues. One: long sea journeys inevitably place great stress on the animals. They must be transported to their port of embarkation, shipped, disembarked. With the best will in the world (a commodity not always in generous supply), this cannot be made into other than a harrowing experience for the livestock concerned. Two: once disembarked, there is no way of insuring even remotely humane treatment of the animals. Indeed we know full well that they are likely to meet only terror, injury and pain *en route* to the final release of a sanguinary and brutal death.

The AWI *Quarterly*, Spring 1983



## AID maneuvers monkey import

Just seven months ago, 341 squirrel monkeys and 20 owl monkeys were shipped into Miami from Bolivia.

They did not arrive with forged documents. There was no attempt to bamboozle customs officials. In a sense it was worse than that. The animals came in openly because the purchaser, under a special *Resolution* with Bolivia, was none other than the U.S. Agency for International Development—despite opposition from the State Department which took the view that Bolivia's attempt to protect its wildlife should not be undermined.

Dealers Matthew Block and Gene Harris of Worldwide Primates, Inc. of Miami were contracted by U.S. AID to obtain 600 monkeys immediately with 2000 to follow later for "malarial vaccine research." But the government revoked the resolution and demanded the return of the monkeys so that they could be released back into the wild.

An intriguing aspect of this unusual affair attaches to one of U.S. AID's two contractors, the millionaire head of Worldwide Primates, Matthew Block. The Bolivian press campaign against the monkey deal persuaded the Bolivian company involved to pull out and to bring a civil action against Block. A warrant was issued for his arrest and his passport was confiscated. Block briefly vanished before surfacing once more in the U.S. Now he is back with Worldwide Primates.

## Traffic flows freely in Mexico City

At the Sonora market in Mexico City all sorts of animals are for sale, among them many endangered species. Monkeys, parrots, owls, hawks, imperial eagles and alligators in dirty cages are offered by ignorant dealers interested only in profit. Although the capture and sale of many of these animals are specifically forbidden by law, the government does little to stop the traffic.

Parrots die by the hundreds during transport to the U.S. (see Greta Nilsson's *The Bird Business* with its horrifying photographs). And mislabeling is common. In 1985 Swiss customs confis-

## South America's first wildlife coup

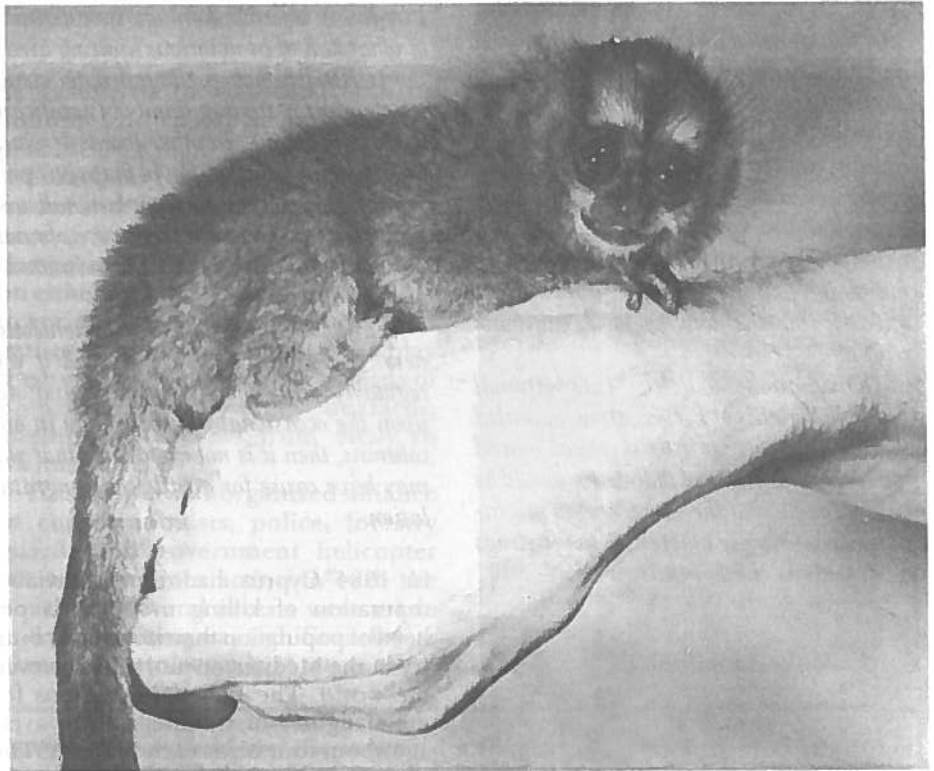
Bolivia's beleaguered wildlife has a new and powerful ally—His Excellency Dr. Victor Paz Estenssoro, constitutional president of Bolivia—who has recently demonstrated a firm commitment to conservation in two ways. First, despite lobbying by animal dealers and others with vested interests, he has just granted a three-year extension to a ban on the export of wildlife and wildlife products due to end on 31 July.

Second, and perhaps more surprisingly for a political head of state in a South American country, he has become the honorary president of the

Bolivian Wildlife Society, or PRO-DENA (Asociación Boliviana Pro-Defensa de la Naturaleza)—the action group largely responsible for the implementation of the ban in 1984.

Until that date, there was a flourishing export trade in live birds (mainly macaws for pets and zoo exhibits) and primates (mainly night and squirrel monkeys for biomedical research), although little was known of the effect on wild populations.

With the end of the export ban in sight, wildlife traders had, according to PRODENA, been drawing up 'shop-



Credit: Ernest Walker

Juvenile Owl monkey, *Aotus trivirgatus*

ping lists' amounting to some 10,000 primates and more than 300,000 birds.

After meeting with President Estenssoro in La Paz, Bolivia's capital, Reginald Hardy, director of PRODENA, told *BBC Wildlife*; "The ban has now been upgraded from a 'ministerial resolution' to a 'supreme decree,' and the three-year period is designed to allow enough time for field studies of the relevant species to be completed.

*Excerpted from an article by Ian Redmond in BBC Wildlife.*

For further information, contact Bolivian Wildlife Society-UK, Tan-yr-alli, Talycoed Lane, Llantilio Crossenny, Gwent NP7 8TH, Wales.

# For birds of passage the Mediterranean

**O**n-the-spot reports from Cyprus and, to a lesser extent, Sicily bring the same good news: these regions of the Mediterranean are no longer a murderous flyway for migrating birds. This means that at least some of the important stopovers on flights between Europe and Africa now offer comparatively safe landing rights.

Efforts must now be redoubled to press the law-enforcers in mainland Europe—Greece, Italy, France, Spain—to make life hard for the bird-slaughtering law-breakers. At present they make it all too easy, despite the promulgation within these countries of a powerful array of national and international edicts expressly forbidding the huge and indiscriminate massacre which passes for hunting.

## Friendlier skies over Cyprus . . .

The following account of a famous and most heartening victory in Cyprus was received at AWI several months ago. We have held 'it over until now because, frankly, we felt the news was almost too good to be true. Sudden and total about-turns of this magnitude are, if not unique, extremely uncommon. Much more usual is the slow, painful grind of inch-by-inch advance on the long road to ultimate triumph.

Consultations with the International Council for Bird Preservation revealed that they too were a little skeptical—and that accordingly one of their team would be in Cyprus during the 1986 spring migration to confirm (or otherwise) the findings of Friends of the Earth.



Photo: ©ICBP/W. Verheught

*Blackcap stuckfast to a limestick: once a sickeningly common sight in Cyprus, now commendably rare.*

It turns out that our FoE reporter, far from viewing the scene through powerfully rose-tinted spectacles, was seeing it as it really is. After a thorough investigation of what had been notorious hunting areas, the ICBP ornithologist found no evidence whatever of netting and only insignificant liming. Trapping, in other words—which previously accounted for perhaps 90 percent of bird deaths in Cyprus—had virtually ceased. And even shooting, he found, was now conducted within the (admittedly all too lax) law of the land.

Why this sudden conversion to righteousness? Read on and discover. And if you regularly read the Quarterly and act upon the occasional appeals made in our columns, then it is not impossible that you may have cause for a little self-congratulation.

In 1984 Cyprus had the unenviable reputation of killing more birds per head of population than any other country in the Mediterranean, perhaps even the world. The Italians, notorious for the slaughter of wildlife, kill on average about four birds each per year. The equivalent figure for Cyprus was 40!

Some of these are shot by 'hunters'—gunmen dressed in commando-style fatigues and swathed in bandoliers of cartridges—who roam the countryside during the open season, often blasting away at anything which flies.

But by far the greatest number of birds were caught and killed by the trappers. They use two main methods: liming and netting.

The limers place three-foot long sticks, covered in an extremely sticky glue, in bushes and the branches of trees. Any bird which lands on one, or even touches it with its wing, becomes stuck fast, falls upside down, and hangs there fluttering helplessly until the limer returns, tears it from the stick, and kills it.

The netters use very fine-mesh nets called mist-nets. These are strung between two poles and then placed across streams, near bushes, in orchards, or anywhere else where birds are likely to fly. Any bird hitting them becomes entangled in the nearly-invisible filaments and is doomed.

The birds are pickled and sold as a very expensive delicacy. The trapper gets about 80 cents for every tiny carcass, while the restaurants sell them for about \$1.50 each.

There are very few indigenous birds in Cyprus, but because of the island's geographical location, it is on some of the most important flyways linking Africa with Europe and western Asia. The victims of the trapping were thus mainly migrating species.

Liming has been traditional in Cyprus for centuries, but about a decade ago mist-nets started appearing in the island. Since these are vastly more effective than lime-sticks, the number of birds being caught soared. Eventually, up to 75% of all migrating birds which landed in certain parts of the island were being caught and killed. Obviously, no species can survive local predation on such a scale, especially if all the other hazards faced by migrants are taken into account.

When Friends of the Earth, Cyprus, was formed some five years ago it immediately became apparent that one of our main campaigns should be to reduce or eliminate this massacre, since the activities of the trappers were threatening an entire international wildlife heritage.

In 1980 Friends of the Earth launched our *Protect Migrating Birds* campaign, which quickly evolved into a carefully-orchestrated strategy of information and education within the island and a simultaneous effort to bring maximum international pressure to bear on the Cyprus government.

# Mediterranean is now a little safer . . . .

## Hunters become the hunted in Sicily

The Italian government would seem at last to be taking action against the illegal mass killing of migratory birds. And to some effect—not least in Sicily where observance of the law can be somewhat apathetic (to put it mildly).

Last May the Minister of Ecology (as he is titled) flew down from Rome to Reggio in the heel of Italy to address a birds-of-prey seminar attended by over 150 scientists and conservationists and convened jointly by the International Council for Bird Preservation and the Italian Society for the Protection of Birds (LIPU). The Minister's speech was described as "emotional;"



A flock-in of conservationists scan the terrain for illegal hunters



A well-constructed but now deserted shooting platform

he castigated the law-breakers, the hunters, and called for much stiffer penalties.

That this, for once, was not just sound and fury signifying nothing is borne out by concurrent events in and around this region. Traditionally on either side of the Straits of Messina in spring, Sicilian and Italian hunters gather in their hundreds to display their virility by blasting off at birds of prey, particularly honey buzzards, attempting to cross from Sicily to mainland Italy.

This year a well-organized alliance of conservationists, police, forestry guards and government helicopter pilots swung into action to curb the poachers. Several arrests were made and the shooting was significantly less than in previous years.

However the issue remains one which inflames the passions of the hunting fraternity. Three days before the opening of the seminar a bomb destroyed the car of Anna Giordano, aged 20, from LIPU. She escaped unhurt. Two years ago she won the Golden Heron award, given by the Italian magazine *Aironi*, for her valiant efforts to curb illegal shooting.

## Blackspot Malta

One of the blackest spots in the Mediterranean remains Malta. There on this tiny island some 16,000 hunters (about 5 percent of the population) kill four or five million birds a year. A favorite sport is the shooting of sea-birds. Indeed new extra-fast speedboats are now advertised with the compelling punch-line: "With this equipment you can shoot *everything*."

The hunting season extends for almost nine months in the year, a period which includes the spring and fall migrations. Few species are given any legal protection during this time—and those few are scarcely the safer for it.

## Cyprus, *continued*

For a long time we thought we were getting nowhere. The government's attitude seemed to be one of complete apathy, whilst the thousands of people who profited from the slaughter showed no sign of reforming their ways.

Our group soon realised that the key to the issue was world-wide public opinion, and we directed our maximum effort into this area. We produced leaflets explaining our campaign in six languages and circulated them to groups, journalists, and individuals around the world. Many, like AWI, kindly publicized our actions and the support we needed (invariably in the form of letters of protest to our government and to the Cypriot press) started materializing.

We continued to intensify our campaign in Cyprus and were even able to demonstrate that the scale of the massacre was turning tourists away from the island, especially during the low season when hoteliers are desperate to fill their beds.

Finally, in December 1984, the government responded to the ever-increasing international outcry and announced a momentous decision: the existing laws against liming and netting would henceforth be properly enforced and other measures, such as a ban on the importation of nets and lime-sticks would be introduced. Further, the government declared its firm intention of ratifying the Berne Convention (which concerns the protection of European wildlife and habitats) and without asking

for any exemptions from its provisions.

Friends of the Earth were delighted, but we were also cynical enough to wonder whether the whole thing was just window dressing, designed to deflect international public opinion. Now, a year later, we can report that trapping *has* almost completely ceased. The police are enforcing the laws effectively, and although we have had occasional reports of limited and discrete liming, we have been unable to find a single net anywhere, even during the height of the Spring and Autumn migrations.

It is a stunning victory. In hard conservation terms what it means is that something like 18 million birds did *not* die on their way through Cyprus in 1985. And they won't in 1986 either.

*continued on page 11*

## Two medical schools

*continued from page 3*

"Stebane said, 'Somebody must have picked up a stray dog,' the farmer said of the dog vendor's response to finding the animal on his property.

"A woman who was missing a dog called Stebane's to inquire of her pet's whereabouts, and while she didn't get her dog back, she did get a surprising offer from Stebane.

"He wanted me to gather dogs for him,' the woman said.

"He said he had seen an ad in the paper for a great dane and puppies which were listed in a 'free to a good home' ad,' the woman said. 'He said he could 'really move them fast.' [and that] . . . he'd pay me money if I brought it out to him,' she said.

"I told him to go to hell!' said the woman, who also asked for anonymity. . ."

"I could shoot you for being here,' Ervin Stebane is said to have shouted at a couple who entered his Circle S Ranch attempting to locate a missing dog.

"I'm going to smash your teeth out,' Stebane is quoted as yelling as the couple scrambled back into their car and fled." [6 July]

"Two former employees . . . said they witnessed owner Ervin Stebane abuse and torture animals.

"The pair told of seeing him throw a newborn puppy into a garbage can, hit a sheep on the head with a hammer, castrate a dog and let it bleed to death, and beat a goat with a shovel. . ." (10 July)

"The filth, 'frozen death,' and alleged incidents of animal torture found during the inspection were documented in a Twin City *News-Record* story on Monday, March 7, 1960, and other stories on March 8, 10, and 12. . .

"Piles of dead puppies, half-gnawed carcasses of Holstein calves, and shocking filth' were just some of the alleged inhumane conditions found when a Calumet County sheriff's deputy, inspectors from the state Agriculture Department and numerous other officials converged upon the Ervin Stebane residence armed with a search warrant.

"An eyewitness who was present during that March 5, 1960, investigation confirmed those allegations. Stebane could not be reached for comment.

"The woman, a member of Animal Welfare, Inc., a group which tried at that time to rectify the situation through the proper state agencies, asked that her name not be used for fear of reprisal.

"It was so horrible. It was just a

## Kangaroo court halts all wildlife exports . . . but only for 3 weeks

For an indefinite period which turned out to be just three weeks, Australia suspended exports of all wildlife products. The suspension, announced by Environment Minister Barry Cohen, followed a landmark judgment of 6 June in which the Administrative Appeals Tribunal found in favor of *Fund for Animals* in its action against the Minister. Specifically he had been challenged over his approval of the 1985 Queensland Kangaroo Management Program. The tribunal determined that in effect there was no approved program because "the management program which the Minister purported to approve was not the management program which was being carried out in Queensland."

