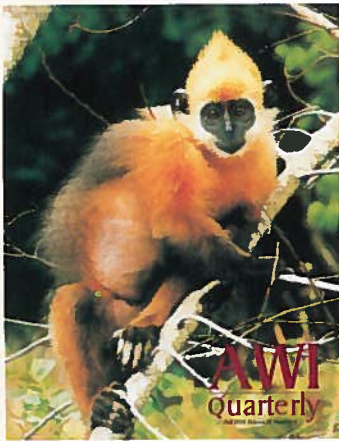




AWI Quarterly

Fall 2001 Volume 50 Number 4



ABOUT THE COVER

The Cat Ba (Golden headed) Langur is found solely on Cat Ba Island in northern Vietnam, where only about 100 of them remain. Conservation International recently listed the Cat Ba Langur as one of the world's 25 most endangered primates. Tilo Nadler photographed this individual inside the safe haven of the Endangered Primate Rescue Center (EPRC) in Vietnam's Cuc Phuong National Park, where dedicated staff rehabilitate rescued primates. Hunters capture langurs such as these to sell as tourist attractions, to animal traders, and according to the EPRC: "This monkey is sometimes sought for the cooking pot, and its bones and organs are also reputed to have medicinal properties." Find out more about the EPRC at www.primatecenter.org and find out more about endangered wildlife in Vietnam on pages 10-11.

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Transatlantic Victories for Pigs!

In Poland...

Andrzej Lepper, leader of Poland's Samoobrona ("Self-Defense"), has won a substantial place for his rural union in the Polish Parliament. *Reuters* called his third place finish with ten percent of the vote "stunning." According to *The Financial Times*, September 25, 2001, Mr. Lepper said "We will do everything possible to make Poland stop serving as a market for the EU's agricultural surpluses...If things don't change, there will be a social explosion." Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. presented Mr. Lepper, a fierce defender of family hog farms in Poland, with AWI's Albert Schweitzer medal in June.

and the US

United States District Judge Malcolm J. Howard upheld the right of citizens to sue polluting pork plants in the case of *Neuse Riverkeeper, et al. v. Smithfield Foods, Inc.* Environmentalists and family farmers are claiming that Smithfield's cruel corporate pork factories in North Carolina are operating illegally: without proper permits under the Clean Water Act and by disposing of hog waste on fields, thus spreading pollution. In ruling against Smithfield's motion to have the case dismissed, Judge Howard held that every industrial hog factory must have a Clean Water Act permit and that it is illegal for hog factories to spray hog waste on fields without a permit. Smithfield could face significant civil and criminal liabilities as a direct result.

Waterkeeper Alliance's Rick Dove commented, "We are very pleased with the Court's decision, which recognizes citizens' right to stand up to the millionaire hog barons who have destroyed North Carolina's waterways, shattered its rural communities, poisoned its groundwater and impoverished family farmers and fishermen." President of Waterkeeper Alliance, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., said "This is an outlaw industry which can only make money by breaking the law. Smithfield deliberately locates its factories in rural states where it can easily dominate state enforcement agencies. This decision puts every pork factory in the country on notice that the Marshall has come to Dodge." According to former hog farmer Don Webb, President of the Alliance for Responsible Swine Industries, "This decision will help break Smithfield's death grip on the American family farm." 🐾



Animal Welfare Institute QUARTERLY

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Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

Titus, a young silverback mountain gorilla in Rwanda, replaced Beetsme as the dominant male in a group with 25 members. Beetsme continued to protect the group while Titus fought off other males. Only as few as 650 mountain gorillas are believed to remain in the wild. (See story page 9.)



Pigs in intensive hog factories are unable to enjoy a good roll in a water hole. When allowed to exhibit their natural behaviors hogs are healthier and happier. (See stories pages 16-17.)

The London IWC Meeting

BY BEN WHITE

Every year, hundreds of well-educated, well-dressed, and well-paid government officials from about forty countries convene for the International Whaling Commission (IWC) and clash over how much whaling the world will allow. The group voted in 1982 to enact a moratorium on commercial whaling. Subsequently, work has been undertaken to develop a “Revised Management Scheme” (RMS) to regulate future whaling, while the Japanese-led whaling bloc has fought to overturn the ban.

One of its tactics is beginning to bear fruit: the recruiting of poor countries to join the IWC and vote for whaling in exchange for “economic assistance.” This year the issue of vote-buying came completely out of the closet. New Zealand Minister of Conservation Sandra Lee and representatives from other South Pacific islands blasted it as illegal and threatened action in the United Nations. Japanese spokesman Misayuki Komatsu defended it as a normal part of international relations.

All eyes in London were on next year’s meeting in Shimonoseki, a small whaling village in Japan. The Japanese delegation was overheard vowing to recruit eight more countries to vote its

way next year. If accomplished, this would give Japan a clear majority and a good chance of knocking down the moratorium on commercial whaling.

Meanwhile, the whalers’ strategy was to tie the meeting into procedural knots and then complain to the media that the organization is hopelessly paralyzed.

After the meeting was opened by the new Chairman, Professor Bo Fernholm of Sweden, the UK Minister of the Environment, Elliot Morley, delivered the opening address, strongly supporting the non-lethal use of whales by whale-watching and vigorously opposing the re-opening of commercial whaling.

The first debate set the tone for the entire conference. Iceland was asking to rejoin the IWC after quitting in 1990, but it wanted to rejoin with a “reservation” to the commercial whaling moratorium agreed upon in 1982. In 1983 the Icelandic Parliament voted 29 to 28 to stop the country’s commercial whaling, but the whaling lobby has been working ever since to persuade Iceland to go back to killing whales for profit, and finally it succeeded.

This issue prompted a ferocious battle with Japan and its paid supporters from the Caribbean thundering that the IWC did not have the legal right

to stop Iceland from rejoining with a reservation. New Zealand Commissioner Jim McLay countered, arguing that accepting Iceland with its reservation could prove a disastrous precedent in many international treaty organizations. Any country disgruntled with a ruling could quit and rejoin minutes later with a reservation.

Eventually, it was very narrowly voted that Iceland could not rejoin with a reservation: the whalers lost the important vote by a hairsbreadth. They left London determined to gain a majority by next year’s meeting.

Norway declared that it plans to sell hundreds of tons of blubber to Japan, despite the high concentration of toxic chemicals and heavy metals, and despite a promise to the United States that it would refrain from such trade if the US chose not to enact sanctions against its continuing commercial whaling.

When asked by Austria whether the nutritional needs of the Makah Indians for Gray Whale meat have been ascertained (a precondition for granting an aboriginal whaling quota), the commissioner of the United States stated that a recent Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) adequately addressed the matter. However, the EIS did not.

Lastly, the revised management scheme was relegated to working groups under the auspices of the Netherlands. They will now meet in private (away from the big ears of non-governmental observers and media) and report to the commission next year. AWI joined 135 other groups in the Global Whale Alliance to weigh in against the completion of any RMS. We oppose any resumption of commercial whaling, and the RMS is a pseudo-scientific formula for whaling.

An extensive report commissioned by New Zealand and presented at the meeting shows that whale watching is now a **billion dollar** a year business worldwide, making far more money than whale killing ever did or would. It’s time to give up the slaughter forever. 🐾



Reckless Abandon

BY BEN WHITE

The *Animal Welfare Institute’s* (AWI) leadership in the fight against the Navy’s Low Frequency Active sonar (LFA) is now in its fourth year. Ever since we organized volunteers to swim alongside the Navy test ship in February 1998 and block its blasting of humpback whales off Hawaii, we have explored every avenue to stop the planned deployment of this intensely loud sonar.

All indications are that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will grant a “small take authorization” for the Navy to begin using LFA in more than 80% of the world’s oceans, even though the numbers of sea creatures affected are anything but small. The Navy’s own Environmental Impact Statement predicts that more than 10% of some species could be harmed.

Intended to find almost silent diesel electric enemy submarines, LFA emits some of the loudest sounds ever created. The source level of the device is 240 decibels, a million times more intense than a jet plane on takeoff. Even the Navy agrees that this system is very loud. Our disagreement is on what effects the system will have on sea creatures worldwide and on the feasibility of using passive sonar instead. Rear Admiral Malcolm Fages testified last year before Congress that new Navy passive sonar is ten times more sensitive than previous instru-

ments and can find any enemy in the oceans. But the Navy still argues that LFA is irreplaceable.

