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of the
Game and Fisheries
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one eye. The lion was later speared to death. Sad to say the Jago died in hospital later as a result of his injuries. It may be that this fall from grace during the dry season is due to their natural prey being disturbed and driven away through tribal hunting.

123. *Leopard*.—The leopard is very seldom seen in daylight these days, except during a tribal hunt, when they are flushed by the circle of hunters, and generally a real good old-fashioned scrimmage takes place, during which a number of hunters often get badly mauled before the leopard is de-patched.

124. *UNGULATES. Buffalo*.—During March, in the Olhlim area of Lango, Guards on the anti-rinderpest operation came across four buffalo, one of which was wounded and made off into some long grass. One of the Guards followed it up, and was charged at close quarters, being knocked down and his rifle broken before he could fire. The buffalo stood over him and tried to hook him, inflicting a wound on the inside of the right thigh and kicking him on the head. Recovering slightly, the Guard grabbed the buffalo by the horns and hung on. After a tussle, when he knew he could not hang on much longer, the Guard pushed the buffalo away from him with his remaining strength, when much to his surprise and relief it ran away, to be followed up and killed by the other Guard. The first man was not seriously wounded and was out of hospital after a couple of weeks.

125. While on his way back from Karamoja one day, Mr. Fazal Haq (Hon. Game Ranger), was stopped at the Kiteny corner by some Africans who told him that a woman and child had been killed on the road by a buffalo. On visiting the spot he found the bodies, and the buffalo lying up in some bushes just off the road. He shot the beast and then found that it had been speared. It is believed that the buffalo had been chased and speared, and had taken refuge in the bush close to the road. Later, a woman with a child on her back passed along the road, whereupon the animal had charged out and killed them.

126. It is believed that the number of buffalo killed by the rinderpest epidemic is more than was first thought, as subsequent trips into country where buffalo formerly abounded have shown that in general only the older beasts have survived, there being a great shortage of youngsters in the herds. In some cases, small local herds have disappeared altogether, the few survivors having moved out of the area completely.

127. *Uganda kob*.—While on safari in the river Aswa region of the Gulu/East Madi elephant sanctuary, where kob abound, a large herd was seen with an all white female in its midst. As seen through the glasses, her colour appeared to be a dirty white, and several others had white patches of varying sizes on them. These were probably the "spotted kob" of which rumours had been heard. Although many other herds were seen in the region this was the only one which contained white or part white specimens. This cannot be too common an occurrence in this part of the country, otherwise it would have been common knowledge.

128. *Hartebeest*. That the hartebeest can be a pugnacious animal at times is borne out by the fact that on two tribal hunts the Game Ranger attended, two men were injured by these antelope, one in the chest and the other in the shoulder. The method of attack is to lower the head, charge bald-headed at the nearest person, and try to break through.

129. An interesting piece of animal play was witnessed one morning close to camp. Not far away was a small herd of hartebeest, a few oribi and a secretary bird (*Sagittarius serpentarius*), suddenly a young hartebeest broke away from the main herd and charged playfully at the secretary bird, which, surprisingly, seemed to enter into the spirit of the thing, hopping backward, just ahead of the animal with outstretched wings. It did this several times, until the bird got tired of the game, when it wandered off. The hartebeest was then joined by another youngster, and they both charged the oribi, who really did enjoy themselves, dashing around. The oribi got so far carried away that they started to play pranks on their elders, stealing up on the mature hartebeest, then suddenly darting under their heads or stomachs, causing much stamping, snorting, and shaking of heads, although they seemed most good humoured about it all.

130. Hartebeest although fairly plentiful still seem to be one of the worst victims of the wire snare, and I have twice come across one still alive in the snare.

131. *Roan Antelope*. A small herd of nine was seen on the Aswa river opposite Atiak. These grand animals are rapidly disappearing where settlement is taking place, although a fair number are still to be found in north Chua.

132. The Acholi firmly believe that roan antelope eat bones, and state that after rain elephant bones are often found chewed and splintered, with the whole area around showing many tracks of roan, as if standing over the bones which bear the fresh marks of large teeth.