In saying this it is clear from the overall tenor of its painstakingly lengthy judgment that the tribunal was still being rather kind to the Queensland authorities. For the grand title "management program," as applied to last year's methods of "controlling" kangaroos in the state, was a total misnomer. There was no true management; there was no real program.

Culling operations for grey kangaroos made no distinction between eastern and western greys even though these are different and separate species. And in any case quotas were a fiction; controls were almost non-existent. Furthermore the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service issued several hundred thousand tags in excess of the "approved" 1985 quota of 1,080,000. These tags did not state which species they were intended for and no attempt was made to monitor their use.

The upshot of the tribunal's damning verdict was a ministerial order suspending the export not just of kangaroo products but of all Australia's wildlife



*Quite often the mother kangaroo is killed but the baby roo or "Joey" is left to die an agonizing and prolonged death.*

products. Mr. Cohen said that the findings of the tribunal "had ramifications for all management programs approved under the Wildlife Protection Act." The suspension, he said, would be lifted when these "programs for wildlife which are the subject of export" have been reformed so as to bring them to the "highest possible standard."

Was this just rhetoric? Or was the

*continued on next page*

horror camp,' the woman said.

"Here were two nice looking hunting dogs in a corn crib. They were standing in slime from entrails—they couldn't even lie down.' We opened a grain bin and here was a dead cat practically rotted away. And there were dead dogs all over.'

"Anyway, he (Stebane) got us cornered,' she said. 'He took aim at me, but I was young and ducked quickly and he missed.'

"We saw dogs with such pitiful eyes, and I was horrified to learn that we could do nothing,' she said.

"When the welfare group discovered the real site of the animals (an adjacent barn), the farmer threatened to shoot welfare and humane society offi-

cials who sought to investigate,' according to the March 7 story.

"At the time the 1960 investigations occurred, Stebane claimed to have been in business at least 25 years. The story also said Stebane was selling dogs to Fromm Labs, Grafton, for manufacturing dog and cat vaccines." (13 July)

The United States Department of Agriculture is currently investigating the Stebane case. USDA itself is being investigated by the Office of the Inspector General concerning their handling of the case. USDA has the authority to revoke a dealer's license as well as impose substantial fines. Federally funded research facilities have the authority to decide where to obtain their animals—and where not to.



## Birth control: an idea whose time has come

The idea that wildlife populations can best be controlled by some form of contraception is being belatedly recognized on an increasingly broad front. The above article on kangaroos cites Australian interest in this area. In the United States a recent issue of *BioScience* (September 1985) dealt at some length with this theme. The authors, research scientists Jay F. Kirkpatrick and John W. Turner, come down unequivocally on the side of "chemical fertility control" as by far the most efficient means of controlling population.

On the way to this conclusion they castigate the shortcomings of traditional methods: hunting, trapping, relocation and poisoning. It is surely reasonable to assume that while these are the methods still overwhelmingly applied, their days are numbered. The dustbin of history awaits them.

With the Bureau of Land Management now planning to spend \$750,000 on research into birth control for wild horses, the issue deserves attention. Excerpts from the *BioScience* article follow.

*From a scientific viewpoint the future for fertility control in wild animal populations is bright. Long-acting injectable contraceptives offer the wildlife manager some of the strongest population control measures, largely because these drugs can be delivered remotely with tranquilizer guns, thereby avoiding expensive capture and handling programs. Some 25-30 different commercial injectable contraceptive steroids are now available, and several new long-acting progestins show great promise . . .*

*Recently we have reported success in inhibiting reproduction in feral horses by lowering sperm counts in stallions . . . The stallions' behavior was unaffected and breeding took place but there was an 83% reduction in foal production . . . Another exciting advance, which we used in our feral horse program, is the development of a biodegradable encapsulation process to permit long-term sustained release of injectable contraceptive agents . . .*

*One of the most exciting possibilities for fertility control lies in immunology . . . Inter-*

*rupting reproduction with antibodies offers greater species-specific mechanisms of action and virtually no risk to nontarget species . . . Currently, however, the technology in immunological fertility control is not at the point where widespread application to wild species is possible . . .*

*Still another potentially useful approach is using plant products that interfere with reproduction. A recent review listed 50 plant families, genera and species that have documented antifertility effects in males and females. Using some of these plants, particularly in managing reproduction in herbivores, deserves further consideration . . .*

*If chemical fertility control is to be successful, the effect of contraceptive steroids on the length of its target species' breeding season must be carefully determined . . . A population whose reproductive activity normally concludes in summer and is delayed to the fall will produce young that will probably not survive the winter. Such a situation would be inhu-*

*mane and unacceptable . . .*

*Perhaps the most compelling reasons for using chemical fertility control are social. Simply, the approach is humane, and public acceptance is more likely than in the case of hunting, poisoning or trapping. Not only is individual animal discomfort minimized or eliminated but there is an often-overlooked secondary humane aspect. Where hunting is forbidden by law and relocating animals is economically or physically unfeasible, overpopulation is likely to end in disease and death by starvation. Fertility control is more likely to be permitted within such protected areas.*

*Fertility control can also bring economic advantages. Consider, for example, the cost of removing a feral horse from public lands in the United States: \$500 to \$1000 per animal. Not only is the initial cost substantial but the population will increase every year, necessitating an annual reduction program. The initial cost of chemical fertility control is comparatively low per animal treated, and in cases where the male of a polygamous species is the target, the cost is reduced in a way proportionate to the degree of polygamy. In feral horses a single treated stallion may ultimately inhibit reproduction in three to 10 mares . . .*

*While the social advantages of chemical fertility control are impressive, the biological ones are exceptional. Removing an animal from a population by hunting, trapping, poisoning or relocation is permanent; the genes are lost from the pool forever. Because chemical contraception is reversible, its use within an intelligent management plan keeps the gene pool intact. This may be an extremely valuable concept where dwindling habitat results in localized overpopulation of rare or endangered species.*

*Another obvious advantage is the ability to concentrate upon target species. Delivering bait to a particular species without having a variety of other animals ingesting the drug is probably impossible but through careful manipulation of drug types and dosages effects on nontarget species can be minimized . . .*

*Controlling overabundant wildlife populations through contraception is a potentially powerful management tool that has received surprisingly little attention. Continued human encroachment on critical habitat, coupled with increased public resistance to traditional control programs, will ultimately require new solutions to overpopulation problems. Much of the scientific knowledge necessary to provide safe, effective and humane control is already at hand; wildlife managers must be bold enough to seek these new directions.*

## Kangaroo court, *continued from page 8*

Minister seriously intent on seeing that the future management of kangaroos and other wildlife in Australia lived up to this lofty ideal? The answer came even more quickly than cynics had predicted; three weeks later the government announced that "wildlife management programs are in good shape." In one giant kangaroo leap the "highest possible standard" had been attained.

### Control without culling

Should the Minister wish to recover some credibility and demonstrate that government policy is not made by the roo-culling industry, one excellent way would be by funding research into contraception for kangaroos. The groundwork has already been done. Two scientists, Dr. Simone van Mourik and Dr. Ted Stelmasiak, at a government re-

search laboratory attached to the University of Melbourne, have been evaluating three different methods of contraception. All have proved effective and the need now is to develop a "bio-bullet" which will release the contraceptive agent over the whole period of the kangaroo's reproductive life.

Essentially this means taking as a model an existing American system with a fire-power that is effective up to about 50 feet and extending the range. The composition and absorption characteristics of the contraceptive bullet also need further refinement. And the whole enterprise needs financial support. The pay-off, though, in terms of humane control not just of kangaroo populations but of feral animals such as goats and pigs, would be considerable. Over to you, Minister.

*Kirkpatrick is with the Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Montana State College, Billings, MT 59101; Turner is with the Department of Physiology, Medical College of Ohio, Toledo, OH 43699.*

## Drowning in a sea of plastic

Previous issues of the *Quarterly* have documented the fouling of the world's oceans and the huge destruction of marine life by plastic litter of all kinds jettisoned at sea. We make no apology for returning to this subject as it shows no signs of going away.

Every week around four-and-a-half million plastic containers are thrown overboard. Every year around 150,000 tons of plastic fishing gear, lost or discarded at sea, continue fishing as "ghost nets." Uncountable quantities of turtles, birds and marine mammals are being entangled and drowned.

Entanglement is certainly responsible for a decline in the fur seal population and is probably responsible for a similar decline in the northern sea lion population. Young animals are particularly at risk; they are natural explorers of "unnatural" objects.

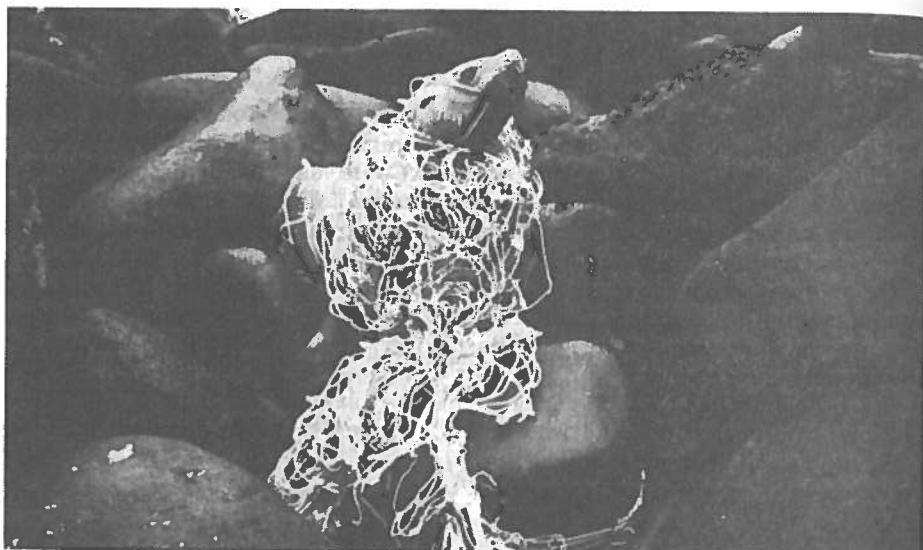
What can be done? Thirty-three nations, Japan included, have adopted regulations of the International Maritime Organization prohibiting deliberate disposal of net scraps. The United States has not—and is increasingly a prime source of the plastic pollution in its own waters. Off Alaska, for instance, where most fishing vessels were either Japanese or Russian until recently, Russian boats are now rare and U.S. boats

---

## AUSTRALIA ACTS TO PROTECT DOLPHINS

Since 1981 around 3000 dolphins a year have drowned off north Australia in the huge gillnets of Taiwanese fishermen. No longer. In May of this year the Australian government, under intense pressure from conservationists, declared that in the future these gillnets must not exceed 2.5km in length. Thereupon the Taiwanese, whose nets are 15.20km long (20km is 12½ miles), announced that they would abandon Australian fishing waters.

For dolphins there is another piece of good news from Australia. The Victoria State government has banned the capture and display of all cetaceans. The ban is the first of its kind imposed by any government anywhere. It is expected that Australia's federal government may well follow suit—and that the ripple effect will then reach other parts of the globe. The sooner, the better.



*Trapped in a discarded net.*

*Credit: C.W. Fowler*

are common.

But while adopting international treaties is one thing (and should certainly be done), enforcement is another. A parallel approach to the problem is to make plastic degradable. The technology exists—and to a limited extent is being applied. It should be applied extensively.

Of course it will add to costs, marginally. But here is what the authors of a lengthy article in the March-April issue of *Alaska Fish & Game* have to say: "Unchecked the continued introduction of plastic waste into marine waters will not only destroy wildlife but threaten the life of the ocean itself." Has anyone computed the cost of that?

---

## CLEANING UP A TIDE OF LITTER

In the summer of 1984 the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife tried an experiment. The public was invited to join Department employees to see how much floatable trash could be collected from Oregon's 350 mile coastline. To their surprise 2100 volunteers showed up on a stormy Saturday morning raring to go. They collected 26.3 tons of plastic debris in just three hours.

It seems that focusing the cleanup on material causing injury to sea birds, turtles, seals and dolphins is a boost in gaining volunteers. People who are bored with pleas to end "litter" are excited about the new issue of "entanglement." As they read more about it, they want to help solve the problem.

Word spread around the country about the success of the 1984 cleanup. In 1985 Judie Neilson, "author" of the Oregon cleanup, was asked to organize cleanups on the west coast and New England states during September and October. In the eight states participating, more than 6000 volunteers collected 150 tons of marine debris on 708 miles coastline.

Most of what was collected was styrofoam. It wasn't remains of food trays or cups, but rather large chunks which had broken off floatation blocks used at

marinas and small personal docks, or packing material used for shipping. The next most numerous item was every size, shape, and color of plastic bucket, bottle, or food container.

The most common comment by volunteers was "I never realized there was so much marine debris until I spent a couple of hours leaning over to pick it up." In the groups participating, there is competition to see who can fill a bag the quickest and find the most interesting items.

Data gathering will need more emphasis each year. All volunteers were asked to complete questionnaires, but those participating for the first time are not sufficiently educated in identifying types of debris. It is difficult to document monofilament gillnet and trawl webbing, or know that short pieces of rope, etc., are parts of fishing gear.

To aid others in organizing cleanups, Neilson has published a "Nuts and Bolts Guide to Organizing a Beach Cleanup the Easy Way," and has information about entanglement and ingestion of plastic debris by fish and wildlife. Both are available by sending a \$5.00 check or money order made payable to *Plague of Plastics* and sent to P.O. Box 59, Portland, Oregon 97207.

## Exploiters in Peru

There has been a mighty ruffling of feathers and a tumbling from high perches in Peru. In the first of two big scandals, both of them widely publicized in the national media, Senor Armando Pimentel, Director General of Forestry and Fauna and head of the Institute of Forestry, was found to have exported 3000 parakeets from Peru to Miami with the aid of forged CITES documents. The birds were labeled *Brotogeris pyrrhopterus* but detective work by U.S. Fish & Wildlife agents in Miami and that indefatigable defender of nature and head of *Prodena*, Senior Felipe Benavides, uncovered the fact that they were in reality a jungle species of the parakeet, *Brotogeris versicolorus*, which it is forbidden to export.

What had made the forging a fairly simple task for Senor Pimentel is that as Director General of Forestry and Fauna he was also the CITES authority. However following exposure of these shenanigans in the magazine *Caretas* and in Peru's leading newspaper *El Comercio*, Pimentel was sacked and a prosecution is pending.

A bird-of-a-feather was Senor Victor Padilla, the Chairman of the Chamber of Animal Exporters of Peru. Animals on Appendix I of CITES may not, of course, be exported. There are, however, exceptions to this rule. One comes under the heading of "Cultural diffusion." In certain clearly defined circumstances this entitles zoos or museums to import Appendix I species.

Here was a legal loophole which Padilla made illegal use of time and again. This is made plain by a "strictly confidential" letter signed by Padilla

and sent out to clients of his fraudulent import/export business which suggests that importers falsify their identity by using a zoo name. A copy of this letter was forwarded to Benavides by sleuths working for TRAFFIC, the international body which monitors trade in CITES-listed species.

Enclosed with the letter were lengthy lists of species for sale, among them 50 different bird species at around \$75 each. The sheer scale of this bogus operation can be judged from just one "item" on offer: 1000 red-headed parrots at \$250 each—or a quarter of a million dollars the lot.

These transactions had been going on for years and since they all required the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture as well as Forestry and Fauna, there are government officials (quite apart from Pimentel, deposed boss of Forestry and Fauna) who surely have some explaining to do.