Even though NMFS has done everything possible to grease the skids for the Navy’s deployment of LFA, there is still one more review within the agency that might stop the project. This is the consideration of whether the device will cause any increased jeopardy to any endangered species or its habitat. In order to give a green light to LFA, there would have to be a no jeopardy finding.

To render a finding, NMFS officials are required to review all pertinent scientific research. AWI organized a massive search of data banks to find any studies into the effects of low frequency sound on marine mammals, fish, fish eggs, larvae, and other ocean creatures, and we found some very sobering information. Based on data in the literature and his own experiments, Mardi Hastings of Ohio State University suggested that the maximum safe level of sound that bony fish can be exposed to is 150 decibels (letter to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), dated March 23, 1992). Operating at 240 decibels, LFA sonar could spread sound louder than 150 decibels over many hundreds of thousands of square miles.

The Navy may be unconcerned about the dead whales it left behind in the Bahamas and the Canary Islands from testing of active sonar, but the specter of a massive fishery die-off

should be of great concern to US fishing fleets and to our fishery dependent allies.

At the recent IWC meeting in London, AWI gave away t-shirts that said: “KILLING WHALES? We don’t care—we’re the US Navy.” During a morning tea break, delegates discovered the boxes of shirts with a FREE sign attached. Within minutes every one was gone.

AWI’s companion organization, the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, hopes Congress and government agencies and auditors will get involved to expose LFA’s faulty technology, unsound science, and waste of taxpayer money. 🐾



Top photo: Monk seals are highly susceptible to threats, including LFA. (photo by Dr. McVey, NOAA).

Right Move for Right Whales

On August 3, 2001, Massachusetts Senator John Kerry and South Carolina Senator Ernest Hollings introduced S. 1380, the “North Atlantic Right Whale Recovery Act of 2001.” Senator Kerry noted, “Right whales are at risk of extinction from a number of sources. These include, ship strikes, the number one source of known right whale fatalities, entanglement in fishing gear, coastal pollution, habitat degradation, ocean noise and climate change.”

The bill establishes whale recovery and priority action programs to reduce mortality from collisions with ships and in fishing gear, monitor populations, support regional recovery plans, and improve disentanglement programs. According to Senator Kerry, “I believe that now is the time to develop a comprehensive plan that spells out what we can do immediately to better protect these whales and focus our research efforts on innovative ideas and technologies that can identify whale migrations.” 🐾

We told you it was fraud... Now the Court agrees

BY BEN WHITE

On July 23rd, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco unanimously ruled that the Secretary of Commerce abused his discretion in 1999 when he declared that setting nets on dolphins to catch tuna did not constitute a “significant adverse impact” (even though more than seven million dolphins have died through this technique). Left unchallenged, the Secretary’s ruling would have allowed tuna caught by chasing dolphins to be sold as “dolphin safe,” gutting the definition of the label now found on every can of tuna sold in the United States.

The *Animal Welfare Institute* joined *Earth Island Institute* and other groups in a legal challenge arguing the Secretary’s ruling was arbitrary and capricious. The Court decision is just the latest victory in the tuna/dolphin battle.

By 1972, the numbers of dolphins dying in tuna nets could no longer be ignored. The American people demanded, and Congress enacted, the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Two decades later, the 1992 International Dolphin Conservation Act banned the US sale of tuna obtained by netting dolphins. But the Mexican fleet, still chasing dolphins off their coast, raised the flag of free trade and complained to the Clinton White House. A bill to allow setting on dolphins and defraud the public by changing the definition of the “dolphin safe” label, dubbed the “Dolphin Death Act,” was signed into law in 1997.

We are delighted the Court has blown the whistle on the Secretary’s ruling.

However...

The deadly effects of the Dolphin Death Act still linger. On August 8th, a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) research vessel set sail to meet up with a contracted tuna boat and search out one of the highly beleaguered pods of dolphins.

Dolphins will be surrounded by nets and captured. A telemetry device will be bolted through their dorsal fins, blood will be taken, and the dolphins released. Then they will be caught again and again. Blood samples will be compared to see if stress-related hormones increase with repeated captures.

AWI has fought to stop this unnecessary and cruel experiment. Over two years ago, we presented an alternative proposal to NMFS, drafted with the help of Dr. Al Myrick. In our counter-proposal, only dolphins already involved in an ongoing tuna fishery would be studied. Only those found comatose in the nets would have blood taken. There would be no repeated captures or intentional stressing of dolphins.

Senior NMFS scientists reviewed our alternative and agreed with its point: the capture study would yield no new information and would be a huge waste of money. They recommended that the study be rejected.

At this point, Nina Young of the Center for Marine Conservation weighed in. (CMC, now called the *Ocean Conservancy*, is one of the five groups that split from the environmental community, and common sense, and backed the Dolphin Death Act.) She convinced staffers in the offices of Congressmen Wayne Gilchrest (R, MD) and Randy “Duke” Cunningham (R, CA) to write to the scientists at NMFS and insist that they obey the letter of the Act that mandated a *capture, recapture* stress study. These letters bullied NMFS into directing the scientists to proceed. So now, the scientists are reluctantly conducting a multi-million dollar study to harm dolphins for no good reason.

A recent population abundance survey found the two hardest-hit populations—Northeast Offshore Spotted Dolphins and the Eastern Spinner Dolphins—have not recovered at all from years of pursuit.

The results of a necropsy study are chilling. Of nineteen dead dolphins dissected and studied, all show striations in their hearts caused by the tearing and subsequent mending of muscle from the stress of repeated captures.

The Court of Appeals has ruled that the Secretary of Commerce must issue a final ruling one way or another as to whether the chasing and netting of dolphins causes “significant adverse impact.” The Federal Government cannot just keep studying the matter. All of the evidence from the necropsies, the abundance surveys, and the literature search shows that the damage done to the dolphins is both significant and adverse, making the capture and recapture experiment not only cruel but also redundant. 🐾



Despite laws to the contrary, dolphins are still being chased and caught in huge nets by foreign boats fishing for tuna and by US research vessels.



Iris, who lives at the National Zoo, has been suffering from mysterious weight loss and abdominal pain.

Operation Orangutan

Iris, a teen-age orangutan at the Smithsonian’s National Zoo in Washington, DC, has been the object of concerted efforts by vets to ease her pain. She has been under the weather for some time in spite of the dedicated care by the veterinary staff who have been unable to determine why this normally playful youngster has been suffering from occasional abdominal pain as well as noticeable weight loss.

Enter the cavalry in the guise of two surgeons from nearby Georgetown University Hospital. Dr. Stanley Benjamin, Georgetown’s chief of gastroenterology, did the initial examination. He was struck by the similarity of orang internal organs to our own. “You cannot tell the difference,” he said. Since no significant problems were uncovered and the episodic pain continued, it fell to Dr. Craig Winkel, chief of obstetrics,

to weigh in. Unusual situations are not unusual to Dr. Winkel, who ushered the Qahtani septuplets into the world. Fortunately, he did not find signs of the endometriosis (a very painful condition) he feared when he performed a laparoscopic examination. There was, however, some discoloration in the liver and tests results will be available soon. Since Iris leads a pretty controlled existence in the Great Ape House, cirrhosis can safely be ruled out.

This has been a two-way street between the two institutions. Susan Murray, Head Veterinarian, and her staff were impressed by the careful attention to Iris’ condition Drs. Winkel and Benjamin brought to their examinations. The two surgeons, on the other hand, were intrigued by the ingenuity of the vets and the post-operative care. The incisions were sewn with sutures below the skin so Iris could not pull them out. Decoy sutures were scattered around her torso so she could yank them out when feeling bored or frolicsome without causing damage. Most imaginative of all, they painted her nails blue. What teenaged girl waking with blue nails would not be enchanted enough to ignore some unaccustomed aches and pains? Most impressive was getting Iris to drink a gallon of pre-op medication—which is unpleasant to put it mildly. Dr. Murray summed it all up, “She is doing great. It’s amazing how quickly animals recuperate.” 🐾

An Update from Coulston’s Killing Fields

Sadly, no one should be surprised that another chimpanzee has died from neglect at The Coulston Foundation (TCF). On June 6, 2001, a whistleblower at TCF reported that Gina, a young female, died after being “locked outside in searing heat for hours” according to Eric Kleiman of In Defense of Animals.