133. *Waterbuck, Bushbuck, Uganda Kob, Oribi, Duiker and Klipspringer* are still to be found scattered over a great part of the country, but mostly very shy, and nowhere in any numbers except in north-west Lamwo, north Chua and the Gulu East Madi Elephant Sanctuary.

134. *Sitatunga* are still to be found in the swamps on the north shores of Lake Kyoga.

135. *Black Rhino*—again found scattered over most of the Range, but only in twos and threes to a large area. The biggest concentration to a small area will have disappeared this year due to Forest Control Department's clearance programme in the Kwania and Maruzi Counties of Lango District. However, rapid spread of cultivation and settlement would have meant their finish anyway.

(b) Bird:

136. *White Stork (Ciconia ciconia)*. A very large gathering of these birds was seen in January in Chua County. It was impossible to count

GAME RESERVES AND SANCTUARIES

163. *Mount Kei White Rhino Sanctuary*.—There are very few white rhino, in fact very little game at all in this area. In the past this Sanctuary has suffered considerably from poachers operating from the Southern Sudan.

164. *Mount Otze White Rhino Sanctuary*.—The white rhino in this area are confined to the central, northern and north-eastern sections. The north-eastern boundary adjoins the Sudan Nimule Game Reserve, which gives the Uganda white rhino protection on the north-eastern flank. The rhino are continually on the move between the two countries so it is very difficult to calculate the numbers of resident beasts.

165. *East Madi Elephant Sanctuary*. In this area stands the Zoka Forest, a reputed elephant breeding area. The Zoka Forest contains much wild coffee, which attracts many African, who also do a considerable amount of snaring of small game.

166. This area holds many elephant, mainly breeding herds consisting of cows and calves, but there are a number of large tuskers. Occasionally these tuskers meet their doom when they venture outside the Sanctuary into cultivation along the Esiya River.

167. This Sanctuary is a Sleeping Sickness Restricted Area, and is therefore seldom visited by the general public, making it a paradise for snare hunters. The snares are usually set along rivers and around water holes well inside the Sanctuary and then visited every three or four days. In this way, many animals are caught, killed by strangulation, and eaten by vultures, hyaenas and other scavengers long before the owner of the snare returns. This makes the apprehension of the snare owners extremely difficult and few are actually brought to book. All snares or traps are confiscated if removable, and destroyed if permanent.

GAME TROPHIES

168. Only one large tusked elephant was shot in the Range by a licence holder, the tusks weighing 95 and 88 lb each. An elephant carrying tusks of 101 and 98 lb. had unfortunately to be shot in East Madi on control. Another large tusker, which carried a 95 lb. tusk on one side, and a four tusk combination weighing 10 lb. on the other, was shot on control at Pakwach.

ELEPHANT CONTROL

169. *General*.—The total elephant shot on control in the West Nile Range was 96, this figure being considerably higher than the 1953 figure of 41. Most of the animals killed were shot in protection of cultivation in Madi, where the cultivated areas are generally small and scattered, making protection difficult and expensive.

170. *West Nile*. A total of 25 elephant—19 males and 6 females—were shot on control during 1954. This figure is 9 higher than the 1953 total. The greater majority of control has, as usual, been carried out in the Aringa, Koboko and Madi counties of West Nile District, damage

generally being caused by migratory elephant to cotton and cassava crops. In Koboko county, the elephant migrate from the Congo, and enter Uganda during the long rains. The Aringa elephant are generally raiders from the Kali-Waka area in West Madi, whilst the Madi county elephant are from West Madi and also from the Elephant Sanctuary on the east bank of the Nile.

171. Few large tuskers are ever seen in West Nile. The odd heavy tusker occasionally does enter from the Congo, and others swim the Nile, but very seldom stay long within the reaches of licence holders.

172. In April, the Game Ranger had to shoot an elephant, carrying on one side a tusk of 95 lb. and on the other a four tusk combination which weighed 10 lb. This old gentleman was shot at Pakwach, whilst actually in a cassava field. An attempt, with thunderflashes and shots over his head, to drive him back over the Nile to the Sanctuary failed, so he had to pay for his misdemeanours by death.