A piquant postscript to this shabby story is that when Benavides called a press conference and blew the whistle on Padilla, the latter brazenly responded in the columns of *Caretas* by accusing Benavides of foul play and by threatening to sue unless he and "offending"

## Friendlier skies over Cyprus, *continued from page 7*

Of course our group can by no means claim all the credit—a multitude of other organizations and individuals contributed greatly to the final outcome, including many of the readers of *The Animal Welfare Institute Quarterly* who took the trouble to write in support of our campaign. What this success does show is that ordinary people, if they can spend a few minutes of their time on a cause with which they sympa-



Photo: Dr. Herbert R. Axelrod

Canary-winged Parakeet (*Brotogeris versicolorus*)

newspapers retracted. In the same issue of the magazine, though, appeared further damning evidence emanating from TRAFFIC and received by Benavides.

Prodded by Benavides the members of the Chamber of Animal Exporters of Peru decided to purge their collective guilt by ousting their Chairman. Padilla has gone. Which is excellent news for Peru's animals, birds especially.

thize, can affect the policy of a government.

So, our grateful thanks to all those who helped us save the migrants and our best wishes to the AWI for success in their many and worthwhile campaigns.

Adrian Akers-Douglas  
Coordinator,  
Friends of the Earth, Cyprus  
December 1985

### Animal Welfare Institute

#### Scientific Committee

Marjorie Anchel, Ph.D.  
Bennett Derby, M.D.  
F. Barbara Orlans, Ph.D.  
Roger Payne, Ph.D.  
Samuel Peacock, M.D.  
John Walsh, M.D.

#### International Committee

Aline S. de Aluja, D.V.M. — Mexico  
T.G. Anikas, D.V.M. — Greece  
Ambassador Tabarak Husain — Bangladesh  
Angela King — United Kingdom  
Simon Muchiru — Kenya  
David Ricardo — Canada  
Godofredo Stutzin — Chile  
Klaus Vestergaard — Denmark

#### Officers

Christine Stevens, President  
Cynthia Wilson, Vice President  
Marjorie Cooke, Secretary  
Roger L. Stevens, Treasurer

#### Directors

John Beary, M.D.  
Madeleine Bemelmans  
Gerard Bertrand, Ph.D.  
Marjorie Cooke  
Christabel Gough  
David O. Hill  
Sue Hunt  
Freeborn G. Jewett, Jr.  
Christine Stevens  
Aileen Train  
Cynthia Wilson

#### Staff

Patrick Allen, Editorial Consultant  
Jessie Despard, Publications Coordinator  
Rose R. Eck, Administrative Assistant  
for Communications

Diane Halverson, Research Associate  
for livestock and poultry  
Lynne Hutchison, Whale Campaign Secretary  
Cathy Liss, Research Associate  
Nell Naughton, Mail Order Secretary

Greta Nilsson, Wildlife Consultant  
Victor Perez, Clerical Assistant  
Adele Schoepperle, Assistant Treasurer  
Laura Swedberg, Administrative Assistant  
Louise Wright, Research Assistant

## National Agricultural Library Open House

At the National Agricultural Library open house, (20 November, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.), visitors will have an opportunity to talk with the coordinators of ten subject information centers and see demonstrations of new technology including the laser video disk, and expert system, (a sophisticated data base).

*Animal Welfare Institute Quarterly* readers will be particularly interested in the Animal Welfare Information Center booth. According to Elizabeth Goldberg, coordinator of the center, this booth will feature sources of training materials in the humane care and use of animals in biomedical research, testing, education and transportation for research investigators, animal caretakers, and members of Institutional Animal Committees.

The National Agricultural Library is located in Beltsville, MD. For further information, contact Robert Butler, Education Information Staff, (301) 344-3937.

## Funding Increased

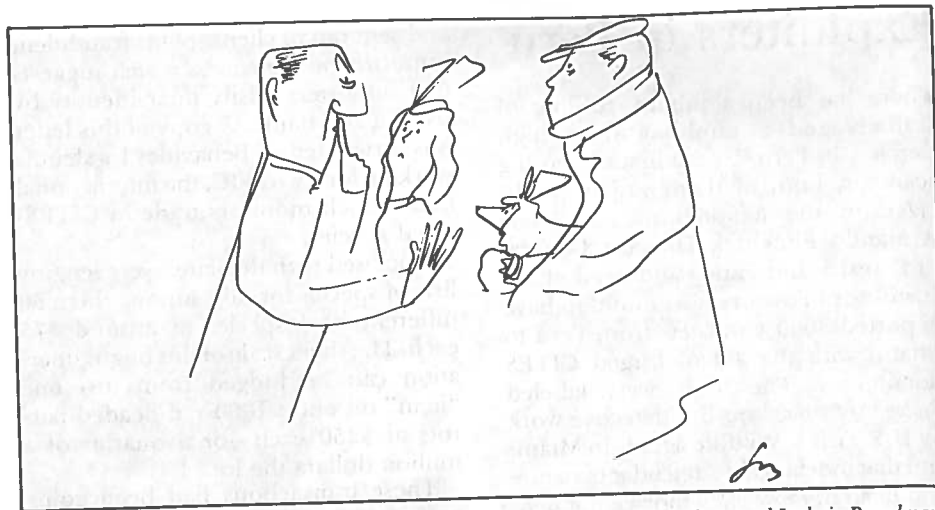
*continued from page 1*

fact Act the Committee concurs with the House in providing \$5,878,000, an increase of \$5,878,000 over the budget request. This is also \$1,902,000 more than the 1986 adjusted level. Included in this appropriation is \$750,000 for creation of an information service at the National Agricultural Library which will include information on available alternatives to the use of live animals in research. The remainder of the increase is for the general expansion of the program."

This is an important advance in laboratory animal welfare, recognizing as it does the need to use non-animal methods for testing and research wherever possible and to avoid duplication of animal use.

On 24 July the entire Agriculture Appropriations Bill was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 329-49. Final Senate action is awaited.

Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Jamie Whitten, presented the bill, and Congressman Bob Traxler of Michigan, supporting the chairman, stated in part: "We restore funding for the Animal Welfare Act once again, rejecting the notion that enforcement of the act should be turned over to other authorities. That proposal is simply not sensible in today's interstate economy."



A scene from "Little Bit and the America." A ship's steward conspires with Barbara and Ludwig Bemelmans to keep their rescued poodle in the cabin with them.

## Tell them . . .

Madeline Bemelmans is the editor of a new book, *Tell Them It Was Wonderful*, published by the Viking Press. It is a collection of excerpts from the writings of her late husband, Ludwig, who achieved fame as an artist and author. His most endearing and

enduring works are the Madeline books, delicious accounts of a Parisian gamine with superlative illustrations by the author. *Tell Them It Was Wonderful* evokes the life and personality of a talent that enlivened the world about him for many decades.

## Beyond the Laboratory Door Reviewed

*FRAME NEWS*, the newsletter of the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments, a British organization which recently received a grant from the British government for research to develop alternatives, published the following review of *Beyond the Laboratory Door*.

This worrying, and at times deeply shocking, book from the USA reads like a catalogue of maltreatment. The first section comprises an in-depth analysis of reports by veterinary inspectors of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), responsible for administration of the Animal Welfare Act, which sets minimal standards for animal care. Reports were obtained under the Freedom of Information Act for 214 registered research facilities, which revealed that abuse or neglect of laboratory animals occurred in more than 80% of them during 1981-84.

Details are given for 32 of the institutions, 28 of which are universities. Violations included inadequate caging, overcrowding, failure to remove excrement or dead animals, the use of rotting and vermin-infested food, failure to treat disease, generally inadequate veterinary care, the use of stolen dogs, and discrepancies in records.

The second part of the book contains 33 photographs of animals used in laboratory experiments, provided by

*Lifeforce Foundation* and *Buddhists Concerned for Animals*. In the words of the Acknowledgement at the beginning of the book "These pictures expand on the text in a way not possible for words alone."

The third section is a review of the scientific literature of 1978-84, summarising various laboratory animal experiments under several different headings. Some of the examples given lead one to question whether, even if laboratory animals are properly cared for, much of what is done to them can be judged to be scientifically valid or necessary. For example, was it necessary for 36 adult baboons to be conditioned to smoke cigarettes in a "human-like manner" for 15 months to investigate the effects of smoking on atherosclerosis, when the world is full of human volunteers doing the real thing?

Some scientists feel that those who question the practice of live animal experimentation are misguided, ignorant, ill-informed and prejudiced. No such criticism can be levelled at the authors of *Beyond the Laboratory Door*—the case is presented in the words of scientists themselves.

*Beyond the Laboratory Door* is obtainable from the Animal Welfare Institute, P.O. Box 3650, Washington, DC 20007, at a cost of \$5.00 post paid.

—*FRAME*, No. 9, March 1986





# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

P.O. BOX 3650

WASHINGTON, DC 20007

FALL/WINTER 1986/1987

VOL. 35, NOS. 3 & 4

## The fur coat trap

By John B. Oakes

The ads promise that your new fur coat will give you "a wonderful feeling." A "fashion" page shows toddlers "making the scene" in furs. A news story says that grown women "are turning their fuzzy fantasies into luxurious wraps." The financial columns report that the American fur industry is reaching new heights of prosperity, approaching a record \$2 billion mark in 1986.

What those ads and stories don't point out is that to experience these "wonderful" feelings and to drape those tots in furs and to realize the "fuzzy fantasies" and to enjoy those bulging profits, it is necessary to pay a certain price. The price is paid, however, not by the fur-wearers but by the fur-bearers.

The price is the screaming pain of terror-stricken, tormented animals caught by the millions in traps of medieval cruelty, and left to writhe in agony for hours—sometimes for days—before they are finally bludgeoned or strangled or stomped to death. This, not the dollars, is the real price of wild furs.

The prime offender in this bloody business is the steel-jawed leghold trap. It accounts for at least 80 percent of the 15 million or more commercially valuable fur-bearers taken annually in the United States. The savagery of this instrument is such that frequently the animal caught in its steel jaws will chew off

*continued on page 2*

## Let this be a message . . .

A law banning the use of the steel jaw leghold trap in Suffolk County, New York was finally passed when the Legislators overrode the County Executive's veto by a twelve to six vote on 23 December. Sondra Bachety, concerned about the threat to children and pets, sponsored the bill.

*continued on page 2*

### *The Rhyme of the Modern Mariner* (with apologies to Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

*A good south wind sprung up behind;  
The albatross did follow,  
And every day, for food or play,  
Came to the mariners' hollo!*

*And every day, for food or play,  
The mariners did pitch  
Into the deep a mighty heap  
Of objects strange and rich.*

*Containers, packaging and cans  
In quantities fantastic;  
One thing in common, though, they had,  
Each thing was made of plastic.*

*Tons of discarded merchandize  
And miles of fishing gear,  
Bottles of every shape and size—  
The bird stayed ever near.*

*Time passed but now as on they sped  
The albatross came not  
Until the day they found it — dead,  
Yet by no crossbow shot.*

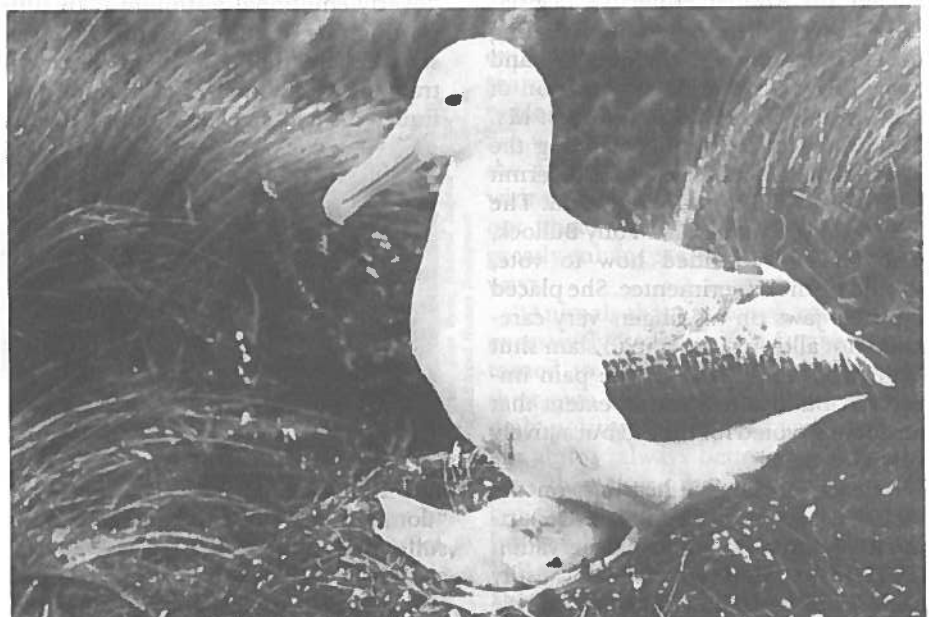
*They lifted it on board to seek  
The cause of death and found  
Its gullet crammed with plastic: weak  
From hunger it had drowned.*

## THE MODERN MARINER STILL KILLS THE ALBATROSS

"A recent study of albatross chicks on Midway Island in the central Pacific produced the startling result that 90% of the chicks examined had plastic in their gullets, apparently fed to them by their parents who had gathered it from the surface of the sea in the mistaken belief that it was natural prey. Although the

material itself may not be poisonous, it is virtually indigestible and inhibits feeding, creates ulcerations, impairs digestion and can ultimately result in the death of the animal."

*From the Statement of the Environmental Defense Fund at a House hearing on the problem of pollution of the oceans by plastic.*



Royal Albatross (*Diomedea epomophora*) with chick.

Photo by Eric Hosking

Eric Hosking's photographs have appeared in over 1500 books. A Vice President of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, he is appalled at the loss of birds due to destruction of habitat, pollution and plastic detritus everywhere.

## *The fur coat trap* continued

a limb in order to escape. This is such a common occurrence that it is known professionally as the "wring-off."

The Humane Society of the United States estimates that 17 million or more wild animals are trapped every year for fur, or for fun, in this country alone. After all, it takes 20 to 40 tortured raccoons to make up one fur coat, 25 opossum, 16 coyote, 10 lynx. They are almost always the victims of steel-jawed leghold traps that in some states may be visited by the trapper only once every few days.

In addition, at least five million "trash" animals unwanted by trappers are either killed, mortally injured or permanently mutilated by these traps every year. They include untold numbers of cats and dogs and other household pets, and almost every variety of large bird such as hawks, owls and eagles. Your neighborhood veterinarian can readily supply the grisly details; if not, the Animal Welfare Institute in Washington is an authoritative reference source.

Some 60 or more countries have banned the steel-jawed leghold trap. Although bills were introduced in the last Congress to do the same, they have got nowhere due to the opposition of

the fur industry, organized trappers, the National Rifle Association and their ally, the Department of the Interior. In the United States, the steel-jawed leghold trap is effectively outlawed in only a handful of Eastern states, not including New York.

---

***Cruel, wasteful and totally unnecessary because there are other kinds of traps that serve the same purpose, the steel-jawed leghold trap is a throwback to barbarism. Sooner or later it will be outlawed. Meanwhile the torture goes on.***

---

Several weeks ago, the Suffolk County Legislature approved such a bill. It was vetoed earlier this month by the County Executive on the ground that it conflicted with state law. Though repassed over his veto, it is now more essential than ever that this minimal step toward the more civilized treatment of wild animals be enacted in Albany.

The argument that large-scale trapping of wild animals is necessary to keep them from over-running the country ignores the fact that over-population of any animal species is normally regulated by natural environmental factors. Where it is not, or where agricultural crop destruction mandates elimination of some animals, the steel-jawed leghold trap is still one of the cruelest—and often one of the most wasteful—methods of control that can be devised.

In a test made a few years ago of a coyote reduction program, the Federal Government reported that use of this type of trap in a given area resulted in the trapping of more than 1,200 animals, of which only 138 were coyotes. The rest consisted of domestic animals, mostly sheep, and representatives of 21 other "nontarget" species, including the usual assortment of hawks, eagles and deer.

Cruel, wasteful and totally unnecessary because there are other kinds of traps (leg snare, box, etc.) that serve the same purpose (as well as other kinds of animal control methods, including use of repellent chemicals), the steel-jawed leghold trap is a throwback to barbarism. Sooner or later it will be outlawed. Meanwhile the torture goes on.