Nineteen months after the gruesome death of Donna, a 36-year old female chimpanzee that had been carrying a dead fetus in her womb, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued its fourth set of formal charges

against TCF for violations of the Federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). In these charges one of the two deaths of a chimpanzee named Ray who was “owned” by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) yet left at TCF. These charges also document countless violations of the settlement agreement signed by the USDA and Coulston in August of 1999.

NIH is quietly trying to avoid accountability for its actions at TCF—be it the 15 negligent primate deaths, millions of wasted taxpayer dollars or misleading the Congress and

American public for years. NIH claims it halted funding to TCF because its “Statement of Assurance” is no longer valid. NIH makes billions of dollars of tax funds available to its grantee institutions to conduct experiments on animals, but it relies on institutions to inspect themselves. “We’re not policemen,” NIH spokesmen have indignantly insisted.

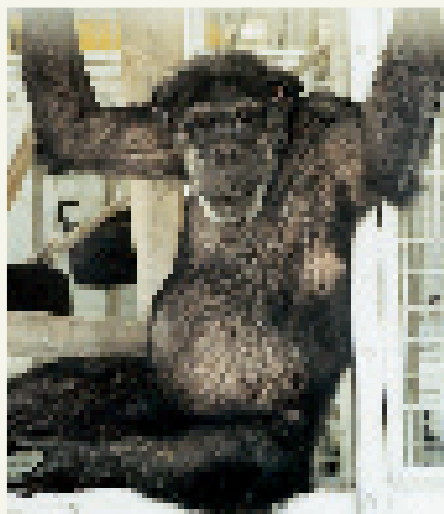
The flagrant neglect and intense suffering inflicted on TCF chimpanzees who have so conspicuously served our country is brushed aside by NIH as “routine business as usual.” 🐾

Veterans of the Space Program Arrive in Florida

When astronaut and former US Senator John Glenn returned from space for the second time in 1998 and was again hailed as a great American hero, many of the chimpanzees who helped make his first trip around the Earth possible were languishing in small cages at a biomedical research facility in Alamogordo, New Mexico. Unfortunately for these unwilling pioneers of America's early space program, they also had "The Right Stuff." Because of the genetic and physiological similarities between chimpanzees and humans, science "uses" our next of kin for various types of research. In 1997, with decreasing roles and increasing costs the US Congress directed the Air Force to divest itself of the remaining 141 "space" chimps. Despite valiant attempts by several humane organizations, the Air Force awarded almost all of the chimpanzees to the infamous Coulston Foundation. After being taken from Africa over forty years ago for use by the US Air Force, years of invasive experiments, isolation and neglect at The Coulston Foundation, and a lawsuit for their freedom, 21 "space" chimpanzees have finally received a long overdue retirement to *The Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care* in Fort Pierce, Florida. The Center, run by Dr. Carole Noon and developed under the guidance of board members Dr. Jane Goodall, Dr. Roger Fouts, and Jon Stryker of the Arcus Foundation, is the first sanctuary in the US solely dedicated to caring for captive chimpanzees. Located on 150 acres in southern Florida, The Center is a state of the art facility designed to provide the highest level of enrichment possible for up to 150 chimpanzees. Included on this abandoned orange grove is a 2.4-acre island where the chimpanzees will live.

On the day when the first group of eleven chimpanzees arrived, Dr. Noon said, "Everything went better than expected; they all got along so well." When the second group of ten arrived, Dr. Noon was even more nervous but again put at ease by their pleasure in finding a good home and caring people. Congratulations to everyone at The Center for their commitment and compassion towards these twenty-one chimpanzees.

To see pictures and bios of the chimps, or to find out more about The Center please visit <http://www.savethechimps.org>. 🐾



Hanzie, kidnapped from Africa 42 years ago by the US Air Force, will soon be living on this island once he and the other 20 chimpanzees have had a chance to socialize with each other.

Captured in Africa:

Hanzie 42
Debbie 40
Marty 40
Dana 39
Gromek 38
Wes 37
Emily 36
Emory 35
Gogi 35
Phyllis 33

Born in a US research facility:

Hannah 22
Waylon 20
Daisy 19
Liza 19
Amy 18
Kendra 18
Tammy 17
Faith 16
Garfield 10
Jennifer 3
Lil' Mini celebrated her ninth birthday at The Center.



Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

Beetsme, who recently died, was one of the gorillas observed by Dian Fossey in the early years of her great observations and fierce defense of mountain gorillas.

Murder in the Mist Solved?

After more than 15 years, the mastermind behind the gruesome and infamous murder of renowned gorilla researcher and protector, Dr. Dian Fossey whose life was portrayed in the 1988 movie "Gorillas in the Mist," may finally be in custody in Belgium. Protais Zigiranyirazo, the former Governor of the Ruhengeri province in Rwanda, brother-in-law of the assassinated Rwandan president, and one of the country's most wanted criminals for his creation of "death squads," which killed 800,000 in 1994, was captured by Belgian police while trying to flee Kenya on June 9, 2001.

Dian Fossey's final journal entry read: "When you realize the value of all life, you dwell less on what is past and concentrate on the preservation of the future."

Dr. Fossey observed the gorillas for 18 years in the Ruhengeri province when she was brutally murdered in her hut on December 27, 1985. Known for her vigilant pursuit of poachers, Dr. Fossey had made many enemies including Zigiranyirazo, who, it was reported, she was about to announce publicly as being behind poaching and smuggling rings of endangered species and gold in and out of Rwanda. Soon after her murder, Rwandan officials arrested one of her trackers for the murder. He then "apparently" committed suicide while in prison, but diplomats in Kigali believe he was secretly hanged before he could talk. Several months later, Wayne McGuire, her American research assistant, was accused by the Government of her murder but escaped capture when the US embassy warned him, enabling him to leave the country. For years the FBI was unable to approach its prime suspect, Zigiranyirazo, because of his political connections, but that all changed when he was arrested in Belgium for war crimes.

The saga of Dian Fossey's murder may soon be resolved, but her work for the gorillas she fought so hard to preserve still goes on. The following story, reprinted from the *Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International*, is of Beetsme, one of the original gorillas observed by Dr. Fossey over 25 years ago.

"Rwandan field staff employed by the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International have recently discovered the body of an older adult male mountain gorilla named Beetsme. Beetsme, the former leader of a group of 25 gorillas, had been missing from his group for several days, as determined by the Fossey Fund trackers, and it was feared that he was either seriously injured or dead. Beetsme was about 36 years old, which is near the normal lifespan limit for an adult male gorilla living in the wild. Although autopsy results are pending, his body showed no obvious signs of injury or illness and it is presumed that he died of natural causes.

"Beetsme was first observed by Dian Fossey in 1975, when he was about 10 years old. Fossey was not sure of his gender at the time, and when asked about it she answered, 'Beats me.' This answer was subsequently transformed into a name for the gorilla—'Beetsme.' Fossey also noted that this gorilla had an 'unusual tolerance of observers.'

"When he reached maturity, Beetsme served as the dominant silverback of his group. As dominant silverback, he helped keep the group together and safe, and fathered a number of offspring. With advancing age, however, Beetsme lost his leadership position to a younger male named Titus, who leads the group today. Beetsme had known Titus for many years and the two formed a strong bond. Even after Titus took over, they worked together to help maintain the integrity of the group. At times, Titus was observed confronting intruding silverbacks, while Beetsme remained behind with the females, keeping them together. Today, this group of gorillas is still called 'Beetsme's Group' by the Fossey Fund staff. It now includes several other young silverbacks and juvenile males." 🐾

Vietnam's Vanishing Wildlife

BY ADAM M. ROBERTS

The word “Vietnam” conjures images of war for most of us, but the conflict that has evolved since foreign troops pulled out of the Southeast Asian nation decades ago is not about North versus South and competing political ideologies—it is a war waging poachers against forest wildlife. While the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) had its seventeenth meeting of the Animals Committee in Vietnam’s capitol, Hanoi, the once vibrant and lively jungles outside the city were remarkably silent.