173. *Madi*. A total of 71 elephant—30 males and 41 females—were killed during cultivation protection. This figure is very much higher than the 1953 total of 25 elephant killed on control. Most of the control shootings took place in West Madi.

174. In West Madi, the Kali Waka herd were more persistent in their attentions to cultivation, with the result that stricter control was required. Most damage was caused at Laufori, Paloringa, Legu and Itulu. A little damage was caused near Moyo and at Metuh and Dufile.

175. As during last year, elephant entered West Madi from the Sudan and the elephant Sanctuary east of the Nile. A few big tuskers were reported as seen but none met their end by licence holders or poachers.

176. The Kali-Waka herd were as bad tempered as usual, as they are still driven in a never ending circle Waka swamps to the Nile to Laropi and back again to Waka. However, all this movement does not appear to have any effect on their breeding habits as many young were seen throughout the year.

177. In December, an African cultivating at Dufile, speared and killed an elephant one night when the animal was actually crop raiding.

178. In West Madi, the protection of cultivation has been, and still is, a difficult question. Generally the cultivated areas are small and scattered, and are very often situated a long way from the huts of the owners. The Game Ranger has never yet seen any attempts to protect cultivation, in the way of ditches or bomas, by the local people. The result to the elephant and buffalo is a small cultivated area of choice and tasty food, in the middle of the bush and closely surrounded by bush. There is nothing to show the four footed raider that the area is closed to it, so the crops are damaged. Very often these crops are planted merely as a lure to game, so that the Game Ranger can supply free meat and tons of it during the elephant season.

armed with a spear came to the rescue, and was in turn tossed by the buffalo. Some more people ran up and attacked and killed the buffalo, which was found to be suffering from numerous festering sores on its back. The two injured Africans were taken by car to Moyo hospital, one dying almost immediately; after a month the other was taken off the danger list.

199. In early April, 1955, two Africans were badly injured by buffalo at Metu during a tribal hunt.

200. In April, 1954, a European photographer, Mr. Strivens, was knocked down and slightly injured by a buffalo. This gentleman was armed with a camera, and his companion, Mr. Lloyd Worth, carried only a pair of binoculars. Whilst approaching a herd of elephant, a buffalo charged out of a bush and made for them. Lloyd-Worth jumped clear, but the buffalo caught Strivens a glancing blow which was sufficient to floor him. As he was getting to his feet, the buffalo charged again and luckily hit him with the boss of its horns only. Just as the buffalo was about to toss Strivens, Lloyd-Worth ran up and threw his binoculars into the buffalo's face. This action was sufficient to distract the buffalo from Strivens, who rose to his feet, and both men then managed to escape. Strivens only suffered severe bruising, but no doubt owes his life to the cool courage and quick thinking of Lloyd-Worth.

201. The Assistant District Commissioner, Moyo, and the Game Ranger successfully reared two young buffalo calves in 1954, but unfortunately both animals had to be shot during the rinderpest outbreak.

202. *Eland*. No reports of these animals were received during the year. It is thought that a few exist in East Madi.

203. *Lord Derby's (or Giant) Eland*.—Towards the end of January, the Game Ranger saw two bulls of this magnificent species of eland at Loreze on the Sudan boundary. Photographs were taken one of which has already been reproduced in the 1953 Departmental Annual Report.

204. A herd of about 20 strong is believed to be permanently resident in Uganda along the Ilengwa range in West Madi. At the end of 1954 and early in 1955 tracks were seen in this area. In March and April of 1954 and 1955, Lord Derby's eland entered the Midigo area of West Nile from the nearby Sudan. This is an annual movement and the animals soon returned to the Sudan.

205. During the rinderpest outbreak, four carcasses of giant eland were found at Loreze, being a large bull, an adult cow and two young beasts. The horns of the bull and the cow were recovered, the horn lengths being 39½" and 31" respectively.

206. *Waterbuck (Defassa)*.—Common throughout the Range. A number died from rinderpest in 1954. Between Kali and Itula, West Madi, there is a herd of about 30 bulls. The horns carried by the males are smallish but very well shaped.