Copyright® by the New York Times Company, 1986. Reprinted by permission.

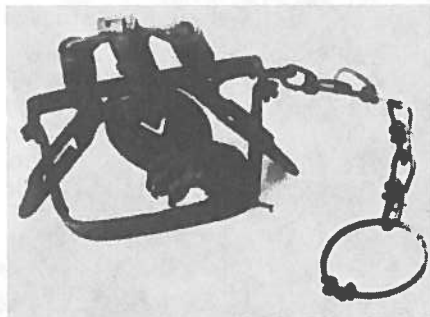
---

## *Let this be a message* continued

Cathy Liss testified on behalf of the Society for Animal Protective Legislation at several hearings, demonstrating the crushing power of the steel jaws and providing extensive documentation of injuries to people, dogs and cats. Ms. Liss asked for a volunteer among the assembled legislators who would permit her to close the trap on one hand. The group consensus was that Tony Bullock, who had not decided how to vote, should be the experimentee. She placed the steel jaws on his fingers very carefully, not allowing the trap to slam shut with full force. Even so, the pain impressed Bullock to such an extent that he not only voted for the bill but actively co-sponsored it.

At each of the five hearings on the legislation the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) sent representatives to testify against the ban. They stated that there were no viable alternatives to the steel jaw trap and if the bill was enacted thousands of animals would die from dis-

temper, and residents of Suffolk County could be overrun with animals. Legislator Bachety criticized the DEC for its "overly emotional testimony." In supporting the ban, Legislator Prospect stated that "the DEC regulations on trapping are antiquated in allowing continued use of steel jaw traps." Legis-



lator Bullock cited the large number of "domestic pets killed and maimed, some suffering amputation." He said he was convinced that the trappers have alternative devices that can be used in place of steel jaw traps. When casting his vote in favor of the ban he stated, "Let this be a message to the DEC."

## **New Jersey ban on steel-jaw trap stays**

A Superior Court judge has upheld New Jersey's ban on the steel-jaw trap. Fur trappers had tried to overturn the 1984 law that calls for confiscation of some 77,000 traps state-wide. They failed but to give them a chance to dispose of their traps they did win a 6-month stay of execution.

The ban extends, as before, to padded traps. "All of these traps, cushioned or otherwise, function by the jaws closing on the animal's leg and therefore all are jawed leghold traps," said Judge Farrell in his 13-page judgment delivered on 3 October.

The trappers' attorney had stated: "This trial will determine whether a way of life in the meadows and marshes of south Jersey will continue." It would have been more true to say that the trial would determine the continuance, or otherwise, of a way of death. In New Jersey that issue has now been happily settled.

## Schweitzer award to Senator Dole

The Animal Welfare Institute was honored to present The Schweitzer Award to Senator Robert Dole (R-KS). This medal has been given since 1955 to an individual who has performed an exceptional humane service to animals. Senator Dole was singled out for his leadership in the passage of the *Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act*. Mr. Dole persevered for over five years. This greatly strengthened legislation will mean protection and care for untold numbers of laboratory animals. He brought together a bi-partisan support group of Senators which prevailed despite constant lobbying by the bill's opponents. In the House, Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. (D-CA) was the dedicated sponsor of the companion bill, developed after hearings which he chaired.

The ceremony took place on 14 October in a large room atop the spectacular

Hart Senate Office Building.

One entire wall of the room framed in glass windows the sunset over the Washington skyline as AWI members and guests enjoyed the buffet while waiting for the honoree. Dole was detained on the floor of the Senate in the legislative rush of unfinished business. He finally arrived to prolonged applause.

Dallas Pratt, M.D., a former honoree and founder of the humane education group, Argus Archives, in New York had earlier made introductory remarks, lauding the current recipient. Dr. Pratt said in part, "We are very grateful to Senate Majority Leader Dole for his authorship and guidance through the Senate of the *Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act*. Combined with Congressman George E. Brown, Jr.'s House bill, it was attached to the Farm Bill and became law in December 1985. A fine Christmas present for the humane movement—and a guarantee of scientifically more up-to-date, more accurate and less expensive research.

"The general public may not realize that this recent expression of concern for animals has been preceded by other humanitarian activities of the Senator going back many years. He was a member of Congressman Poage's Subcommittee on Livestock and Feed Grains which approved the 1966 *Laboratory Animal Welfare Act*. Then, having been elected to the Senate in 1968, he was responsible there for the passage of the 1970 amendments to the Act. In 1978 Senator Dole—with Congressman Brown in the House—succeeded in getting major amendments added to the *Humane Slaughter Act*. With such a record, you can see how very appropriate it is that Senator Dole should receive the Albert Schweitzer Award for 1986."

The actual presentation was made by Roger Stevens, Chairman of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and husband of Christine Stevens, Founder President of AWI. The presentation ended with the Senator giving thanks to Mark Scanlan of his staff who has done yeoman work over the years.

## Improving laboratory life for primates

For the first time a symposium on *Improving the Quality of Life of Laboratory Primates* was held at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association last August in Washington, D.C. Dr. Evalyn F. Segal of San Diego State University was in the chair. All the speakers illustrated their talks with slides showing a variety of ways in which laboratory primates can engage in normal social activities and forage for their food either in a genuinely natural environment or in one arranged to provide for such activity.

"Outdoor Enclosures as Laboratory Environments for Macaque Monkeys," presented by Stephen Suomi and Peggy L. O'Neill of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, was the most impressive. Noting that laboratory housing of primates "almost always preclude(s) complete reconstruction of species-normative social environments," Dr. Suomi's abstract states: "An alternative approach is multi-acre outdoor enclosures that include provisioned shelter areas which allow experimenters access to individual subjects at preselected times. In such outdoor environments experimental manipulations and behavioral and physiological measurements can be carried out with the rigor and pre-

cision demanded of most laboratory studies on subjects who can experience the physical and social complexity provided by most feral environments while avoiding the problems of malnutrition, predation, and parasitic infection endemic in the wild." A visit by an AWI representative confirmed that the monkeys living in such outdoor enclosures, with shelters they can enter or leave at will, are in excellent physical condition and appear to be enjoying life.



Rhesus monkeys in NIH outdoor enclosure, heated shelter in background.

Melinda Novak of the University of Massachusetts analyzed the effects of different lighting systems and space. The monkeys she was investigating were also given different objects to play with and had the opportunity to turn music on or off. In all cases, they lived in

groups in spacious pens.

Leonard Rosenblum of the State University of New York, Health Science Center, Brooklyn, showed penned primates foraging for food, permitting them to "utilize a variety of cognitive skills and to generate patterns of individual behavior and social interactions that more closely approximate the range of functions observed under wild conditions . . . . These manipulations increase the psychological well being of our primate subjects while humanely expanding the scope of meaningful research."

Hal Markowitz and Joseph Spinelli are working with "design devices that the animals may entertain themselves with in their home cages." They point out that "enrichment activities may greatly enhance research in a number of ways.

"Animals that are active, rather than excessively sedentary, that are accustomed to exerting some control over their own life schedules, that have had daily positive interactions with humans are almost always better research subjects than those that have lived under typical behaviorally impoverished caging conditions."

Roger Fouts of Central Washington State University, where Washoe and four other chimpanzees who communicate in American Sign Language live, was the discussant.

# JIGGERY POKERY — FIGURES WERE FAKERY

## *Probity of medical research takes a hammering*

Dr. Robert Slutsky, formerly a research radiologist at the University of California, San Diego, was young and ambitious. And in medical research, ambition is best served by frequent publication of the fruits of your labor—or, failing that, of your colleagues' labor. The more often your name appears in the columns of "the literature," the rosier your prospects of outspeeding your rivals in the race for promotion.

Now Dr. Slutsky was certainly no slouch in the matter of output. Over six years he submitted 161 papers for publication and had 137 of them accepted by some 30 journals. His pace of production, never less than furious, gradually quickened until, finally, every 10 days or so some editor somewhere was receiving yet another contribution to the advancement of medical knowledge from this tireless paragon.

What was the secret of his dazzling performance? A very simple one: fraud. All good scientists are creative. Slutsky

---

**"Review of publications by colleagues and senior department or division members was rarely carried out. Review of publications by many journals was ineffective in detecting even obvious discrepancies in procedures and statistics, as well as implausible technical accomplishments. The peer review of his [Slutsky's] grant request was far from searching, failing to detect both statistical errors and claims for extraordinary amounts of finished work."**

from report of the  
UCSD investigating committee

---

was immensely creative. In support of hypotheses he created figures galore.

Nor was his creativity confined to his own research. That of his colleagues came in for similar inventive touches and their names thus became attached to the end product as co-authors. For the most part these colleagues, it appears, were not too fussed at the strange mutations their data underwent; after all, what harm could it do to have one's

name bracketed with the up-and coming star of the lab?

What harm? As it happens, a great deal. In 1985 Slutsky came up for promotion. Success had made him arrogantly careless. A senior member of the department, looking through his work, spotted glaring discrepancies. Asked to explain, Slutsky promptly resigned and left San Diego.

The fall-out from this bombshell has been fearsome and widespread. UCSD's investigating committee found a total of 68 papers to be either fraudulent or "questionable"—meaning lacking in supporting evidence. Amongst the lab's young researchers 13 now stand exposed as co-authors of fraudulent papers; co-authors of questionable papers number 25.

Slutsky's seniors fare hardly better. Willing enough to lend their names, even where they had contributed nothing of substance, seven now find themselves co-authors of questionable papers and three of these seven have co-authored fraudulent papers. A name that appears on three fraudulent and 21 questionable papers is that of the (then) head of the lab, Charles Higgins, who said in self-defense: "When someone is changing numbers, it is very hard to know about it."

UCSD was not the only institution taken in by Slutsky. In 1985 as principal investigator he learned that NIH was giving him a grant just as another investigator was about to present him with some rather less agreeable news.

For UCSD it should be said that once the fraud was (very belatedly) exposed, they acted a lot more honorably than did Harvard a few years ago in a strikingly similar case. While Harvard vigorously opposed attempts to discover how far-and-wide the cancer had spread (implying a preference for saving the blushes of colleagues rather than the lives of the sick), UCSD has required all co-authors to defend their work—hence the huge haul of suspect papers.

Which is, if you like, progress of a sort.

Both at Harvard and UCSD the fraudulent research involved cardiological experiments on dogs. How many of these wretched animals were required to suffer and die to no purpose other than to feed dishonest ambition? Whatever the exact answer, 68 dubious papers must add up to a dreadful toll in dogs.

---

**"... an astonishing 6-year orgy of scientific counterfeiting and fakery. But the long-running episode so clearly reflects the ethical sogginess that infects much of contemporary science that it should be regarded as a starting point for concern and reform, rather than *finis* to an isolated bad incident."**

from *Science & Government Report*,  
1 November 1986

---

Which raises another question: Even supposing the figures had not been cooked, how many of these 68 experiments were, in conception and design, of potential scientific value? Precious few one suspects—a suspicion reinforced by the doleful remark of the chairman of the UCSD investigation committee: "It's this damned business of counting numbers of papers for promotion, rather than quality." The moral is plain: an overhaul of the values guiding medical research is overdue.

*Fetid footnote: UCSD scores no clean sheet, either, when it comes to caring for their research animals. A USDA inspection last April of a building housing dogs elicited the following report: "Extremely fetid odor throughout, dogs contaminated with own feces from floor, feces spread thin on all of floor area (by foot traffic of dogs housed in their individual primary enclosures)".*





# Drug firm under fire on two fronts

*Immuno charged with cruelty and accused of illicit trading*

The Austrian pharmaceutical firm *Immuno* is in trouble again—double trouble this time. Charges of cruelty have been brought by the International Association against Animal Experimentation and by Austrian welfare groups. And the CITES Secretariat is “not at all happy” with Austria’s authorization of *Immuno*’s import of 20 wild-caught chimpanzees, an Appendix I (endangered) species, from Sierra Leone last July.

The cruelty allegations pre-date this recent import and relate to the housing of the company’s captive chimpanzees. Chimps are social animals. And they require space. But when, following the allegations, the police raided the *Immuno* premises in Vienna, they found 29 wild-caught chimps housed singly in cramped cages. In a sworn deposition, Alfred Prince, founder and director of the New York Blood Center’s laboratory in Liberia and with a wealth of experience in housing laboratory primates, has stated that chimps kept in such conditions “would be psychologically totally impaired. They would never become breeders. They would be absolutely abused and ruined animals.”

The cruelty suits request that the 29 chimps be confiscated and flown to The Gambia for rehabilitation. And the Austrian branch of World Wildlife Fund is

The Minister’s rather curious answer is that he had no choice in the matter because CITES requires members to recognize equivalent documentation from non-members (Sierra Leone) and since *Immuno* had such a document, “we had to give a permit”. Which drew a sharp riposte from Jon Barzdo, director of the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit (TRAFFIC headquarters) in Cambridge, England: “The Austrian position is nonsense. Nowhere does the Convention state that you *must* provide a permit. You can always withhold it.”

## Curiouser and curiouser

The Sierra Leone position is also shot through with curiosities. In 1978 the country banned all further exports of its native chimpanzees. But the ban had been vigorously opposed by the entrenched wildlife dealer, Franz Sitter. He has continued to battle against it with all the not inconsiderable influence he commands.

In 1982 Sitter was granted a “special permit” for a specific export of chimpanzees. Challenged about its sanctioning of last summer’s monkey business, the government has sought refuge in the special permit of four years ago, suggesting that it was “apparently done under this license”. The TRAFFIC office finds the wording of this official disclaimer to be “somewhat curious.”

Franz Sitter, a long-time resident of Sierra Leone, is, incidentally, an emigré from Austria. Curiouser and curiouser.



## *The Use of Non-Human Primates as Laboratory Animals in Great Britain.*

Published by the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (FRAME) and the Committee for the Reform of Animal Experimentation (CRAE), (15 pp), 1987.

A report to the Secretary of State for the Home Department analyzing current use of primates. [No experiment on great apes has been carried out in Britain for at least four years.]

The report notes a finding by the Laboratory Animal Science Association and the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare that most primates were housed singly in metal cages with less space relative to body weight than that given laboratory rodents. Now that many macaques are home bred, healthy and of known family relationships, a Dutch study indicates the barriers to group housing have been removed.

Among the 17 recommendations of the report are the following:

*That the use of primates should be restricted to institutions which provide facilities of a very high standard for their husbandry and welfare, including adequate provision for general health care, social contact, exercise, recreation and privacy.*

*That long-term individual caging should be regarded as acceptable only for special reasons, and that, wherever practical, animals maintained singly should be allowed regular periods in communal recreation areas and/or given suitable in-cage inclusions to provide them with entertainment.*

*That no re-use of primates be permitted, unless it can be satisfactorily shown that the original procedures were of no more than mild severity; and that any such re-use should require specific permission and also certification of health, provided by a suitably experienced veterinary surgeon.*

Single copies of the report may be obtained from FRAME, Eastgate House, 34 Stoney Street, Nottingham, NG1 1NB, England.

Credit: IPP/L



Dealer Franz Sitter with infant chimpanzee

pressing for the confiscation of the 20 infant chimps imported last July. The government is showing no alacrity to respond.

What so riles the CITES Secretariat about this recent chimp deal is that Austria is a member of CITES and the Convention forbids international trade in Appendix I species. How come, then, that the import was authorized by Austria’s Minister of Commerce?

The International Primate Protection League has organized a campaign to protest the recent shipment of wild-caught chimpanzees to Austria. Readers wishing to obtain free information and postcards may write to the International Primate Protection League at P.O. Drawer X, Summerville, S.C. 29483.

## WILL PHILIPPINES EXPORT BAN STAY?

After the election of President Aquino the Philippines banned the export of wildlife including the many primates and exotic birds in the commercial trade with the United States. The Minister of Natural Resources stated, "... we feel very strongly against the exploitation of wildlife for cruel and inhumane purposes." He wrote, "... we will continue to fight for the protection of our wildlife, a vital part of our natural resources, which we are bound to preserve and conserve for our people's progress and for future generations."