It was heart wrenching to walk through Hanoi’s market where live chickens and geese were crammed together in metal cages awaiting their purchase and subsequent slaughter. Of course, cruel poultry housing exists in America but is usually hidden behind corporate agribusiness walls. Frogs struggled in a dry bucket, tied three together around their midsections; huge live fish and eels flopped in tubs with water barely covering their vulnerable bodies. Each time a dog barked I wondered if she was a beloved family pet or dinner some night soon.



Adam M. Roberts/AWI

Bottles of alcohol with whole snakes lined up in a shop in Hanoi’s huge outdoor market; confiscated bear gall product displayed at the Cuc Phuong National Park visitor center.



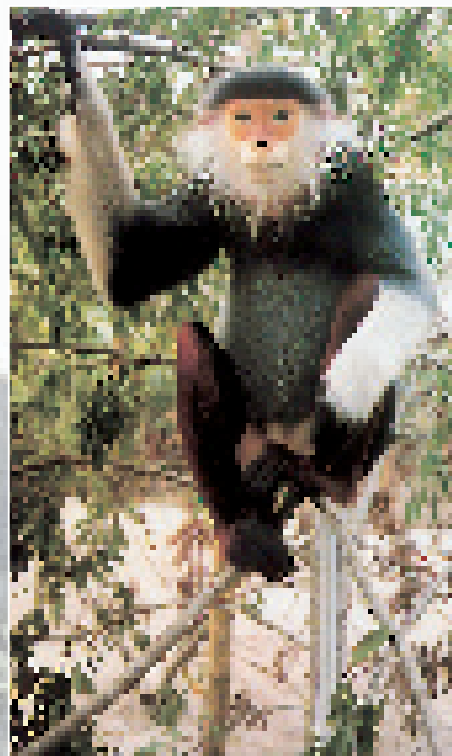
Adam M. Roberts/AWI

The street market also offers numerous shops selling products that appeared to contain wildlife parts: small boxes made in China depicting a tiger or seal; alcoholic elixirs, which had shaved deer antler dirtying the bottom of the bottle like broken seashells and sand beneath the sea. At Animals Committee meetings since 1998, AWI has pushed for greater attention to traditional Asian medicines that include ingredients from CITES-listed threatened and endangered species such as Asiatic black bears and tigers. We have long encouraged the creation of a list of these medicinal species to assess the risk of such use to wild populations and analyze whether or not the medicines could employ alternatives that do not threaten wildlife. Progress has been slow, but this year a preliminary list of traditional medicine species finally was considered, and work to expand this inventory will continue. Hopefully, Parties will be able to examine the trade data for species heavily used in this global medicinal market and make recommendations to protect species at risk before it’s too late. It would be shameful if traditional efforts to improve human health by using animal-based medicines destroyed ecological health by wiping out vital species.

Similarly, dire conservation and trade threats exist for freshwater turtles and tortoises in Asia and elsewhere, who are sold for food, traditional medicine and as pets. The Committee approved the conducting of a Workshop in Indonesia in early 2002 to examine this trade more closely. Meanwhile, in Vietnam’s forests, various turtle species cling to life while poachers scavenge for these benign creatures. The Turtle Conservation and Ecology Project, based at Vietnam’s Cuc Phuong National Park, endeavors to protect Vietnam’s 22 native turtle species from illegal trade and habitat loss by rescuing and rehabilitating turtles including those confiscated from traders. Today, fewer turtles exist in Vietnam’s jungles for these traders to nab. One of the rescue center’s volunteers observed that it now takes ten poachers a week to catch as many turtles as two poachers used to catch in a day. According to the official regional report for Asia offered at the CITES meeting, China, a heavy turtle and tortoise consuming country, has “suspended the importation of fresh water turtle and tortoise species from Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia and countries that do not have export quotas.” Vietnam, however, is reportedly a vital transit point for turtle shipments from Thailand, Cambodia and Laos into China. The omission of Vietnam from this import suspension is an ominous one.

The turtle project is not the only one in the National Park. The Endangered Primate Rescue Center

One of the Red-shanked Douc Langurs at the Endangered Primate Research Center.



Tilo Medler/EPRC

provides sanctuary to various species of langurs and gibbons, including animals who were confiscated or born at the Center. There is also an Owston’s Palm Civet Conservation Program to help this small Asian carnivore, which is threatened by habitat destruction and illegal hunting for meat and its alleged curative powers. According to Scott Robertson, the Program Coordinator, “The Program works not only on field research but tackles the issue of welfare in the limited number of zoos holding the species.... The trade of small carnivores is hardly monitored and we intend to fill this gap.”

There is some concern by conservationists in Vietnam that the government will promote the captive breeding of species such as turtles and civets for eventual release into the wild, without considering the possibilities that captive bred animals may be unable to survive in the wild, and traders may capture released animals again for the trade. The CITES Animals Committee has also been wrestling with the issue of captive breeding and whether there should be a list of Appendix I (no commercial trade allowed) species that are “critically endangered in the wild and/or known to

be difficult to breed or keep in captivity.” For species not on this list, breeding facilities can avoid registering with the CITES Secretariat, a process that allows other Parties to object. A grave threat exists to all species of bears from the international trade in their parts and products made from them. If bears, for instance, are not on the list, Chinese bear farms could begin selling endangered Asiatic black bears’ parts more easily for international profit, to the detriment of all bears globally. Animal welfare groups have been working hard against this misguided change while the CITES Secretariat and certain Party representatives work with equal diligence to complete it. The decision taken at the most recent meeting enables the Secretariat to create a list of applicable species from the class Reptilia, but only as a pilot project. The Committee’s work drags on slowly and the fight will continue at next year’s meeting in Costa Rica.

It was announced at the meeting that Vietnam has drafted national legislation to implement CITES and “Vietnam has stopped the exportation of wildlife taken from the wild.” Will the Vietnamese government enforce the legislation and export ban vigorously? Will these moves to protect Vietnam’s wildlife have come too late? 🐾



Adam M. Roberts/AWI

Note the hole drilled by poachers in this turtle’s shell near his head. One end of a rope is tied through the hole and the other to a tree. Later, the poachers retrace their steps collecting the tethered reptiles, exiting with turtles dangling helplessly from the ropes slung over their shoulders.

Thailand's Lax Tiger Protection Exposed

BY DEBBIE BANKS, ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA)

June saw EIA's Tiger Campaign team in Bangkok for the release of a new report exposing the failure of the Thai authorities to protect the tiger. The EIA report, *Thailand's Tiger Economy*, documents how Thailand continues to be a major tiger consumer. Shocking new evidence recorded by EIA reveals that three companies in Thailand are manufacturing products claiming to contain tiger parts, right in the capital city of Bangkok.

The report also raises serious concerns regarding the captive breeding of tigers in Thailand, with one informant stating that live tiger cubs bred in captivity are traded illegally over the borders and on in to China via the Mekong River. This is of particular concern as a prominent Thai Senator is calling for changes in Thai domestic law to allow the sale of body parts from captive bred tigers, a potentially disastrous move for the world's remaining wild tigers. Captive bred tigers could never meet the global demand worldwide for bones, skins, and other body parts and would provide an easy means by which illegal wild caught tiger parts could be laundered.

Thai authorities have consistently ignored past reports of illegal trade

from nongovernmental organizations and individuals, demonstrating a degree of apathy that has allowed manufacturers and storeowners in Thailand to operate without fear of being penalized. It was left to EIA to take it a step further and deliver the message in such a way that Thailand can no longer continue to ignore the situation.

EIA is calling on the Thai government to amend existing legislation making it easier for enforcement authorities to do their job by closing down the factories and prosecuting shops selling tiger products, and we are asking for a special enforcement unit to investigate illegal trade across Thai borders.

Since Thailand was omitted from the previous series of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Tiger Technical and Political Missions, we are urging CITES to send a mission to review legislation and enforcement activities, just as they did with India, Japan, and China.

The US has always played a prominent role on the conservation of tigers at CITES meetings, and we hope this leadership will continue. 🐾



ACTION The Chairman of the CITES Standing Committee is Kenneth Stansell, Assistant Director for International Affairs in the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Please ask him to ensure that the CITES Standing Committee dispatch a tiger mission to Thailand. Write: Kenneth Stansell, Assistant Director, International Affairs, US Fish and Wildlife Service, 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240 Fax: (202) 208-4674



Above: This Thai manufactured product labels the medicine as containing tiger.