207. *Bushbuck*. Very numerous but seldom seen. A few died from rinderpest.

208. *Sitatunga*. Reports were received, but not confirmed, of these beautiful animals being seen along the Nile from Dufile to the mouth of the Umvosa river.

209. *Uganda Kob*.—Are very localised in the Range, the main stronghold being the area around Kali in Madi. In East Madi a few still exist, but on both sides of the Nile they suffer greatly in the tribal hunts and from poachers. Some good heads were seen in the Kali area.

210. *Lekel Hartebeest*. Small herds of this species may be found throughout the Range.

211. *Oribi*. Suffer greatly during tribal hunts. Generally very wary.

212. *Klipspringer*.—No reports were received of these agile little animals. It is not yet definitely known if they do exist in the West Nile Range.

213. *Common Duiker*. One of the commonest animals found in the area. Apart from deaths during tribal hunting, it is unlikely that many of these animals are killed by licence holders or poachers, as they are very wary little creatures.

214. *Giant Forest Hog*. No reports of this species were received, and it is not yet known whether they exist in the Range.

215. *Wart Hog*.—Very common and do a certain amount of damage to sweet potato fields. Rinderpest affected these animals and numerous carcasses were found in the Kali area. In April, 1955, the Game Ranger was charged from very close quarters by a wounded sow. When the beast was finally killed she was chewing the end of the Game Ranger's rifle!

216. *Hippopotami*. In previous years hippo were unlimited on a game licence in the Albert Nile. In July, 1954, the number allowed to be killed on an annual licence was reduced to four. Until this action was taken, hippo were slaughtered in large numbers along the Nile, in fact in 1953 a total of 4,750 lb. of hippo tusks were exported from the West Nile Range. Previous to that in 1950, 2,967 lb. were exported, in 1951, 15,199 lb. in 1952, 4,617 lb. Assuming that the average hippo carries 5.8 lb. of tusks, then many thousands of hippo must have died. Many of the tribes that have settled along the Nile tribal hunt these beasts, and many are wounded yearly. Very few are ever shot on control.

217. *White Rhinoceros*.—As noted earlier, there are very few white rhino in the Mt. Kei Sanctuary while in the Mt. Otze area, the white rhino are confined to the northern half of the Sanctuary.

218. In the Ogoko area of West Nile, the white rhino appear to be a dying species. This area is one of the most heavily poached in the Range, and white rhino suffer most. Extra staff were posted there to attempt to save the rhino, and convictions were obtained. Rhino horn.

in Arua, was reported to be fetching up to Shs. 85 per pound, which naturally drove all poachers into the field. These animals are generally so docile that it is a very easy matter to spear them. As the horns may weigh anything up to 20 lb., the income derived by poaching these animals is high. Most of the carcasses found recently were intact, with the exception of the horns, which only goes to show that the poachers are no longer interested in the meat.

219. During March and April, 1955, Mr. John Seago successfully caught a pair of young white rhino (a male and a female) for the Zoological Society's Gardens in Regent's Park, London. These have now arrived safely and are installed in their new home; they are the first white rhino in any British Zoo.

220. The main concentration of white rhino is in the Kali Obongi area of West Madi. In West Nile, white rhino are found in small numbers on the west bank of the Nile, northwards of the Ora river. In the Ogoko area there are few left, due mainly to the activities of poachers. Between Rhino Camp and Obongi, white rhino are more numerous, but nowhere plentiful.

221. The Era Crown Forest Reserve still holds many white rhino, in fact there are far more white rhino in this Forest Reserve than in both the Kei and Otze Forest Reserves combined.

222. In January, 1954, the Game Ranger, accompanied by the District Veterinary Officer, were charged by a truculent white rhino bull. A shot had to be fired over the animal's head, which turned it and enabled the safari to make good its escape. This animal was always to be found near Loreze in the Ilengwa range area, and had a reputation of being bad tempered. This beast has not been seen during 1955.