During the recent Cabinet reshuffle in the Philippines, Minister Ernesto Maceda was removed from his position

as Minister of Natural Resources. The future of the ban on wildlife exports, which would be so helpful to wild birds and laboratory-bound monkeys, is now in doubt.

To help these animals write to President Aquino stating your hope that she will implement the planned ban on wildlife export.

Address:  
President Corazon Aquino  
Malacanang Palace  
Manila, Philippines

The cost of overseas air mail is 44 cents per half-ounce.

## Singapore's traffic grinds to a halt

Singapore's perennial refusal to provide valid country-of-origin documentation for its massive exports of poached ivory, rhino horn, spotted cats, reptile skins and tropical birds finally reaped its just deserts when the US banned all CITES-listed imports from this free-booting island state. This happened last September.

Initially the ban also covered tropical aquarium fish which account for more than two-thirds of Singapore's wildlife trade with the US. But this was lifted following pledges of reformed behavior from the embarrassed islanders.

The US sanction had most useful results. On 24 October Singapore banned all further trading in rhino horn. The next giant step, membership of CITES—which had long been promised—was finally taken in December.

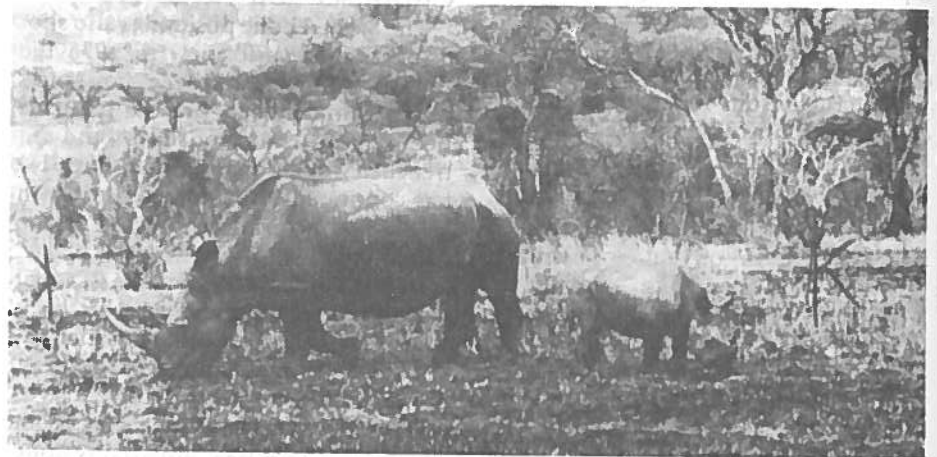
## Aerial survey spots no rhinos but a great many elephants — dead ones

The rhino population of the Central African Republic, which until 1981 was the most important in west Africa, is now virtually extinct. This is the lamentable conclusion of an aerial survey conducted June 1985 by Iain Douglas-Hamilton on behalf of IUCN and the World Wildlife Fund. In the survey area of 25,000 square miles no rhinos were seen at all, although a few tracks are still reported by hunters.

For elephants the picture is hardly less gloomy. Almost twice as many dead elephants were seen as live ones. Minimum estimates were 4300 live and 7800 dead—the latter are all thought to have died since 1982. Direct comparisons in three small areas with surveys made between 1977 and 1980 indicate catastrophic declines: 77%, 98% and 100%. In the last three or four years the country's two national parks have probably lost more than 75% of their elephants—killed by poachers.

The poaching is mainly carried out by horsemen from Sudan and Chad who spear the elephants and take the ivory. The survey team saw several freshly killed groups of elephants with deep spear wounds and gashes in their hind legs. They also saw two small calves on their own whose mothers had presumably been killed.

Camps of local people were seen who had killed elephants for ivory and meat but both poaching and the ivory trade are dominated by foreigners. Several groups of dead elephants



White rhinoceros with calf

suggested the use of automatic weapons. The surviving elephants are mostly small and young.

In Kenya it required the banning of all trade in ivory, raw and worked, and the withdrawal of permits for the collection of ivory, to stop elephant poaching. Similarly in the Central African Republic the survey team regards the closing of the *collecte d'ivoire* and a total ban on all private trading in ivory as the only means of stopping the genocide of elephants there. And Zaire should be encouraged to follow suit.

Iain Douglas-Hamilton gives a full report on the continuing elephant slaughter in the January '87 issue of *Oryx*, published by the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, c/o Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd., P.O. Box 88, Oxford, England.

## Help save the Sumatran rhino

The Sumatran rhino looks quite different from his African cousins, but he too has been pushed to the very brink of extinction because of the anachronistic myth that his horn is an aphrodisiac and a cure for a variety of diseases. A Malaysian activist group is fighting to save this rhino; it advocates keeping the remaining animals in Sabah and seeking to increase their numbers there by setting up a breeding facility and forbidding development in areas where the rhino still lives. Those wishing to help save these unique creatures should write to: *Asia-Pacific People's Environment Network*, c/o *Sahabat Alam Malaysia*, 37 Lorong Birch, Penang, West Malaysia.

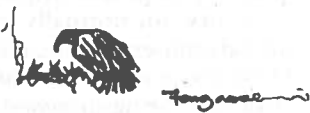
## No need for this conflict between elephant and man

In Peninsular Malaya, although the total elephant population there is well under a thousand, elephants are persecuted as "nuisances." The animals are not easily contained within their ever-shrinking forest boundaries and there are constant reports of damage to crops. The government "solution" of relocating offending elephants in one or another of the very few national parks is very costly.

Logging interests, it seems, have largely dictated the form of forest clearance and land settlement in Malaya. The consequence has been a disaster for the elephants—and a quite unnecessary one. In Sri Lanka development has proceeded apace without decimation of the elephant herds. Protected areas are interlinked with "elephant corridors" through the developed lands.

Elephants cover large distances. In Sri Lanka they can do so without encroaching on human settlement. In Peninsular Malaya they cannot. There the situation is one of conflict between man and elephant. And the elephant is losing.

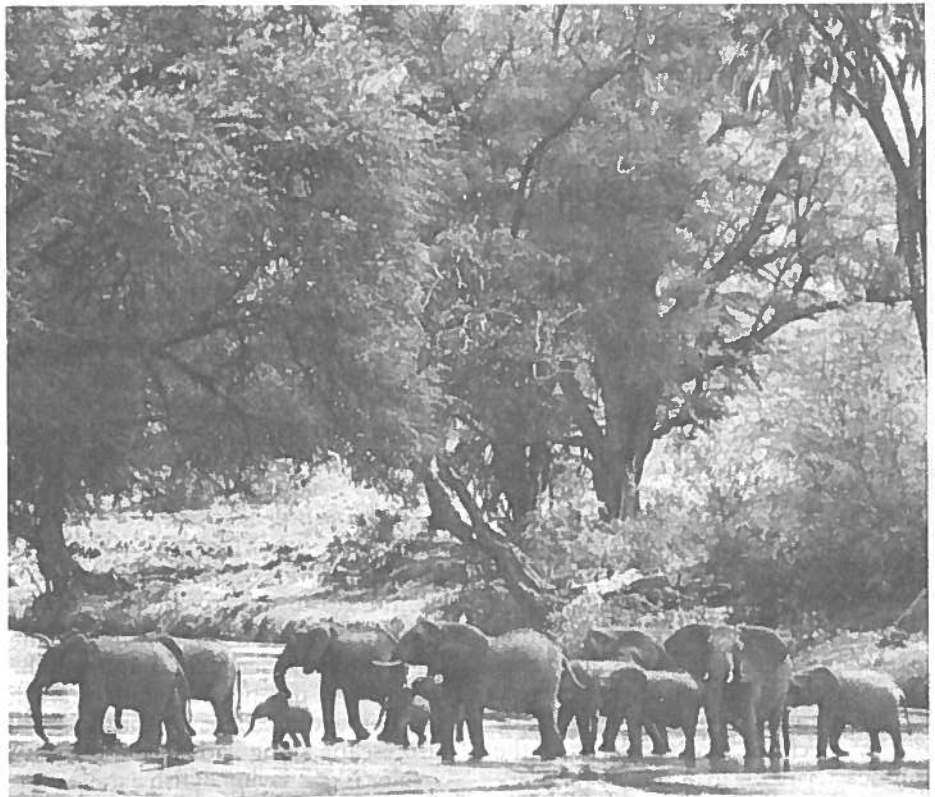
*Based on an article by Sahabat Alam Malaysia.*



## Egg smuggler is still "approved" falconer

A short article on page 8 of the Winter 1985 *Quarterly* dealt with the arrest of two U.S. citizens in western Australia who were intending to smuggle back into the States eggs robbed from the nests of rare Australian parrot species. We now learn that one of the arrested men, Thomas Joseph Cullen of Goshen, NY, is licensed as a master falconer in his home state. He is thus entitled, under certain conditions, to practice falconry with birds of prey which he has bought, bred or captured.

These state permits must be approved not only by the state government concerned but also by the federal government. To judge from the criminal history of at least one permit holder (in a not unrelated field), the approval would seem to be easily gained. Almost criminally so, you might say.



Credit: David Keith Jones

*Elephant herd crossing the Vaso Nyiro River, the Samburu National Reserve, Kenya*

## TANZANIA BANS IVORY TRADE

Tanzania has banned the import and export of ivory in an effort to control the illegal slaughter of elephants for their tusks. Ivory sales in Tanzania also were banned, and dealers in elephant tusks were ordered to return their trading licences and unprocessed ivory to the government immediately. The government says that poachers, some armed with submachine guns, are killing an

average of 15 elephants a month for their tusks. The ivory sells for about \$25 a pound on the black market. The wildlife department estimates that Tanzania had 100,000 elephants a decade ago but now only has about 50,000.

*Reprinted from The Washington Times, 3 December, 1986.*

## Sting still paying princely dividends

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has received what is almost certainly the last and largest of the dividends reaped from what, to date, is perhaps its most successful "sting" ever. Culminating in June 1984 *Operation Falcon*, the agency's 3-year undercover operation, led to 61 convictions and the busting of an immensely destructive smuggling ring dealing in birds of prey.

Leads resulting from these convictions uncovered a royal involvement. Payments of \$170,000 had been made by a Saudi prince to "representatives" in the United States for arranging the export to Saudi Arabia of 17 Montana gyrfalcons in three separate shipments

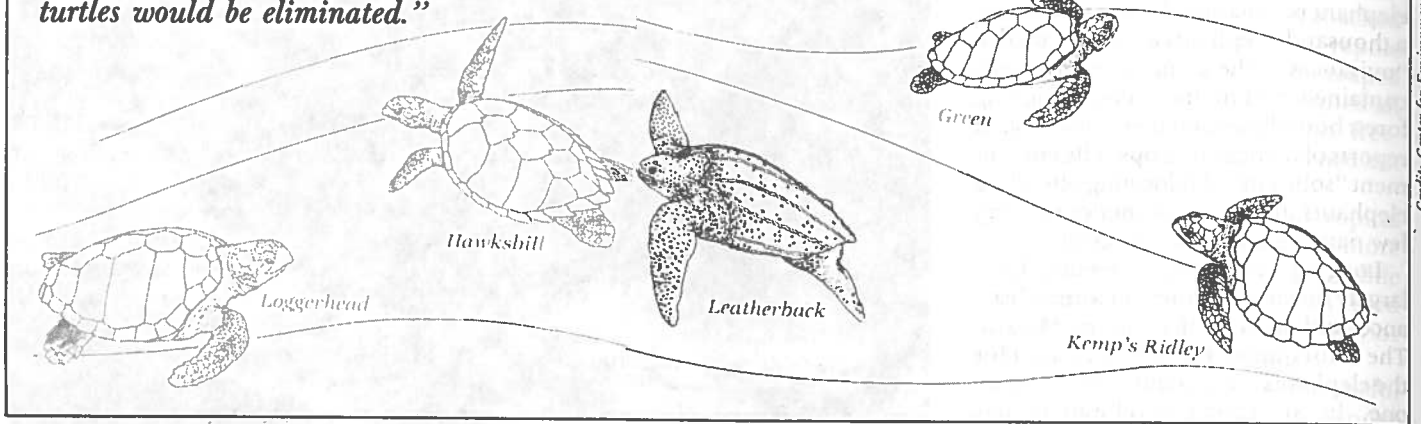
spread over 15 months.

Confronted with the illegality of these transactions (which apparently came as news to him), the prince agreed to top up the considerable sum already paid for the falcons by a further \$150,000, the money to go to the Fish and Wildlife Service. He also pledged that he would make no more purchases of this kind.

The Service will use the money to pay those who (often at some risk to themselves) provide leads on wildlife poaching. The agency is pleased with the deal. And the prince for his part has won a brace of useful concessions. He keeps the birds and his identity remains undisclosed.

# Our sea turtles sorely need TED's help

*"If the TED were used throughout the southeastern shrimp fishery, a major threat to the survival of endangered sea turtles would be eliminated."*



All five species of sea turtle inhabiting US Atlantic and Gulf waters are classified as either threatened or endangered. Of the many man-made causes of the turtles' decline, not the least is the southeastern US shrimp fishery. Every year thousands of turtles are drowned in the fishery's trawl nets.

Far and away the most prolific casualty is the loggerhead. But the second biggest sufferer is a turtle with the dubious distinction of being one of the world's most critically endangered animals, the Kemp's ridley. Shrimp-net drownings exceed 750 a year. At that rate the species is assuredly booked for early extinction.

Now comes the good news. The shrimp fishery could today operate just as profitably (maybe even more profitably) without drowning a single turtle. Extensive tests by the National Marine Fisheries Service have conclusively demonstrated the value of TED, the Turtle Excluder Device, for both sea turtles and shrimp fishermen. For a TED-fitted trawl ensures not only that no turtles drown but also that the shrimp catch is affected in only one way: it is

likely to command a better price in the market. This is because around half the unintentionally netted fish—and fish can damage the delicate shrimp—will also escape along with *all* the turtles.

(Nor is this saving of fish a mere marginal bonus. At present for every pound of shrimps caught, 10 pounds of fish are netted and then dumped. In the Gulf of Mexico alone, shrimpers are annually jetisoning about 650,000 tons of fish. This is wastage on a truly profligate scale!)

Bearing in mind TED's manifold and proven advantages, not least the strong possibility of netting higher profits, you might expect shrimp fishermen to be jumping at the chance of installing this inexpensive (\$400) life-saving device. But the bad news is that attempts over many years to persuade these fishermen to use the TED have almost totally failed. More than 99% of the 14,000 trawlers in the US shrimp fleet still operate without them.

In view of this failure the US Fish and Wildlife Service, backed by several conservation organizations, is pressing for *mandatory* use of the TED by the spring

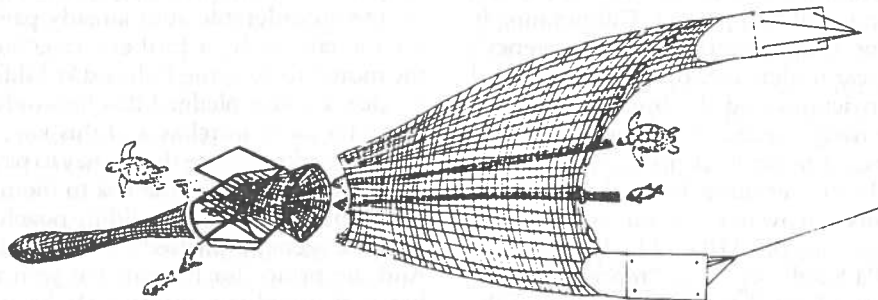
of 1987. It is being pointed out that state and federal endangered species laws prohibit the capture of sea turtles and that the shrimp fishery's plea of "accidental catch" is now patently spurious.