Left: At Sri Racha Tiger Zoo cubs are taken from their mother prematurely and weaned on factory farmed sows.

SPEAKING OUT FOR ANIMALS

True Stories about Real People Who Rescue Animals

Edited by Kim W. Stallwood
Lantern Books, New York 2001, 242 Pages, \$18, ISBN 1930051344

BY ADAM M. ROBERTS

I became conscious of animal suffering in 1987 when I saw a film depicting livestock cruelty in corporate slaughterhouses. Most of us probably had our own epiphany that led us to work against animal cruelty. For Kim Stallwood, editor-in-chief of the popular *The Animals' Agenda* magazine, it was from a job in a chicken processing plant 30 years ago: "I could never bring myself to watch the chickens being slaughtered," Stallwood notes, "but I knew then that I hated it taking place." Many others who are not yet enlisted in the struggle for animal protection may find motivation in Stallwood's anthology of inspirational stories from *The Animals' Agenda* since 1993, *Speaking Out For Animals: True Stories about Real People Who Rescue Animals*.

Section One, "Voices for Animals," introduces us to some of the more celebrated names in the animal protection movement such as musician Paul McCartney and Body Shop founder, Anita Roddick. Animal activism clearly is not restricted to college campuses or public demonstrations. "A Conversation with Peter Singer" and "Ahimsa with Attitude: an interview with Maneka Gandhi" add substantive philosophical thoughts, while attorney and author Steve Wise reminds us of the need for the judicial system to recognize animals as more than mere property.

Section Two, "Happy Endings," recounts 31 amazing tales of abused or distressed animals who ultimately found peaceful sanctuary. While the plight of Keiko, the orca star of the "Free Willy" movie, is well known, are you familiar with Hope the pig, Ivan the gorilla, Annabelle the hen, Emily the goat, or Sasha the bear? These stories follow animals from the time they were recognized as needing rescue through to their ultimate liberation. They remind us that we shouldn't lose sight of animals' individual faces and feelings when we talk about animal suffering in general. Sure, we consider the anguish of dairy cows for example, but there is also the specific misery of Emily, an individual dairy cow.

Dr. Jane Goodall notes in her Foreword to the book, "The sense of accomplishment and joy that comes from helping even one animal is the reward that encourages further action." In Section Three, "Unsung Heroes," we are reminded that each of us can make a difference for animals: from eight-year-old Amanda Walker-Serrano who protested the cruel treatment of animals in circuses in the face of stern opposition from her local school officials to humane officer Ed Blotzer who founded Animal Care and Welfare SPCA in Pennsylvania in

"Let the volume of these joined voices penetrate the minds and hearts of those who hide from pain and suffering of the animal world because they feel powerless to help, inspiring them to take action."

—Jane Goodall

1970. People can assist animals no matter how wealthy we are, what our chosen profession may be, or how much time and energy we can devote personally to the alleviation of animals' agony.

It's easy to become disheartened in a field where we witness so much torment on a daily basis and where progress comes so slowly. But thanks to Kim's collection of inspiring tales, we can each be reenergized in our effort to help animals. 🐾

Anti-Logging Conviction

Rodolfo Montiel has been jailed for two years for blockading logging trucks in the Mexican state of Guerrero, according to an article by Tim Weiner in the July/August issue of *Mother Jones*. The conviction, upheld in October, "came despite findings by the Mexican government's National Human Rights Commission that they had been falsely arrested and tortured." Mexican President Vicente Fox sent the Environmental Minister to meet Montiel

in prison. His case continues to be appealed in the Mexican courts. Weiner concludes his article with a quotation from Rodolfo Montiel, who now sees himself as part of a broader struggle: "Wherever we are, we breathe the air, we need to drink water. Fighting for the forests is fighting for the right to live." (Note: For more about Montiel, see *AWI Quarterly*, Vol. 49, No. 3. Tim Weiner is a reporter for *The New York Times* in Mexico City.) 🐾





On July 9th, 2001 Senator Robert C. Byrd (D,WV) (at left with Mrs. Byrd and their dog, Billy Byrd) presented what may be the most profound oratory for animals ever delivered in the US Congress. He turned his considerable influence and skill to address and act on animal cruelty ranging from the little dog thrown into traffic to the suffering and deplorable conditions in animal factories and massive slaughterhouses. Reminiscent of Albert Schweitzer, Senator Byrd said, “...respect for life, all life, and for humane treatment of all creatures is something that must never be lost.”

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE July 9, 2001

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, a few months ago, a lady by the name of Sara McBurnett accidentally tapped a sports utility vehicle from behind on a busy highway in California. The angry owner of the bumped vehicle, Mr. Andrew Burnett, stormed back to Ms. McBurnett’s car and began yelling at her; and then reached through her open car window with both hands, grabbed her little white dog and hurled it onto the busy roadway. The lady sat helplessly watching in horror as her frightened little pet ran for its life, dodging speeding traffic to no avail. The traffic was too heavy and the traffic was too swift.

Imagine her utter horror. Recently, Mr. Burnett was found guilty of animal cruelty by a jury in a California court, so my faith in the wisdom of juries was restored. Ever since I first heard about this monstrous, brutal, barbaric act, I have wondered what would drive any sane person to do such a thing. There are some people who have blamed this senseless and brutal incident on road rage. But it was not just road rage, it was bestial cruelty. It was and is an outrage. It was an act of sheer depravity to seize a fluffy, furry, innocent little dog, and toss it onto a roadway, and most certainly to be crushed under tons of onrushing steel, iron, glass, and rubber, while its terrified owner, and perhaps other people in other vehicles, watched.

There is no minimizing such cruelty and resorting to the lame excuse that, “after all, it was just a dog.”

The dog owner, Ms. McBurnett, puts the incident in perspective. Here is what she said: ‘It wasn’t just a dog to me. For me, it was my child.’ A majority of pet owners do believe their pets to be family members. That is the way I look at my little dog, my little dog Billy—Billy Byrd. I look at him as a family member. When he passes away, I will shed tears. I know that. He is a little white Maltese Terrier. As a pet owner and dog lover, I know exactly what that lady means, and so did millions of other dog lovers who could never even fathom such an act.

For my wife and me, Billy Byrd is a key part of our lives at the Byrd House in McLean. He brings us great joy and wonderful companionship. As I said on this floor just a few months ago, if I ever saw in this world anything that was made by the Creator’s hand that is more dedicated, more true, more faithful, more trusting, more undeviant than this little dog, I am at a loss to state what it is. Such are the feelings of many dog owners.

Dogs have stolen our hearts and made a place in our homes for thousands of years. Dogs fill an emotional need in man and they have endured as our close companions. They serve as guards and sentries and watchdogs; they are hunting companions. Some, like Lassie and Rin Tin Tin, have become famous actors. But mostly, these sociable little creatures are valued especially as loyal comforters to their human masters. Petting a dog can make our blood pressure drop. Try it. Our heart rate slows down. Try it. Our sense of anxiety diminishes, just goes away. Researchers in Australia have found that dog owners have a lower risk of heart disease, lower blood pressure, and lower cholesterol levels than those people who do not own dogs. Researchers in England have demonstrated that dog owners have far fewer minor health complaints than those people without a dog. Our dogs are about the most devoted, steadfast companions that the Creator could have designed. They are said to be man’s best friend and, indeed, who can dispute it?

The affection that a dog provides is not only unlimited, it is unqualified, unconditional. A faithful dog does not judge its owner, it does not criticize him or her, it simply accepts him or her; it accepts us as we are, for who we are, no matter how we dress, no matter how much money we have or don’t have, and no matter what our social standing might be or might not be. No matter what happens, one’s dog is still one’s friend.

A long, frustrating day at work melts into insignificance—gone—with the healing salve of warm, excited greetings from one’s ever faithful, eternally loyal dog.