223. No damage caused to crops by white rhino was reported. These animals very seldom, if ever, enter cultivation.

224. Towards the end of 1954, a white rhino cow, accompanied by a calf, was killed by poachers near Ogoko Rest Camp. The calf exhibited great courage by remaining by the carcass of its mother for four days, charging anybody who came close, although it was suffering from a spear wound in its head and one in its flank. It eventually made off when the mother's carcass was buried and has not been seen since. The Game Ranger was not available at the time, or efforts would have been made to catch the youngster. The poachers concerned were eventually brought to book.

225. The Ogoko area, owing to its near proximity to Arua, is a popular area for visitors interested in photographing white rhino, many being successful.

226. *Black Rhino.* A few of these lumbering beasts are found in East Madi. They are very seldom seen and cause very little damage. No control was necessary.

227. *Giraffe.*—In early 1954, two small herds were seen outside the elephant Sanctuary in East Madi, but no signs have been found of them in 1955. The greater majority of African women in East and West Madi wear necklaces made of giraffe hair, which is always supposed to have been obtained in the Sudan! Although no carcasses or signs of giraffe poaching have been found, it can only be supposed that these animals have been killed off or else driven far into the elephant Sanctuary.

228. *NOMARTHRA. Ground Pangolin or Scaly Ant-eater.*—These animals are often met with in the Obongi area of West Madi, where they are quite common and well known by the local population.

229. Mr. John Seago, whilst in West Madi, was able to obtain a female together with her young. These two were flown to Regent's Park Zoo. He was also presented with other pangolin by the local inhabitants. These animals all escaped in due course. However, during the short time they were in captivity, Mr. Seago was able to feed them—in the past a very difficult task—on finely chopped raw liver mixed with milk.

230. Mr. R. Bloom, who accompanied Mr. Seago, is one of the few people to have ever seen pangolin mate. Mr. Bloom placed two newly acquired adult pangolin in a large box, and much to his surprise, they immediately mated.

231. *BIRDS. Whale-headed Stork.*—Odd birds may generally be found along the Nile.

232. *Woolly-necked or Bishop Stork.*—Generally seen in pairs in the swampy areas.

233. *White-bellied or Abdims Stork.*—A main migration route followed by these birds appears to pass through the northern end of West Nile and West Madi.

234. *Saddle-bill Stork.* Often seen in pairs in swampy areas.

235. *Duck.*—The 1954/55 duck season was a very poor one in the West Nile Range. In West Madi no duck were seen till early March.

236. *Secretary Bird.*—At one time thought not to exist in West Nile and Madi. However, these birds are fairly frequently met with in the Kali/Obongi area of West Madi, and in the Midigo and Rhino Camp areas of West Nile.

GENERAL

(a) Diseases of Game

237. *Rinderpest.* Early in February, 1954, rinderpest was discovered amongst buffalo at Loreze, north of Moyo on the Sudan border. A shooting campaign was undertaken in order to stop the movement of infected buffalo in a southerly direction, and this campaign was sufficiently successful to allow the Veterinary Department time to inoculate all cattle. However, the disease spread slowly southwards amongst buffalo, waterbuck and

312. *Topi*.—The topi is a very local but common animal in Karamoja, and can be found in large herds on the plains of Pian, Longorokippi and Kamu; around Iolelia the animal is also occasionally met with. Two animals were recorded in the Kidepo, but these were probably *D. k. tiang*, driven down from the Sudan by tribal hunts in Didinga; they were only observed for a few days and then disappeared, but were again reported, some weeks later, considerably further south.

313. *Dik-dik*.—The dik-dik is extremely common throughout the low bush countries of Suk, and it is also fairly common in the bush countries of Matheniko, Bokora, Jie and Dodoth. A very small dik-dik was recorded in the Kidepo Valley; it is not certain to which race it belongs.

314. *Klipspringer*.—The klipspringer is very local in Karamoja, and only occurs on the rocky hillsides, usually being seen in pairs or threes. Both the male and female carry horns in this district.

315. *Mountain Reedbuck*.—These animals are common in the Lochorlongolomoi area of Pian; in one place 16 were recorded. They also occur on Mt. Moroto and the Morongole range, including Lotim and Puta.