NMFS has spent \$3.4 million developing and perfecting the TED. But ironically the only turtles to have benefited to any real extent are those living in Indonesian waters. Since 1982 Japanese shrimp trawlers there have been using "our" Turtle Excluder Device, as required by the government of Indonesia—a country not normally thought of as a strongly conservationist. More than 1000 TEDs are now in use there. And no turtles are being drowned.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service reports that out of 71 sea turtles captured "none were captured in nets equipped with TEDs. Finfish by-catch also was substantially reduced." The study, which took place off Cape Canaveral, was designed to test the effectiveness of the TED.

## Benefits of the TED

- reduces the incidental capture of sea turtles by 97%
- eliminates sea turtle drownings
- reduces the incidental catch of unwanted fish by an average of 51%
- maintains the catch level of shrimp
- increases the value of the shrimp (by reducing the amount of larger sea life that can damage the delicate shrimp)



*Turtles and fish are deflected by the TED but shrimp flow with current into small net at left*



## Tuna fleet ordered to stop setting on dolphins

As from 21 October till the end of the year US tuna fisherman in the tropical Pacific have been forbidden to set their nets on dolphins, a technique which inevitably leads to some drownings even where the "backdown" procedure is rigorously followed. This is the first such prohibition since the annual dolphin quota of 20,500 was introduced in 1980—despite an excess kill (23,000) in 1982.

When dolphin drownings topped 20,000 early in October the National Marine Fisheries Service issued their stop order, effective 21 October. Since that date tuna boats wishing to continue fishing have been required to carry an NMFS observer to ensure there is no setting on dolphins. While in previous years dolphins were "used" on only about half the occasions that the nets were set, in 1986, until the ban, the figure was around 90%.

The reasons for this are disputed. The

industry says that the highly prized yellowfin tuna, which swim with the dolphins, have for some reason been far more prolific than usual this year—average catches per vessel were up almost twice on 1985. Skippers were therefore, quite understandably, making abnormal use of the dolphins as sure signposts to the rich yellowfin harvest.

For Greenpeace this tells only half the story. They cite "laziness" on the part of skippers prompted by a slackening of the regulations which govern setting on dolphins. These have now become mere "guidelines," a retrograde step introduced last year.

Quite rightly the NMFS prohibition has also applied to the growing number of foreign tuna fishermen who export to the US. They too have had to carry US observers to certify that no dolphins were killed.

## Cyprus: cancel the celebrations

A year ago we received some very cheering news in the form of a long article intended for the *Quarterly* from the Coordinator of Friends of the Earth, Cyprus. He told us that the government there had not only passed legislation (December 1984) banning the seasonal trapping of migratory birds but also, and much more surprisingly, had vigorously enforced it. This meant, in the words of our FoE correspondent, that "something like 18 million birds did *not* die on their way through Cyprus in 1985."

In spring 1986 the Cypriot countryside continued to be blessedly free of mist nets and lime sticks—a fact confirmed by an on-the-spot observer from the International Council for Bird Preservation. Surely it was safe to publish the article we had received proclaiming victory. We did so—in last summer's *Quarterly*.

Sadly we must now report that in Cyprus old habits die hard; millions of birds have once again died brutally. Last fall Cypriot bird trappers were out in strength and the slaughter was one of the heaviest for years.

So where do we go from here? Well, one place we should *not* go is Cyprus. But please do ensure that the Cypriot government is left in no doubt as to why Cyprus has been erased from your Mediterranean itinerary.



## Japanese North Pacific fisheries threaten Dall's porpoise

Three articles in the last *Quarterly* dealt with the problem of entanglement and marine litter. Alan Reichman, Greenpeace's Driftnets Campaign Coordinator, presented the case well at hearings last fall. An edited extract of his testimony follows.

In the North Pacific Japan has some 1500 vessels using driftnets to catch salmon and other fish. Taiwan has around 130 vessels using driftnets to catch squid; South Korea has about 100 vessels. Nets range in length from seven to 30 miles.

At the recent US-Japan bilateral negotiations to determine fishery boundaries, the State Department failed to fulfill its promise to gain substantial reduction of Japanese salmon driftnet fishing, while marine mammal and seabird mortality were not even considered.

The annual take of Dall's porpoise between 1981 and 1985 ranged from 5797 to 11,193. Samples of animals taken showed 80% to be pregnant and/or lactating females, suggesting that the fishery operates in a breeding area for this porpoise.

Japan reports a further 2500 Dall's porpoises taken annually by its squid fishery. The combined impact of the salmon and squid fisheries may be jeopardizing the viability of Dall's porpoise populations. Lost or abandoned driftnets could also be causing substantial mortality.

Driftnet fishing should especially be prohibited in areas inhabited by breeding seabird colonies. In 1984 an estimated 251,400 seabirds were taken by the Japanese salmon fishery. Of the 21 species affected, shearwaters, tufted puffins, horned puffins, crested auklets and thick-billed murrelets were the principal sufferers.



Credit: Ed Boualby/NMFS

Entangled Dall's Porpoise

At hearings before an Administrative Law Judge which concluded 7 December 1986 in Seattle a consortium of environmental and animal welfare groups and the Marine Mammal Commission presented devastating testimony on the decimation of animal populations because of the all-ensnaring nets, refuting Japanese claims that all is well.

Despite the efforts of conservationists and west coast fishermen, the 99th Congress adjourned before legislation to limit the appalling "incidental" effects of high seas drift nets could be enacted. Companion bills in Senate and House became swallowed up in a smokescreen of misinformation about possible problems with US-Canadian boundary fisheries. Environmentalists were left with no time to counter these claims but are determined to see that the 100th Congress acts on this issue. Senator Ted Stevens introduced S.62 for this purpose 6 January and Representative Charles Bennett introduced an identical bill, HR 537, on 8 January 1987.

Contributions to the Animal Welfare Institute are deductible in computing income tax returns, and donations, large or small, are most gratefully accepted for the general fund or for special purposes. Bequests to the Institute will help guarantee the continuance of its 36 years of work to protect animals. Please remember the Institute in your Will.

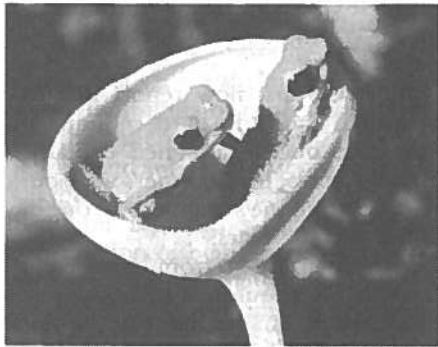
The Board of Directors suggests the following language for use in Wills when making a bequest to the Animal Welfare Institute: "I give to the Animal Welfare Institute the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars" (or if other property, describe the property).

# BANKING ON DISASTER

Hugely costly, socially disruptive and environmentally catastrophic—sometimes it seems as if the World Bank will unhesitatingly commit massive funding for any development project that palpably contains these three ingredients. A caricature of the Bank's philosophy? Of course—but in any caricature there is more than a grain of truth.

While not dissenting from the view that small is beautiful, the Bank is plainly in thrall to the belief that big is best. And too often its role is, or has been, that of principal engine of destruction.

Rumor has it, though, that the winds of change are beginning to blow through the Bank's corridors of power. And there is some evidence that this is so. For a start the Bank has a new operational policy on *Wildlands: their protection and management in economic development*. The policy recognizes the value of wildlands in maintaining environmental services (e.g. watershed protection) and seeks to ensure that for a wide range of



Credit: Carol Hughes

Two poison-arrow frogs peer over mushroom cap.

projects—the list includes agriculture and livestock, fishery, forestry, transport, hydro and industry—wildlands management receives the detailed attention it deserves right from the planning stage.

Another hopeful sign is that the Bank is in the process of radically reappraising the economics of resource management. Under this new rubric the value of a rainforest, for example, will be assessed not on its immediate worth but on the revenue it can continue to earn if sustainably managed.

Project cycles, however, have a considerable life span and it could be several years before the conclusions of this reappraisal begin to affect the terms under which loans are made. In the meantime, what? Now that the Bank's standpoint on environmental aspects of development has itself changed, it is surely unthinkable that Bank-funded projects which are perceived to be on a collision course with disaster should remain unchanged solely because of institutional time-lag.

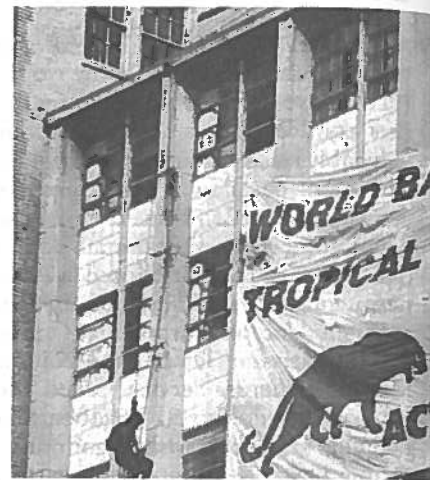
From certain of his pronouncements the new President of the Bank, Mr. Barber Conable, would seem to be among the staunchest proponents of the new fiscal orthodoxy which embraces environmental protection as part and parcel of sound development. "We will take account of long-term issues in our development activities—the need to stress population concerns, the need to protect the environment as we promote economic advance and the need to insure that women are fully integrated in, contribute to and benefit from development programs". What is needed, though, is a swift translation of words into deeds. And nowhere more so than in Brazil where the Polonoroeste project is now far along the (Bank-paved) road to unmitigated disaster.

The withholding of Bank funding for this project could even at this late stage prove salutary. It would also send a clear signal to the world at large that the fine words emanating from Bank headquarters are not just empty rhetoric intended only to placate critics.



Credit: Andy Young

Unspoiled rainforest



Activists hang banner on building across from the arrested but the banner remained for at least two

## WORLD B

The annual meeting of the World Bank was picketed by demonstrators 30 September. They had gathered together to protest World Bank funding of destructive development projects.

A parade assembled in Lafayette Square in front of the White House and flowed down Pennsylvania Avenue to the small Edward R. Murrow (if only he could have been there) Park across from Bank headquarters, where Finance Ministers and delegates from 147 countries were assembled to meet with Bank officials for the Annual Meeting. Many marchers wore elaborate costumes and papier mache masks portraying jaguars, parrots and other animals threatened by rain forest destruction. Some were dressed as the trees themselves.

Gathering before an improvised platform, they listened to speakers from India, Africa and Latin America describe the wanton destruction taking place in the name of development in projects funded by billion-dollar World Bank loans.

## Baker opposes B

U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker after an in-depth investigation of the cattle schemes in Botswana and elsewhere in Africa, recently told the U.S. Congress that "fundamental changes are needed if development assistance in this area is to be effective. Past efforts have often paid scant attention to environmental consequences and effects on wildlife." Secretary Baker has instructed

## Some Bank-aided projects in close-up

**BRAZIL:** Amazonian development. "The biggest land reform ever tried" is how the Brazilian government described the Polonoroeste project on the eve of its inception in 1982. "The most bogus prospectus ever offered" would have been a more fitting description. Lured by the promise of land and a better life, hundreds of thousands of desperately poor migrants are now unwitting agents of catastrophe in the Amazonian state of Rondonia.

On the poor soils of the promised land (once the forest is cleared), crops fail. And with each succeeding year the failure is worse. In the desperate quest for a livelihood the migrants move frequently. And all the time thousands more are pouring in, spreading deforestation ever wider.

Rondonia, an area the size of West Germany, was until 1980 entirely covered in primary rainforest. By 1990 it could be entirely deforested. Under this onslaught wild species are being wiped out, Amerindian tribes decimated and the migrants themselves entrapped in a vicious spiral of increasing destitution and despair.

Responsible for the frenzied pace of this "development" is the World Bank. In a previous issue of the *Quarterly* (Spring 1985) we congratulated the Bank for freezing—under strong conservationist pressure—all further funding of this project because the Brazilian agencies contractually obliged to protect the environment and the Amerindian tribes in the region were transparently failing on both counts.

Congratulations, alas, were premature. Funding was resumed on receipt of promises of good behavior. But from on-the-spot reports it is plain that the reasons for freezing the loan in the first place still apply. The promises are not being kept. Unrestrained devastation persists.

**BOTSWANA:** Beef exports. An \$18 million World Bank livestock project has earmarked Botswana's last wild savannah lands for invasion by cattle. Beef production is to be boosted by 50%. That at any rate is how the planners see it—from a long way away.

On the ground in this southern African country things look very different. Grazed bare and then trampled into dust by vast herds of alien cattle, a terrain which "naturally" supports an abundance of wildlife degenerates into a lifeless desert. The wildlife dies. The project founders.



Habitat destruction, eastern Brazil.



Monkey clings to life during flood caused by dam construction.

The present scheme is the third of its kind to receive a World Bank loan. It goes under the name of *Livestock III*. The title is not propitious. *Livestock I*, launched in the mid-1970s, was quickly abandoned, a total loss. *Livestock II* ran into a sandstorm of criticism from scientists. The Bank ignored their warnings. In 1985 the project collapsed.

*Livestock III* is, in essence, more of the same—except that this time the Okavango Delta, one of the region's last untouched areas and home to elephant, hippo and innumerable bird species, is also scheduled for sacrifice. And all for what? To swell the EEC's half-million-ton beef surplus.

Meanwhile the people themselves sink

*continued on page 12*

Credit: R. Mittermeier

Credit: Stan Wayman



Credit: Greenpeace/Townsend

Bank one day before demonstration. Three people were

### ANK PICKETED

and grants. Catherine Caulfield, author of *In the Rainforest*, and Jose Lutzenberger of Brazil, leader of the campaign against the Polonoroeste project, documented the decimation in their presentations.

During the intervals between speeches, groups of singers and dancers performed specially created works to dramatize the desperate and immediate need to halt such destruction and preserve the rain forests.

Several hundred bank employees were made aware of the protests as they left or arrived at their offices or came out to observe the action. Earlier, intrepid volunteers had scaled the building opposite the Bank and hoisted a banner into place. The message hung bold and clear for throngs of Washingtonians, tourists and Bank employees to read and ponder until it was removed by the authorities. The last speaker of the day, Brent Blackwelder of the Environmental Policy Institute, led the crowd in a rousing chant, "World Bank, we are watching you".

### swana cattle scheme

the U.S. executive directors to the World Bank and the African Development Bank "to oppose future loans for cattle production on the open range savannah of Sub-Saharan Africa unless conditions related to socio-economic analysis, ecological constraints, wildlife protection, government policies and economic benefits are met." (Excerpt from *Tropical Forests and the World Bank*, Rainforest Action Network)



## Bank projects *continued*

still further into destitution, their land ravaged beyond repair. Formerly a net exporter of food, Botswana's *per capita* dependence on food aid is now the highest in Africa. The US government now feeds two-thirds of its people.

**INDIA: Narmada dams.** Described by the World Bank as "the largest river-basin population resettlement in the world to date," the Narmada Valley Dam project in central India will take 50 years to complete and cost upwards of \$50 billion. The plan is to build 30 large dams, 135 medium dams and over 3000 small dams along 800 miles of the Narmada river for purposes of power production and irrigation farming.

In the process 1000 square miles of forest will be flooded (India has already lost 90% of its original forest cover) and a million tribespeople will be dispossessed of their land and livelihood and forced to find refuge in the forested hills above them—to their own detriment and that of the forest and its wildlife.

The first of many projected World Bank loans for this scheme has already been claimed to construct the first of the large dams, the Sardar Sarovar. A huge tract of forest will be submerged and the basin's own natural resources laid waste. These last include such values as succouring wildlife, enriching the soil and even regulating the climate. But since none of these values is quantifiable, none showed up in the Bank's cost-benefit analysis. Nor will they ever feature in the balance sheet.

Serious shortcomings in similar, smaller schemes have prompted the National Planning Commission of India to urge the better management of existing projects rather than the creation of new ones. And indeed projects of this kind the world over are very vulnerable to such costly diseases-of-the-soil as salination and waterlogging as well as to crippling human ills from waterborne disease. The giant scale of the Narmada project will certainly make it no easier to avoid these perils.