President Truman was supposed to have remarked: ‘If you want a friend in Washington, buy a dog.’ I often think about Mr. Truman’s words. No wonder so many political leaders have chosen the dog as a faithful companion and canine confidante. Former Senate Republican leader, Robert Dole, was constantly bringing his dog, “Leader”—every day—to work with him. President Bush has “Barney” and “Spot.” President Truman had an Irish setter named “Mike.” President Ford had a golden retriever named “Lucky.” The first President Bush had “Millie.”

Of course, there was President Franklin Roosevelt and his dog, “Fala.” They had such a close relationship that his political opponents once attempted to attack him by attacking his dog. Eleanor Roosevelt recalled that for months after the death of her husband, every time someone approached the door of her house, Fala would run to it in excitement, hoping that it was President Roosevelt coming home.

The only time I remember President Nixon becoming emotional, except when he was resigning the Presidency, perhaps more so in the first instance, was in reference to his dog “Checkers.”

At the turn of the century, George G. Vest delivered a deeply touching summation before the jury in the trial involving the killing of a dog, “Old Drum.” This occurred, I think, in 1869. There were two brothers-in-law, both of whom had fought in the Union Army. They lived in Johnson County, MO. One was named Leonidas Hornsby. The other was named Charles Burden.

Burden owned a dog, and he was named “Old Drum.” He was a great hunting dog. Any time that dog barked one could know for sure that it was on the scent of a raccoon or other animal.

Leonidas Hornsby was a farmer who raised livestock and some of his calves and lambs were being killed by animals. He, therefore, swore to shoot any animal, any dog that appeared on his property.

One day there appeared on his property a hound. Someone said: “There’s a dog out there in

the yard.” Hornsby said: “Shoot him.”

The dog was killed. Charles Burden, the owner of the dog, was not the kind of man to take something like this lightly. He went to court. He won his case and was awarded \$25. Hornsby appealed, and, if I recall, on the appeal there was a reversal, whereupon the owner of the dog decided to employ the best lawyer that he could find in the area.

He employed a lawyer by the name of George Graham Vest. This lawyer gave a summation to the jury. Here is what he said:

The best friend that a man has in this world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter whom he has reared with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has, he may lose. It flies away from him perhaps when he needs it most. A man may sacrifice his reputation in a moment of ill-considered action.

The people who are prone to fall on their knees and do us honor when success is with us may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads. The one absolutely unselfish friend that a man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is the dog.

Gentlemen of the jury, a man’s dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground when the wintry winds blow, and the snow drives fiercely, if only he can be near his master’s side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer, he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince.

When all other friends desert, he remains.

When riches take wings and reputation falls to pieces, he is as constant in his love as the Sun in its journey through the heavens.

If fortune drives the master forth and outcast into the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him, to guard him against danger, to fight against his enemies.

And when the last scene of all comes, death takes the master in its embrace and his body is laid in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends desert him and pursue their way, there by his graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws and his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true, even unto death.

Well, of course, George Vest won the case. It was 1869 or 1870. In 1879 he ran for the U.S. Senate and was elected and served in the Senate for 24 years. The citizens in Warrensburg, MO, decided to build a statue to Old Drum, and that statue stands today in the courtyard at Warrensburg. Harry Truman contributed \$250 to the building of the statue. I generally ask new Senators from Missouri have they heard about Old Drum. I asked that of KIT BOND one day and he remembered, so upon his first occasion to visit Warrensburg, MO, after that, he brought me a picture of the statue of Old Drum.

So, just a little pat, a little treat, a little attention for the dog is all that a pet asks. How many members of the human species can love so completely?

How does man return that kind of affection?

I remember a recent news program that told of a man who was going around killing dogs and selling the meat from them. A couple of years ago, NBC News reported that American companies were importing and selling toys made in China that were decorated with the fur from dogs that were raised and then slaughtered just for that purpose.

And now we have this monster...I do not hesitate to overrate him—who, because of cruelty and rage, decided that he had the right to grab a harmless little dog and hurl it to its certain death. It makes one ponder the question, doesn’t it, Which was the animal? Burnett, or Leo, the little dog? Of course we know the answer.

The point is this: We have a responsibility to roundly condemn such abject cruelty. Apathy regarding incidents such as this will only lead to more deviant behavior. And respect for life, all life, and for humane treatment of all creatures is something that must never be lost.

The Scriptures say in the Book of Proverbs, “A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.”

Mr. President, I am concerned that cruelty toward our faithful friend, the dog, may be reflective of an overall trend toward animal cruelty. Recent news accounts have been saturated with accounts of such brutal behavior. A year or two ago, it was revealed that macabre videos showing small animals, including hamsters, kittens, and monkeys, being crushed to death were selling for as much as \$300 each. And just a few days ago, there were local news accounts of incidents in Maryland involving decapitated geese being left on the doorsteps of several homes in a Montgomery County community.

Our inhumane treatment of livestock is becoming widespread and more and more barbaric. Six-hundred-pound hogs—they were pigs at one time—raised in 2-foot-wide metal cages called gestation crates, in which the poor beasts are unable to turn around or lie down in natural positions, and this way they live for months at a time.

On profit-driven factory farms, veal calves are confined to dark wooden crates so small that they are prevented from lying down or scratching themselves. These creatures feel; they know pain. They suffer pain just as we humans suffer pain. Egg-laying hens are confined to battery cages. Unable to spread their wings, they are reduced to nothing more than an egg-laying machine.

Last April, the Washington Post detailed the inhumane treatment of livestock in our Nation’s slaughterhouses. A 23-year-old Federal law requires that cattle and hogs to be slaughtered must first be stunned, thereby rendered insensitive to pain, but mounting evidence indicates that this is not always being done, that these animals are sometimes cut, skinned, and scalded while still able to feel pain.

A Texas beef company, with 22 citations for cruelty to animals, was found chopping the hooves off live cattle. In another Texas plant with about two dozen violations, Federal officials found nine live cattle dangling from an overhead chain. Secret videos from an Iowa pork plant show hogs squealing and kicking as they are being lowered into the boiling water that will soften their hides, soften the bristles on the hogs and make them easier to skin.

I used to kill hogs. I used to help lower them into the barrels of scalding water, so that the bristles could be removed easily. But those hogs were dead when we lowered them into the barrels.

The law clearly requires that these poor creatures be stunned and rendered insensitive to pain before this process begins. Federal law is being ignored. Animal cruelty abounds. It is sickening. It is infuriating. Barbaric treatment of helpless, defenseless creatures must not be tolerated even if these animals are being raised for food—and even more so, more so. Such insensitivity is insidious and can spread and is dangerous. Life must be respected and dealt with humanely in a civilized society.

So for this reason I have added language in the supplemental appropriations bill that directs the Secretary of Agriculture to report on cases of inhumane animal treatment in regard to livestock production, and to document the response of USDA regulatory agencies.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies have the authority and the capability to take action to reduce the disgusting cruelty about which I have spoken.

Oh, these are animals, yes. But they, too, feel pain. These agencies can do a better job, and with this provision they will know that the U.S. Congress expects them to do better in their inspections, to do better in their enforcement of the law, and in their research for new, humane technologies. Additionally, those who perpetuate such barbaric practices will be put on notice that they are being watched.

I realize that this provision will not stop all the animal life in the United States from being mistreated. It will not even stop all beef, cattle, hogs and other livestock from being tortured. But it can serve as an important—step toward alleviating cruelty and unnecessary suffering by these creatures.

Let me read from the Book of Genesis. First chapter, versus 24-26 reads:

And God said--

Who said? God said.

And God said, Let the Earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the Earth after his kind: and it was so.

And God made--

Who made?

And God made the beasts of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

And God said--

Who said? God said. Who said?

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth.

Thus, Mr. President, God gave man dominion over the Earth. We are only the stewards of this planet. We are only the stewards of His planet. Let us not fail in our Divine mission. Let us strive to be good stewards and not defile God’s creatures or ourselves by tolerating unnecessary, abhorrent, and repulsive cruelty.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum. 🐾

Senate Passes Humane Slaughter Act Resolution

On July 31, 2001 the Senate passed by unanimous consent Senator Peter Fitzgerald's (R, IL) excellent Resolution, S. Con. Res. 45, calling on the Secretary of Agriculture to enforce the Humane Slaughter Act (see *AWI Quarterly*, Vol. 50, No. 3). According to the Resolution, full enforcement of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958 would "(i) prevent needless suffering;" and "(ii) result in safer and better working conditions for persons engaged in the slaughtering of livestock." S. Con. Res. 45

states that public demand for passage of the Act "was so great that when President Eisenhower was asked at a press conference if he would sign the bill, he replied, 'If I went by mail, I'd think no one was interested in anything but humane slaughter.'"