316. *Waterbuck*.—The waterbuck (*defassa*) is common along the foothills of Nangya range, the Kidepo valley and there are a few in the Longorokippi area; there are also a great number in the Loporokocha area of Pian/Suk. Waterbuck did a certain amount of damage to crops in the Karenga area, and three animals had to be shot. The horns of the waterbuck found in Karamoja are small, compared with the magnificent heads found elsewhere in Uganda.

317. *Uganda Kob*.—A small herd of eighteen kob suddenly appeared at Longorokippi dam; it is thought that during the heavy rains of 1954 the kob moved east from Teso, attracted by the succulent grasses of Karamoja. It is hoped that now that they have found Longorokippi they will stay there.

318. *Black Rhinoceros*.—Rhino today only occur in the north, with the exception of five that have somehow been cut off between Otukei and Longorokippi. They are also occasionally found between Kotido and the Rom/Kuputh road. In northern Karamoja the rhino is comparatively common; over a hundred are known north of the tsetse line. Rhino have bred well during the period under review, and about 20 calves have been reported. On two occasions rhino were seen mating in March. The horns of the rhino found in Karamoja are small, seldom weighing more than six or seven pounds and seldom exceeding 18 inches on the front horn.

319. *Hippopotamus*.—The three that live at Longorokippi dam still continue to flourish.

320. *Wart Hog*.—Wart hogs occur throughout the plains and bush country. During the 1954 outbreak of rinderpest they were sadly reduced in the north; however, one or two fine litters have recently been recorded and it is hoped that their numbers will soon recover.

321. *Giant Forest Hog*.—These enormous pig were found on Mt. Kadam, living high up in the cool forests at about 8,000 ft.

322. *Bush Pig*.—These destructive pigs only occur in small numbers in the mountains.

323. *Giraffe*.—Giraffe are fairly common throughout the plains and acacia country, being particularly common in the north and in the Lochorlongolomoi area, where large herds can frequently be seen. In spite of the poaching of these animals with wheel traps (the skin for sandals and tails for ceremonial purposes), the giraffe of Karamoja are thought to be on the increase. Calves appear to be dropped in January, February and March.

324. *Zebra*.—The most common species, *Hippotragus burchelli bohni*, is spread throughout Pian, Bokora, Matheniko and the southern half of Dodoth. In the extreme north, in the Kidepo valley, the Game Ranger recently found the maneless zebra; two specimens of this interesting animal were shot, to make quite sure that it was not just a freak. This race has previously only been reported from the Sudan.

325. *NOMARTHRA Scaly Ant Eater*.—This peculiar animal has only once been recorded, in Labwor.

326. *TUBULIDENTATA Ant Bear*.—These curious nocturnal beasts are common throughout the district, though they are seldom seen except on occasions in the headlights of a car. They are very local in their habits, and will live in a limited area which they patrol nightly; their holes leave ample evidence of their existence.

327. *HYRACOIDEA Hyrax*.—Heterohyrax, the rock variety, are to be found on most of the rocky outcrops in the district, whereas the tree variety, *dendrohyrax*, are to be found high up in the forests of Mt. Moroto and Kadam.

328. *RODENTIA Hares and Rabbits*.—Hares are common throughout Karamoja and particularly so in the dry thorn country. A rabbit, apparently similar to that found in Bunyoro, was found by the Game Ranger in Dodoth.

329. *Rats and Mice*.—Owing to the abnormal rains and abundance of grass and plant life, the rats and mice have increased to enormous numbers, the most common of all being the field rat, *arvicanthis abyssinicus nubilitus*. Two specimens of the spiny mouse, *acomys wilsoni*, were caught in Moroto; although very seldom seen it is probably quite common throughout the district.

(b) Birds

330. A great deal of work has been done on birds in Karamoja, but records of all the information required would be too long for inclusion in this report. It is proposed only to give a short account of the breeding seasons, and a few records of interest.



PLATE XI
Black Rhinoceros. [Photograph by T. R. H. Owen]



PLATE XIII
Ostrich chick. [Photograph by K. B. Robson]



PLATE XII
White Rhinoceros. [Photograph by T. R. H. Owen]



PLATE XIV
Hodada Ibis. [Photograph by K. B. Robson]