**INDONESIA: Transmigration.** It is the largest colonization program in history. It calls for the resettlement (initially) of four million peasants from overcrowded Java and Bali to the outer islands of Indonesia. It receives massive World Bank funding—\$600 million so far. It is already proving calamitous in its effects.

Indigenous peoples are being brusquely, even brutally, evicted without

compensation, and well over 12,000 square miles of Asia's last substantial reserves of tropical forests are being felled to make way for the migrants. But the migrants' tradition of intensive farming brought from the rich volcanic lands of Java and Bali is wholly unsuited to thin rainforest soils.

Already the bill is being presented: failed crops, civil strife and degradation of people and resources on the grand scale.

**CHINA: Three Gorges Dam.** Still in the planning stage is the largest and most expensive single dam project in history—the Three Gorges Dam across the world's third largest river, the Yangtze. In the thirst for hydroelectric power, thousands of square miles are to be flooded (including the magnificent "Grand Canyon of China") and some three million people displaced. In addition tens of millions of Chinese farmers and fishermen will face grave economic loss as the downstream flow of silt and

nutrients is blocked. The floodplain lakes that provide critical habitat for wildlife may well dry up, while coastal erosion and saltwater intrusion will hit the rich fisheries of the Shanghai region.

The project will cost anything between \$10 billion and \$20 billion. The World Bank has agreed to assist.

With a staff of more than 6,000, the Bank has one professionally trained ecologist and only three staff members directly involved in reviewing the more than three hundred projects (totalling \$15 billion of which \$3 billion comes out of the pockets of U.S. taxpayers) approved each year by the World Bank's directors.

Discounting future returns to present values makes short-term profit appear preferable to long-term sustainability. Monitoring projects once they have begun receives less attention from the Bank than any other part of the project cycle.

*From the booklet Bankrolling Disaster. Copies are available from Sierra Club, Public Affairs, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. \$3.*

You can help save the tropical forests and reform the World Bank. Public pressure is critical, particularly on the multilateral development banks that have been operating in great secrecy—and with virtually no accountability—to destroy the natural resource base of the Third World. Remember, it's *your money* that these development institutions have been spending to build the dams, roads, plantations and other projects that are devastating the most valuable ecosystems on Earth.

1) Please write a strong letter to the new president of the World Bank, Barber Conable, urging him to halt all funding of environmentally-destructive projects and to institute reforms to ensure that all future development protects the vital tropical forests and other natural systems. His address is:

Hon. Barber Conable, President  
The World Bank  
1818 H St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20433

2) Write a letter to US Treasury Secretary James Baker, who sets administration policy on the multilateral development banks, thanking him for his leadership in seeking environmental reforms. The US, which contributes more than \$3 billion annually to the World Bank, is opposing the uneconomic—and disastrous—road and dam-building that are destroying the Amazon. Mr. Baker has also called for an end to the huge cattle projects in sub-Saharan Africa that are a primary cause of the desertification and famine sweeping the continent. Unfortunately, the World Bank is resisting these demands. Urge Mr. Baker to increase his efforts to save the tropical forests and savannahs. His address is:

Hon. James Baker  
Secretary of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20220

## RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**RAINFOREST: protecting the planet's richest resource** is a highly readable and instructive 90-page book by Charles Secrett, director of Friends of the Earth, UK. It is available from Friends of the Earth, 377 City Road, London EC1. Price (postage-paid): £5.00 or \$8.00.

**The Endangered Species Handbook** (244 pages illustrated) explores the causes pushing so many species toward extinction. A revised edition was published in

1986. The cost is \$5.00. Teachers may order a free copy by sending a request on school letterhead to The Animal Welfare Institute.

**Rainforest Engagement Book.** Fifty-nine magnificent color photos by Pete Carmichael provide a daily reminder of the beauty and endangerment of the rainforests and their inhabitants. \$4.95 postage paid from the Basic Foundation, Sarasota, Florida 34277.



# TIMBER AGREEMENT COMES ALIVE AS LOG-JAM BREAKS

It has been a long time coming but at last it is here. Adopted in November 1983 after six years in the making, the *International Timber Trade Agreement* came into force in April 1985. But still it remained inactive. For the parties to this Agreement, the 40 nations which between them hold 95% of the world's tropical forests and account for 95% of the trade in tropical timber, could not agree on where to locate the headquarters of the new *International Timber Trade Organization* or whom to appoint as its first Executive Director.

A further 16 months were to pass before this log-jam was finally and, in the event, rather neatly broken. The world's biggest importer of tropical timber, Japan, provides the headquarters—in Yokohama. The world's biggest exporter of timber, Malaysia, supplies the Director—Dr. Freezailah bin Che Yeom, Malaysia's deputy director-general of forestry.

During the latter stages of this drawn-out saga there were fears that the Agreement might never get off the ground. Would that have mattered? Yes it most certainly would. Although powerless to fix prices or regulate exports, the Agreement, potentially, has a great deal to offer to the cause of preserving the rainforests—or what is left of them. For it has, as one of its prime objectives, the "sustainable utilization and conservation of tropical forests and their genetic resources."

Approved by an industry somewhat shame-facedly aware that its profits to date have been built upon a huge backlog of unrepaired destruction, this objective means, or should mean, that future projects will be pre-assessed for their environmental impact and those deemed destructive blocked *before* the destruction occurs.

There is a reasonable chance that this will happen too, for conservation is no longer regarded as an expensive luxury; it is seen for what it is, a dire necessity. The most cheering feature of the protracted negotiations leading up to the 1983 Agreement was the way in which attitudes, as between producers and consumers, underwent a total transformation. Bleak suspicions verging on open hostility gradually gave way to warm cooperation as the realization took hold that squabbling over a resource whilst busily engaged in destroying it was folly of a pretty high order.

Another favorable factor is a cunningly devised voting system which has

been dubbed "votes for conservation." Whilst *in toto* producers and consumers (exporters and importers) have an equal number of votes, the producers' allocations vary in proportion not just to volume of trade but also to acreage of forest. Thus the better a country conserves its forest, the greater its capacity to influence ITTO decisions.

On the debit side there is (as always) a chronic shortage of funds. The Washington-based *World Resources Institute* has calculated that halting deforestation will cost eight billion dollars over five years (see winter 1985/86 *Quarterly*). Even if the World Bank and other international agencies could be persuaded to put up half this sum, that still leaves a lot of money to be found by the countries concerned.

At the root of the problem lies the absurdly distorted economics of log-

ging. The market price of tropical timber takes scant account of the costs of reforestation and no account at all of such environmental costs as the desertification of huge tracts of land and the blind obliteration of innumerable species.

Does the undoubted sincerity of the parties to the ITTA stretch to willing the means to attain the ends they all desire? Time will show but the summary manner in which a practical and not very burdensome scheme was rejected by the rich consuming nations has not exactly bolstered confidence. The proposition was (and is) that they should pay a 1% levy on imports of tropical logs, the money to go to reforestation and allied projects. The annual income from such a levy would be considerable. At its peak the tropical timber trade, a good proportion of which takes the

*continued on page 16*



## Tamarins return to Brazil—at a price

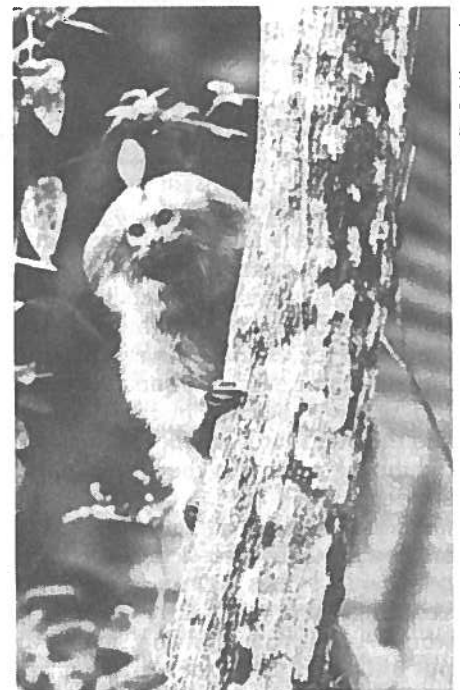
The golden-headed lion tamarin is a highly endangered primate which clings to existence in a shrinking patch of Brazilian forest. In 1983 twelve of these animals entered Japan with false documents. Japan is a member of CITES but has never troubled to enact the necessary laws to deal with offenders who break the convention's rules. So when the TRAFFIC office in Japan uncovered the infringement and reported it, the importers remained in possession of their fraudulently acquired animals and free from prosecution.

By way of underlining the impotence of the law in this area, the *yakuza*, Japan's mafia, recently elected to put a black tamarin on sale right outside a police station in Tokyo. They brazenly advertised it as an endangered species smuggled in from Brazil. The police took no action.

A barrage of international protests and persistent lobbying by the World Wildlife Fund did, however, finally compel the government to agree to the return of the lion tamarins to Brazil. But despite the circumstances Japan adamantly refused to foot the 15 million yen (\$100,000) transport bill or any part of it. In September the animals were dispatched to Sao Paulo Zoo where a captive-breeding program will be de-

veloped; the zoo itself paid one-third of the bill. The rest, the lion's share, came from the coffers of the World Wildlife Fund.

If some wealthy Japanese business man would like to pay his country's debt of honor, the World Wildlife Fund would very much like to hear from him.



Credit: R. Mittermeier

Golden Lion Tamarin

# Can primates fly?

by Merlin Tuttle

Dr. John Pettigrew, a well-known Australian neuroanatomist, was amazed to discover recently that large bats, known as flying foxes, possess the unique primate brain organization. Primates have brain pathways not found in other mammals. Pettigrew now believes that flying foxes, some 170 species of them, evolved from early flying lemurs.

Although flying lemurs themselves have not previously been recognized as primates, Pettigrew has shown that they, too, have the unique primate brain organization. Flying lemurs do not actually fly; they are skilled gliders, exhibiting many intermediate adaptations, bridging the gap between other lemurs, already recognized as primates, and the flying foxes.

Flying foxes have traditionally been classified in the order *Chiroptera* and suborder *Megachiroptera*. All other bats, including our North American insectivorous species, belong to the suborder *Microchiroptera*. Pettigrew believes that these evolved much earlier, and separately, from the small shrew-like insectivores.

These conclusions are the subject of much current debate, though no scientists doubt that all bats, even the small



Merlin Tuttle

Indian flying fox (*pteropus giganteus*)

North American types, are far more closely related to the primates than to the mice with which they are commonly associated in the public mind. The scientists also do not question the high intelligence of flying foxes or the validity of Pettigrew's discovery of their primate brain organization. Debate involves the meaning of the discovery.

Dr. Pettigrew points out that flying foxes "are keenly aware of quite subtle changes in their environment in a way

comparable with, or even superior to, the prosimian primates I have known." As he sees it, "the only way to deny that the megabats are flying primates is to claim that primates, by definition, do not fly!"

As reported in my article in the April 1986 issue of *National Geographic*, flying foxes continue to face extreme persecution throughout much of their range despite the vital importance of their pollination and seed dispersal activities to rainforests and associated economies worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Several species are already extinct and others are now on the brink of extinction. Hopefully, Pettigrew's recent discoveries will help gain these fascinating and gentle animals the respect and protection they deserve.

## Timber agreement *continued*

form of log imports, was grossing \$7 billion a year.

The ITTO intends holding its first meeting in Yokohama next spring. It should then become clearer what alternative sources of major funding the Organization has in mind. The realization by all parties that a prosperous timber trade cannot be sustained by an ever-dwindling acreage of timber should be a powerful inducement to creative thought on the matter.

*Friends of the Earth International, World Wildlife Fund International, and the International Institute for Environment and Development, all played prominent roles in breaking the log-jam that was blocking implementation of the ITTA. The value of informed NGO bodies in international deliberations on conservation and environmental issues is becoming increasingly recognized.*

## Pigeon trapping reformed in New York

The pigeons of St. Mark's Square in Venice rise in clouds from among the beautiful buildings and constitute a major tourist attraction as people buy small, expensive cornucopias of corn in order to be photographed feeding the birds with the Lion of Venice in the background. Some cities, though, conduct an all-out war on pigeons, and others trap them on the basis of "nuisance complaints."

The worst abuse is the poisoning of pigeons with strychnine, an intolerably painful poison which ought to be banned throughout the world. The best method of preventing pigeons from landing on specific buildings where they are not wanted is to install steeply slanting barriers so that they do not find a roost.

In some cases, pigeons are captured in cage traps, a method which is not painful in itself but which is often abused through failure to check the traps. Until recently in New York City, for example, it was standard practice for

companies leasing pigeon traps to collect the pigeons only once a week, regardless of temperature extremes or of the need of captured young still dependent on feeding by their mothers.

Last June the City of New York Department of Health, Bureau of Animal Affairs, spurred on by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), issued new language in its pigeon-trapping permit which now states: "Traps must bear the name and address of the operator and must be visited at least once every twenty-four hours. All pigeons found captive during such visits must be immediately removed from traps and delivered to an ASPCA shelter."

A great deal of suffering will be prevented by this new procedure and other cities are urged to follow suit.



Angela

## Glue-trap withdrawn



Credit: Franciscan Humane Society

A singularly cruel way of capturing mice is in glue traps. AWI has congratulated Ace Hardware Corporation, which supplies 4700 retail outlets, on its decision to discontinue stocking these traps.

## The dog in ancient times

In the disinterment of the buried city of Herculaneum was found the skeleton of a dog, stretched over that of a boy twelve years old. The dog seemed in the act of clasping or sheltering the boy from the suffocating ashes.

The dog's collar relates that he had three times saved the life of his master—from the sea, from the robbers and from wolves. He died at his post.

from *The Farmers Almanac*, Boston, 1882



Detail from a painting by Velasquez

## Fellowships for "alternative" studies

Albert Schweitzer's quest for a "boundless ethics, which includes animals also," continues after his death in part through the work of the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship and the Center for Advanced Training in Cell and Molecular Biology at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. The two are sponsoring summer fellowships at the Center for students interested in developing alternatives to the use of animals in research. The fellowships are open to college junior and senior science majors, graduate and medical students.

In addition to courses in basic cell culture and *in vitro* toxicology, fellows this summer will participate in a special study on microwave radiation on the survival, growth and metabolism of cells grown in tissue culture.

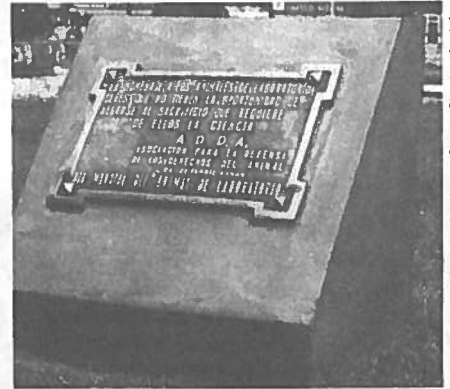
Applicants are required to submit an academic transcript, a faculty letter of reference, and an essay, "A Personal View of Dr. Schweitzer's Philosophy of Reverence for Life." The deadline for applications is April 1, 1987. For further information and a reading list, write to Roland M. Nardone, Ph.D., Director, Center for Advanced Training in Cell and Molecular Biology, Catholic University, Washington, D.C. 20064. Tel: (202) 636-6161.

## Homage to laboratory animals in Argentina

From Martha Gutierrez, President of Argentina's *Association for the Defense of Animal Rights* comes a pleasing piece of news. On 24 April last—which was *World Laboratory Animals Day*—the Association finally gained permission to erect a simple monument to commemorate the sacrifice of laboratory animals.

Appropriately the monument is sited in front of the Medical Faculty building in Buenos Aires. The inscription on the bronze plaque reads: "In homage to the laboratory animals which had no opportunity to decline the sacrifice required of them by science."

AWI readers who expect to be in Buenos Aires and who wish to learn more about the Association's battle on



Credit: Association for the Defense of Animal Rights

behalf of laboratory animals in Argentina may wish to contact Martha Gutierrez. Her address is: *Presidente, Asociacion Para la Defensa de los Derechos del Animal*, CC 99 Suc. 5B., Buenos Aires, Argentina.