The House of Representatives must now act on the companion Resolution, H. Con. Res. 175, introduced by Congresswoman Constance Morella (R, MD), Congressmen Christopher Shays (R, CT) and Elton Gallegly (R, CA). 🐾

USDA Brass Hinders Slaughterhouse Inspections

A full-page advertisement in *The New York Times* describes the hideous cruelty to cattle at IBP (the world's largest meat packer in Wallula, Washington), based upon affidavits obtained by Gail Eisnitz of the *Humane Farming Association* (HFA). (See also *AWI Quarterly*, Vol. 49, No. 4.)

The affidavits document the enormously increased slaughter line speed, which often results in the torture of animals who have not been stunned successfully before moving down the line to be skinned and have their legs chopped off. Washington State's Prosecutor declined to file criminal charges against IBP—even though he admitted that crimes had occurred.

HFA obtained videotapes at the plant showing that the animals were conscious because no employee or US Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspector was permitted to stop the line. Employees feared being fired if they stopped the production line for live, struggling cattle, and the USDA had permitted the plant to erect a wall blocking the inspector's

view into the killing area. In addition, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), a new meat inspection program highly praised by the Secretary of Agriculture, removed all inspectors from plants' killing areas. In 1978, the Humane Slaughter Act gave USDA meat inspectors the authority and duty to stop the line if they saw an animal cruelly slaughtered, whether because of equipment failure or human callousness.

At a press conference, union officials representing all 7,000 USDA Inspectors indicated that they would like to go back to the days in which their work was effective because they were able to stop the slaughter line to prevent animal suffering. Other meat inspectors' union officials happened to be meeting at USDA with Tom Billy, head of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, when Mr. Billy learned of the press conference. Instead of responding to inspectors' complaints Mr. Billy threw the inspectors out of his office on the grounds that they failed to support Mr. Billy's famously industry-oriented positions. 🐾

Relief in Store for Sows and Gilts in the European Union

While United States agribusiness corporations continue to build pig factories, dooming even more animals to a miserable fate, the European Union is preparing to phase out two of the most cruel devices used in raising animals for food. In June 2001, the Agriculture Council of the European Union released a draft amendment to Directive 91/630/EEC that, when finalized later this year, eventually will give pregnant sows and gilts* great relief from the narrow crates that prohibit them from walking or even turning during their nearly 4-month pregnancy, and from the neck collars and chains that similarly restrict their movements.

The amendment prohibits new construction of or conversion to the tethering system for sows and gilts. In this system, the sow or gilt wears a neck collar that is attached to the floor by a chain roughly 2 feet long; bars on either side of the animal prohibit her from turning around. Tether systems already in use would be prohibited from January 1, 2006. The amendment requires that sows and gilts—who are social animals—be kept in groups from 4 weeks after breeding until one week before the expected time of farrowing, rather than be kept individually. No new or reconstructed gestation crate systems could be installed after January 1, 2003. Existing

gestation crates would be prohibited from January 1, 2013.

Other elements of the amendment require that a) sows and gilts kept in groups be fed using a system that ensures that each individual can obtain sufficient food, even when competitors for the food are present; b) to satisfy their hunger and given the need to chew, all pregnant sows and gilts be given a sufficient quantity of bulky or high fiber food as well as high energy food [AWI note: intensively kept pregnant sows are typically fed a restricted diet comprised of a feed concentrate]; c) sows be given at least a partly solid floor, rather than a fully slatted one (the width of slat openings is regulated); d) sows kept in groups be given straw or other manipulable materials; e) minimum pen dimensions and/or space requirements are required for sows and gilts and for pigs from weaning to market weight.

The lengthy phase out period for the barbaric gestation crate is regrettable, as is allowing sows and gilts to be kept in narrow crates, unable to walk or turn, during the first four weeks of pregnancy and while farrowing. Nevertheless, the EU is poised to turn pig farming in a more humane direction and bring relief to affected animals. 🐾

*A gilt is a young female. A sow is an adult female.

The Carolinas Say No to Hog Factories

At the end of June North Carolina's Governor, Mike Easley, signed a law extending the state's moratorium on construction or expansion of hog factories and their hog waste cesspools. The prohibition, which began in 1997 and would have expired July 2001, will remain in effect until September 1, 2003. South Carolina legislators, concerned that the hog factories would move to their state, also have banned new hog factories.

Residents of North and South Carolina are fighting against growth of industrial hog factories, which produce a huge volume of hog sewage that pollutes the air and water. Numerous studies document the negative consequences of

living near hog factories, including a 1999 study conducted by the University of North Carolina School of Public Health that found a significant increase in upper respiratory and gastrointestinal symptoms in people living near these operations. Though the report did not address it, the health consequences of intensive factories are clearly deleterious to the pigs themselves, who are subjected to the appalling conditions twenty-four hours a day for their entire lives.

North Carolina has about 2,400 hog operations with a total of 9.5 million animals, and South Carolina has approximately 300,000 hogs, with most located just over the state line from North Carolina. 🐾

12,000 Pigs Die in Utah Hog Factory Inferno

Over 12,000 pigs were burned alive or died from smoke inhalation in a fire at Circle Four Farms in Cedar City, Utah. The media and Circle Four are treating this devastating tragedy as merely a momentary business setback, completely ignoring the intense suffering of thousands of animals. One of the more callous statements was from Mike Marshall,



a veterinarian with the Utah Department of Agriculture who said, "It is incredibly unfortunate, [but] if we like eating them, we have to put up with the risks of raising them." Yet after a tax write-off and insurance claim settlement, Circle Four will be up and running again with its same cruel practices.

Circle Four, which owns 55 hog factories in Utah and markets under the brand name "Farmer John" is no farm; it is an intensive animal factory subsidiary of the largest pork producer in the world, Smithfield Foods. There were no alarms, sprinklers or onsite workers to save the animals when the four large buildings were engulfed in flames.

The public, state officials and the federal government must step forward and reject the intensive and inhumane practices that led to this devastating event. The owners of Circle Four should be prosecuted for their neglect, and every effort made to prevent the rebuilding of this and any other inhumane animal factory. Utah should follow North and South Carolina's leads in enacting moratoriums on new hog factories. 🐾

Half of the pigs that died in the fire were less than one month old.

Waterkeeper Alliance Keeps the Pressure on Smithfield

Smithfield Foods chairman, president and chief executive officer, Joseph W. Luter III, is feeling the pressure from the Waterkeeper Alliance, headed by environmental attorney Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., for his company's cruel treatment of animals and environmental destruction. He recently announced that Smithfield has "no current plans to significantly increase the size of its herd" in the US because, "there are enough hogs in this country. If we had unlimited opportunity to expand, we wouldn't."

Waterkeeper Alliance currently has four lawsuits pending against Smithfield for its pollution in North Carolina and Florida. Kennedy said that "Our intention is to sue every one of Smithfield's facilities if we have to...Luter is an outlaw stealing from the public, he raises the standards of living for

himself by lowering the quality of life for everybody else."

Luter did say that Smithfield will increase output in Poland and Mexico. Following Smithfield's rejected attempt to implement US style hog factories in Poland by Polish union leader Andrzej Lepper and AWI, the company is trying another tactic. Smithfield wants to develop a system of "contract growers" who will provide land, buildings, equipment and labor to raise Smithfield's "low-fat" piglets provided by Animex, a Polish subsidiary of Smithfield, acquired in 2000. The growers will deliver the pigs back to Animex in exchange for new production technologies and financial support. Animex would receive substantial return on their investment while Polish contract growers would become dependent on the corporation. 🐾

Multi-Million Dollar Settlement for Neighbors of Buckeye Egg Factory Farm

But no punishment for leaving hens to die of starvation and thirst

In September 2001, a jury awarded more than \$19.7 million in damages to neighbors of the notoriously cruel and environmentally hazardous Buckeye Egg Factory Farm (see *AWI Quarterly*, Vol. 50, No. 1).

Owner Anton Pohlmann, who was found guilty of cruelty to hens in Germany, moved his operations to Ohio where hens and other farm animals are exempted from the anti-cruelty laws. Ohio law states it is unlawful to "keep animals other than cattle, poultry or fowl, swine, sheep or goats in an enclosure without wholesome exercise and a change of air."

Neighbors of the Buckeye Egg Farm near Croton, in central Ohio, sued the company in August. Jurors heard three weeks of testimony, and awarded the multi-million dollar settlement to cover negligence by one of the world's

largest egg factories and nuisance of odors and fly infestations caused by Buckeye Egg Farm and Pohlmann. Compensatory damages, reimbursements for loss of use of property and its diminished value, totaled nearly \$4 million. Punitive damages, ordered as a punishment for wrongful acts, amounted to over \$15.7 million.

The state has filed seven sets of contempt charges for violations such as spilling contaminated water into creeks and failing to stop massive outbreaks of flies and other insects at its facilities in Wyandot, Hardin and Licking counties.

Congratulations to the plaintiffs for their success in holding Mr. Pohlmann and the Buckeye Egg Factory accountable for at least some of their atrocities! 🐾

Storks Love Poland

Did you know that every fourth stork in the world is Polish? Attesting to Poland's numerous wetlands and free-flowing rivers, the storks choose Poland over every other European country to build their nests. A favorite nesting place for storks is at the tops of the poles that convey electricity. When storks leave for the winter, the Polish power company builds a platform and sets the nests back on

the platform to make sure the young storks don't lose their lives on power lines when they first leave the nests. Roman Guziak, Vice President of the Polish environmental group "pro Natura," blames intensified agriculture for driving the storks away from other European countries. Denmark boasted of 10,000 pairs of storks in 1900; now there are only six pairs in the whole of Denmark. 🐾

Amazing Whiskers



Dr. Guido Dehnhardt

Did you ever wonder how a seal finds food in the dark and even in murky water? Two harbor seals have given Dr. Guido Dehnhardt of Ruhr University in Germany the answer: It's their whiskers! According to *The Washington Post's* "Science Notebook," July 9, 2001, the two seals were assigned the task of following "a miniature submarine that was mimicking a fish. Even blindfolded, the seals were able to track the sub extremely well, except when their whiskers were covered with a stocking mask, the researchers reported in the July 6 issue of *Science*..." As a function of swim speed and their biomechanical properties, the whiskers of a swimming seal probably vibrate with characteristic frequencies. A hydrodynamic trail intersected by the seal might cause a modulation of this characteristic vibration that might be sensed by the seal." 🐾

Henry, the harbor seal.

Bequests to AWI

If you would like to help assure the Animal Welfare Institute's future through a provision in your will, this general form of bequest is suggested:

I give, devise and bequeath to the Animal Welfare Institute, located in Washington, D.C., the sum of \$ _____ and/or (specifically described property).

Donations to AWI, a not-for-profit corporation exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), are tax deductible. We welcome any inquiries you may have. In cases where you have specific wishes about the disposition of your bequest, we suggest you discuss such provisions with your attorney.

Ned and Daisy are Snatched Back from Death's Door

The Society for Protection of Animals in North Africa (SPANA), recently notified AWI of the following:

The donkey they called Ned was found collapsed gasping for breath on a remote desert road. His owner was berating the poor animal who was not able to stand. The severely dehydrated animal hadn't been given a drop to drink all day.

Ned would surely have died a lonely and agonizing death if the SPANA mobile veterinary unit hadn't come up on him just in time.

Thankfully, our mobile unit was able to start rehydrating Ned straight away. His owner couldn't believe the transformation. Although the owner's action might seem unbelievably cruel to us, ignorance was the cause of the problem. He believed that if he allowed Ned to drink during the hottest part of the day, the animal would get colic. The improvement of his animal, who was cared for overnight by SPANA, was almost immediate. The owner was immensely thankful to SPANA for helping to save his donkey and showing him how to care for him. 🐾



SPANA

Daisy the donkey, like Ned, was forced to work in temperatures over 120°F without water and scarcely any food. The mobile unit found her severely dehydrated, extremely thin and very weak.

ACTION SPANA reports that it is treating up to 100 cases of dehydration a day and there are more than three million working donkeys in North Africa. If you wish to make a donation please send to:

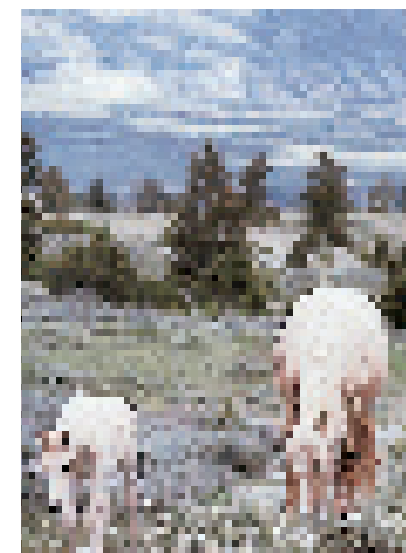
SPANA, 15 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6 LB, England

Cloud: Wild Stallion of the Rockies

By Ginger Kathrens

BowTie Press, Irvine, CA

160 Pages, 80 full color photographs, \$24.95, ISBN 1889540706



Ginger Kathrens

Cloud and his mother, a Palomino, graze in the Arrowhead Mountains of Montana.

For years Ginger Kathrens, Emmy award winning cinematographer, producer and co-founder of the Wild Horse and Burro Freedom Alliance, has been beautifully documenting the lives of horses. In *Cloud: Wild Stallion of the Rockies* Kathrens recounts the first five years of Cloud's life from his first faltering steps just after birth to his emergence as a powerful young stallion in southern Montana's Arrowhead Mountains. Written as a companion book to the upcoming documentary of the same title which will air on PBS's NATURE series, it is not written from the detached perspective of a scientist studying a band of wild horses, but through the eyes of a horse loving filmmaker. Through her personal narrative and vivid photographs Kathrens allows the reader to experience the beauty and hardships these amazing animals face each day. *Cloud: Wild Stallion of the Rockies* is scheduled to premier on the November 4, 2001 PBS NATURE series. Check your local listings for the exact time. 🐾



A Broken Promise Threatens Canada's Bears

BY MARTIN POWELL, ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA)

In February, grizzly bear hunting in British Columbia (BC), Canada was suspended. With as few as 4-6000 grizzlies left in the Province—the heart of the grizzly's remaining range—the hunting moratorium was designed to allow completion of research needed to secure a future for this beautiful animal. The hunt ban was a truly popular and precautionary act, winning applause from independent scientists, conservation and First Nations groups, over 75% of British Columbians and even the UK Parliament.

Unfortunately, as was noted in the Spring *AWI Quarterly*, Vol. 50, No. 2, in a knee-jerk political reaction designed to appease the grizzly hunting community the BC Liberal Party promised to overturn the moratorium if elected. Having duly won the election in May, 100 grizzlies will now be shot this Fall alone.

In so doing, BC has broken its promise to protect this internationally important species, and if foreign hunters—mainly the US and Europe—are allowed to export their grizzly trophies, Canada will breach its international obligations to CITES—the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Already BC is feeling the economic backlash. Tour operators are aghast at the decision, with one BC based Eco-tourism company reporting that 76 angry clients have already cancelled bookings because of the resumption of the hunt. He stated that “They want to come here to see living wildlife, and they say they won’t go to a place that is so uncivilized they allow bears to be killed for fun.”

Even though the hunt has resumed, over 150 grizzlies will still be alive at the end of the year that without the campaign against the hunt would otherwise have been shot. The hunt has also remained closed in 23 more areas than last year, so this is very much a case of two steps forward and one back, but the bottom line is that even one grizzly being shot this year is too many. 🐾



EIA demonstration outside Canada House in the UK.

ACTION If you feel that grizzly hunting damages British Columbia's appeal as a tourist destination, please write to the BC Government saying so, and ask for the Premier to reconsider his decision to allow this officially at risk species to be put under the gun again.

Write: Premier Campbell, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC V8V 1X4, Canada

Fax: (250) 387-0087

Email premier@gov.bc.ca



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