## Investigating cases of animal abuse

The Animal Legal Defense Fund—Washington, D.C. has completed a comprehensive guide to federal and state law protecting animals in laboratories and slaughterhouses with a detailed chapter on investigating cases of abuse in these areas. The pamphlet, "The Animal's Advocate: Investigating Animal Abuse" is expected to be published and ready for distribution by mid-spring, 1987. A copy may be requested by writing to: Animal Legal Defense Fund—Washington, D.C., P.O. Box 4066, Rockville, Md. 20850.

## Special award for a "tireless battler"

We were delighted to learn that amongst the annual awards given by the *Hildegard Doerenkamp-Gerhard Zbinden Foundation* of Switzerland was a "special award" of \$10,000 to support the work of Barbara Orlans from Bethesda, Maryland. Over the years Dr. Orlans has battled tirelessly for the reform of science fairs—for the replacement of painful animal experiments, as performed by 11- to 18-year-old students, by humane projects with an equal or greater teaching value.

The subject is one of great importance—on two counts. It affects the immediate welfare of large numbers of laboratory animals; it molds the attitudes of future scientific researchers to

their helpless animal "helpers." The issue was given very full coverage by Barbara Orlans in the Fall 1985 *Quarterly*.

## Update on euthanasia

The American Veterinary Medical Association has issued the 1986 report of its panel on euthanasia, an update of the 1978 report. Reflecting, in the panel's own words, "...our overriding commitment to give professional guidance for relieving the pain and suffering of animals," it provides authoritative information for scientific research institutes, for animal shelter personnel and for anyone who needs up-to-date facts to prevent the use of painful killing methods. This excellent report is available from: AVMA, 930 North Meacham Road, Schaumburg, IL 60916.

## At issue: animal pain

Scientists Center for Animal Welfare is organizing in conjunction with major universities a series of conferences on practical, ethical and philosophical issues of animal research involving pain. Topics will include behavioral signs of pain, severity levels, awareness of pain in different species, animal thinking, and refinement of experimental design to reduce pain.

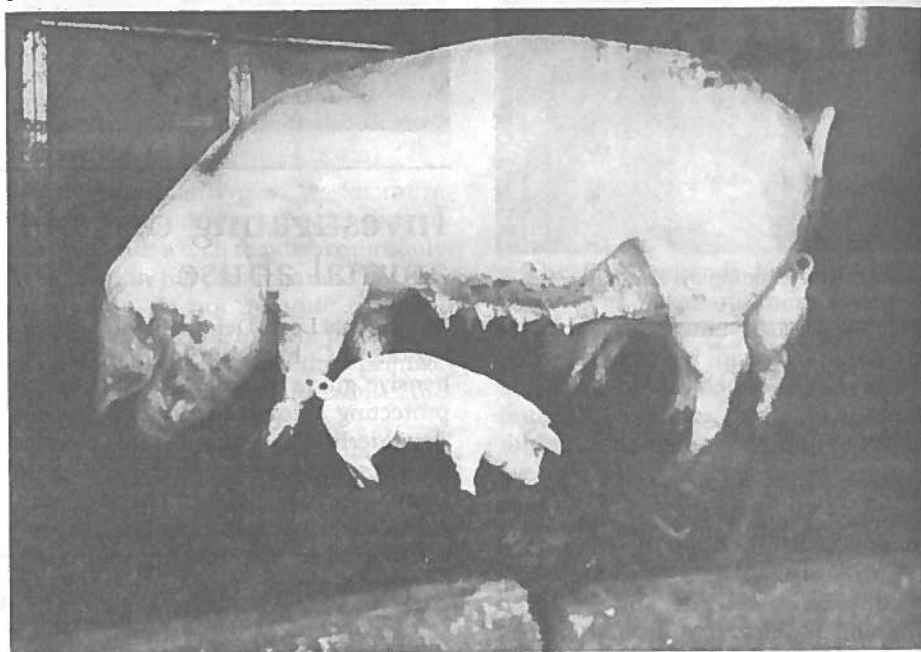
The first of these conferences will be held 5-6 June in Chicago. Joint sponsors are Scientists Center for Animal Welfare and the University of Chicago. For further information contact Dr. Barbara Orlans, Director of SCAW, 4805 St. Elmo Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814 or Dr. Lee Cera, Director of Animal Care, University of Chicago, 5801 Ellis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637.

## A FAMILY PEN ALBUM

In the Fall of 1986 Diane Halverson undertook an apprenticeship in the management of the Family Pen under the guidance of its designer, Alex Stolba—an ethologist—and Hansi Schmid—ethologist and agricultural engineer—at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. This is a selection of photographs from the month-long training at an agricultural research station near Zurich. It illustrates a few of the system's practical provisions for a biologically sound and comfortable life for hogs raised on commercial farms.



It has been observed that domestic sows in an outdoor, natural environment defend their nests of newborn piglets against intruders, human or otherwise, for about ten days after farrowing. In the Family Pen similar seclusion is made possible by closing a gate at the intersections of the dunging and drinking corridors. Each sow and litter will be kept in their respective pens, comprised of nesting area, activity area and drinking corridor, through the second week after farrowing. Then the gate is opened and the sow and her new litter have access to other animals and pens. During *this* period, says Dr. Stolba, the person who daily manages the animals must re-establish the bond between him/herself and the sow, since during the sow's period of seclusion at farrowing, this bond has been disturbed.

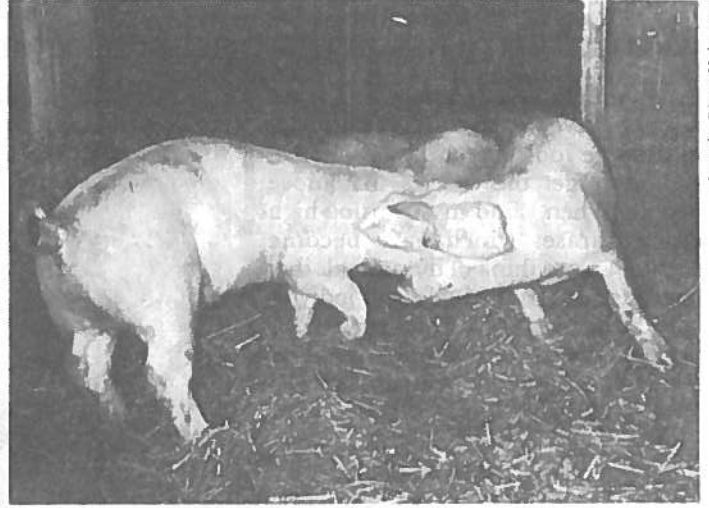


Above a piglet noses in the bark of the rooting area next to the alpha sow in an excursion from the home nest. At left piglets pile atop an experimental warming plate.

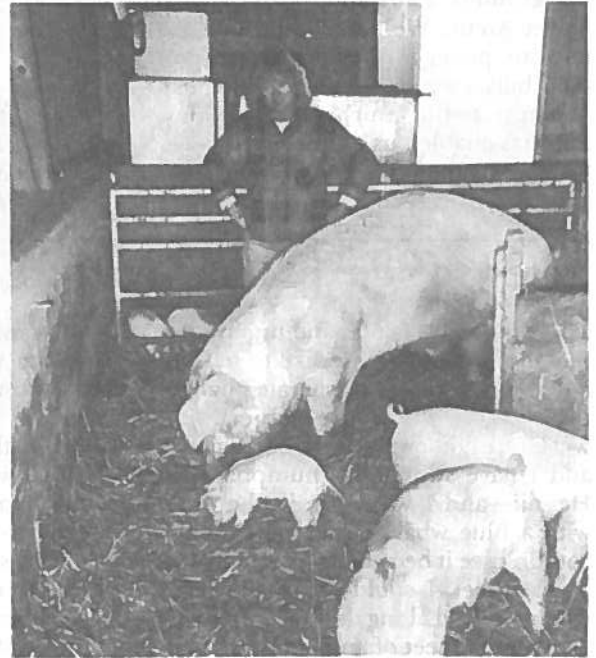


Scientists observed that in a natural environment, "bonds of kinship" remain between a sow and her offspring, even after the birth of subsequent litters. At left the alpha sow of this Family Pen unit rests against the wall. One of her adult daughters lies next to her while piglets from a younger generation are close at hand. This quiet scene was disrupted when an older daughter of the alpha sow from an earlier litter came to the pen and forced the younger sow out, taking her place in the straw by their mother. The younger sow walked to an adjacent pen where she lay down with her nose through a hole in the partition between the nesting and activity areas (above right).





Photos by Diane Halverson



After daily feeding and cleaning, a small amount of straw is shaken up in the activity area of each pen. Adults often respond by renewing a search for food in the loose straw (top left); the young hogs cavorting (top right); nosing for food and eventually resting (above).

Diane Halverson observes an adult with some piglets from two different litters all living together in harmony.

**Animal Welfare Institute**

**Scientific Committee**

- Marjorie Anchel, Ph.D.
- Bennett Derby, M.D.
- F. Barbara Orlans, Ph.D.
- Roger Payne, Ph.D.
- Samuel Peacock, M.D.
- John Walsh, M.D.

**International Committee**

- Aline S. de Aluja, D.V.M. — Mexico
- T.G. Antikas, D.V.M. — Greece
- Ambassador Tabarak Husain — Bangladesh
- Angela King — United Kingdom
- Simon Muchiru — Kenya
- David Ricardo — Canada
- Godofredo Stutzin — Chile
- Klaus Vestergaard — Denmark

**Officers**

- Christine Stevens, President
- Cynthia Wilson, Vice President
- Marjorie Cooke, Secretary
- Roger L. Stevens, Treasurer

**Directors**

- John Beary, M.D.
- Madeleine Bemelmans
- Gerard Bertrand, Ph.D.
- Marjorie Cooke
- Christabel Gough
- David O. Hill
- Sue Hunt
- Freeborn G. Jewett, Jr.
- Christine Stevens
- Aileen Train
- Cynthia Wilson

**Staff**

- Patrick Allen, Editorial Consultant
- Jessie Despard, Publications Coordinator
- Rose R. Eck, Administrative Assistant for Communications

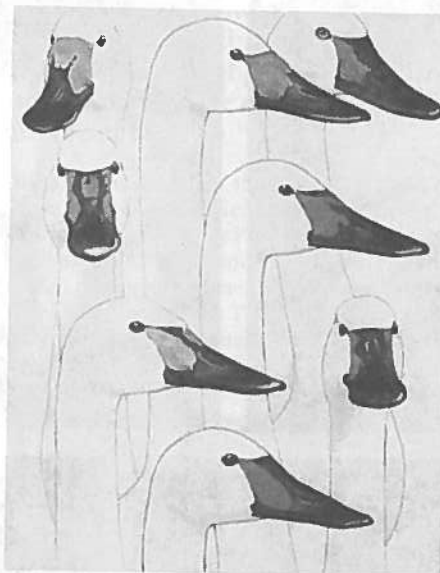
- Diane Halverson, Research Associate for livestock and poultry
- Lynne Hutchison, Whale Campaign Secretary
- Cathy Liss, Research Associate
- Nell Naughton, Mail Order Secretary

- Greta Nilsson, Wildlife Consultant
- Victor Perez, Clerical Assistant
- Adele Schoepperle, Assistant Treasurer
- Laura Swedberg, Administrative Assistant
- Louise Wright, Research Assistant

## World famous artist and scientist speaks on animals as individuals

Even though there is a huge ecological task, I believe we have to be careful not to become too theoretical and global, and to forget the aspects that move people. When I find myself using high flown phrases which have become clichés, I try to think of the animals that interest me as individuals with individual characters. For example we have been studying Bewick's swans—close relatives of your Whistling swans—rather intensively for 23 years.

Some hundreds of Bewick's swans come to the pond in front of my studio window each winter from their breeding grounds 2,300 miles away in the Soviet Arctic. We have found that the intricate patterns of yellow & black on their bills are individually variable like fingerprints but much more obvious. This has enabled us to distinguish over 4,000 individual swans whose 'face patterns' have been coded up and lodged



*Different bill patterns of Bewick swans from The Swans Fly In by Peter and Philippa Scott, The Waterfowl Trust, Slimbridge, England*

in a computer. We give the swans names as well and they come back year after year, with their mates, Leo and Stella, Pepper and Amber, Peasant and Gypsy, Lancelot and Elaine. Lancelot has not missed a winter for 23 years, and Rachel, who came originally as a grey cygnet has come for 22 years without a break. We have learnt a lot about wild swans in those years.

I think it's useful when we are thinking about the great global situations to remember the importance of individual animals—and plants—like our swans—or the butterflies I was watching two days ago in Virginia, or old and individual rare trees.

*Excerpted from remarks by Sir Peter Scott at the Meeting of the National Council of the World Wildlife Fund/US 16 September, 1986.*

## Peter Scott expresses extreme disappointment with US stand on whales

There is one particular and urgent conservation cause that I'd like to tell you about today. It's the desperate plight of the whales. A sombre subject. But whales are not sombre creatures. Philippa and I have swum with humpbacks in Hawaii—and I was once in the water with a Blue whale 30 feet away and I couldn't see it because the visibility was only 10 feet. I could see it quite well when I looked along the surface . . . To be within 30 feet of an 80-foot whale is quite something.

Ever since whaling began, many hundreds of years ago, one species of whale after another has been hunted until there were too few left to be worth hunting. The pace of this destruction increased enormously with twentieth-century technology, until in 1972, at the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the nations of the world voted for a ten-year moratorium on commercial whaling, to give the whales a chance to recover. Well, ten years after the Stockholm Conference in 1982, the International Whaling Commission (the IWC) finally agreed that an indefinite pause, or moratorium, in whaling should come into force this year, 1986. By now, most of the species have been hunted to "commercial extinction"—the Bowhead, the Humpback, the Sperm, the Blue Whale, the Fin Whale, Bryde's Whale, and the Sei Whale. They've all been hunted to the point of commercial extinction, and some of these species

may never recover—ever. Only the smallest whale, the Minke, remains in any numbers, and that also is now severely depleted, especially in the North Atlantic.

Four whaling countries, Japan, Iceland, Norway and South Korea are defying the International Whaling Commission in different ways and are continuing to kill whales, using various loop-holes, in the Whaling Commission's Rules. A fifth country, the USSR, has said that it will stop after just one more whaling season. The Commission, the IWC itself, does not have any direct way of forcing its members to abide by its decisions, so conservationists have, up to now, been very grateful to the United States for their laws which give the U.S. Administration the power to impose fishery sanctions on any state that (I quote) "diminishes the effectiveness of an international fisheries conservation agreement". However, in spite of very clear evidence that Norway, Iceland and Japan are indeed diminishing the effectiveness of the IWC, so far none of them has had sanctions (fishing or importing sanctions) imposed on them by the U.S. Administration. I hope you will forgive me for expressing my extreme disappointment that the United States has not helped the cause of whale conservation as much as it could have done. I should add that I am aware of the U.S. fish import sanctions which were imposed on the USSR earlier

this year, and also that the threat of sanctions has forced South Korea to say it will stop its program of so-called "research" whaling. That is a most welcome development. Nevertheless, three prosperous countries, Japan, Norway, and Iceland, are apparently intending to continue the barbarous hunting of whales indefinitely, under the loophole of "scientific whaling."

Since the Stockholm Conference, the struggle to save the whales has become a symbol of the wider battle to save the many thousands of animals and plants threatened with extinction by the greed, cruelty, and short-sightedness of our own species. That is why I'm still closely involved with bringing whaling to a halt, and why all conservationists need to stay tuned-in to this long-running struggle. It's no "soap opera" I can assure you.

If you want to know how to help the whales, remember that all the science indicates quite clearly that the conservation argument is right, but we have to keep the scientists adequately funded, and we have to keep people informed all over the world.

*Excerpt from speech by Sir Peter Scott on receipt of the 1986 World Wildlife Fund Getty Prize. The annual \$50,000 prize is awarded for outstanding conservation achievement and is intended to assist continuing efforts in the field.*