

In the near future, the Rhino TAG intends to address (jointly with the Captive Breeding Specialist Group) the black rhino subspecies issue, and a number of husbandry and management issues for both black and white rhinos. Additionally, the group will begin to examine research requirements, specifically in the areas of reproduction and health, since both are crucial to the development and maintenance of a captive self-sustaining population. The reproductive physiology of rhinos has not been fully studied and the development of technology in this area is seen as essential to the future use of germplasm transfer as a tool for the genetic management of controlled populations.

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The initial meeting of the Global Captive Action Plan Group for rhino will occur during the CBSG sessions in Singapore on 27-29 September, 1991. The purpose of the Group is to review all rhino taxa and recommend global priorities for captive propagation, *in situ* programs, and research projects.

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An Indonesian Rhino Conservation Workshop will be conducted in Bogor on 3-5 October, 1991. The purpose is to continue development of conservation action plans for the Sumatran and Javan rhinos in Indonesia. It will continue the process initiated at the June, 1989 Javan Rhino PVA Workshop.

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SUMATRAN RHINO GLOBAL PROPAGATION GROUP MEETS

The first meeting of the Global Propagation Group for the Sumatran rhino was convened in conjunction with the International Rhino Conference in San Diego. Attending were representatives of the four countries and eight of the eleven facilities maintaining captive specimens.

The purpose of the session was to review and advance the captive propagation program as part of the conservation strategy and action plan for this species. It was noted that since 1984, 32 Sumatran rhino have been captured and placed in participating institutions. A review of the mortality data indicated that nine animals have died from a variety of causes; however, the death rate has continuously declined over the years and no rhinos have died since 1989.

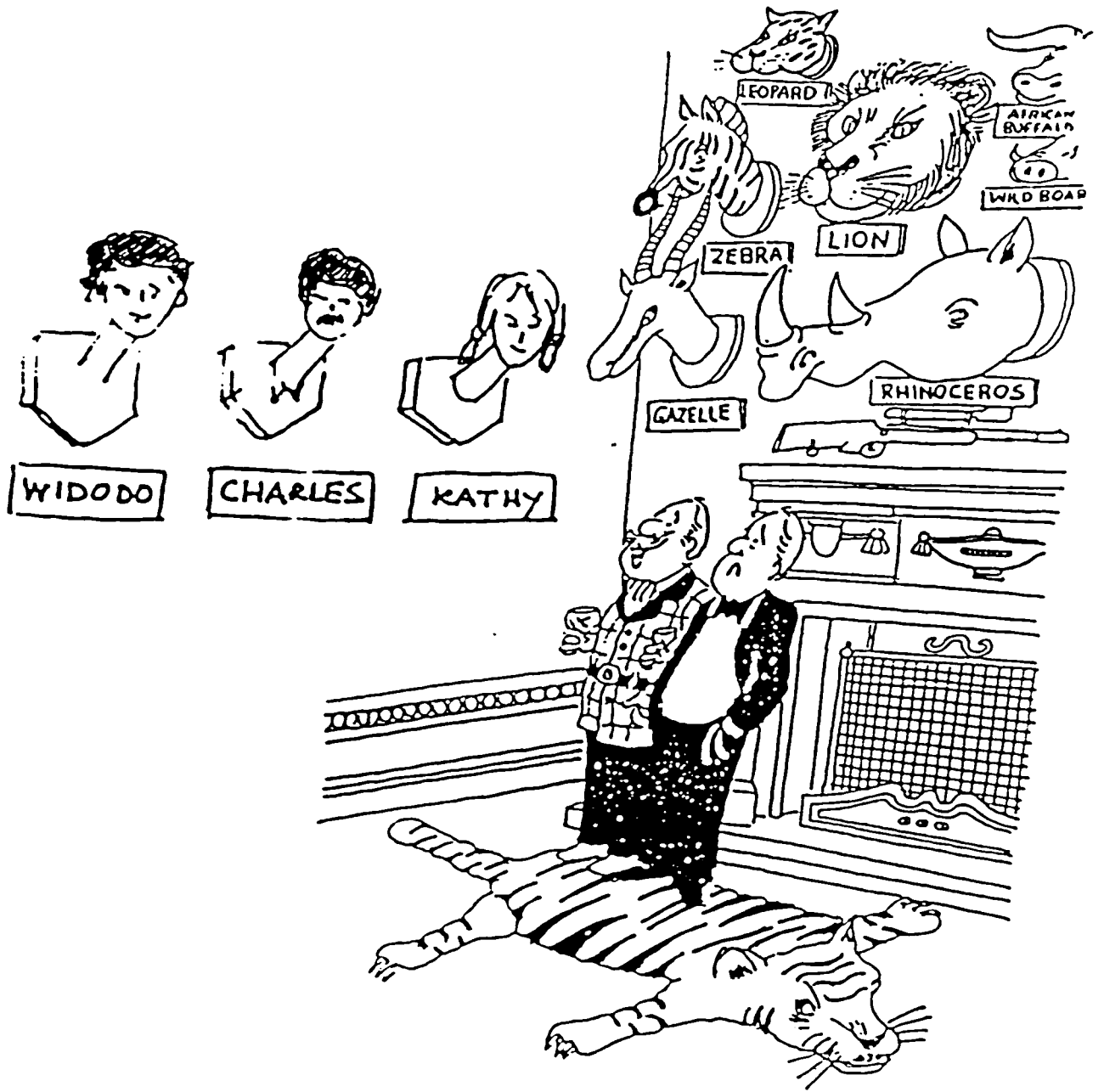
During the meeting, an institution by institution and animal by animal review of the captive population was conducted. Breeding activity in the United Kingdom and in Jakarta was described as were plans by the other regions to optimize reproductive opportunities. Generally, reproduction has been impeded by a lack of mature males.

Representatives also agreed to intensify efforts to investigate possible subspecies distinctions and to organize a working research group to improve cooperation and coordination among scientists in several countries.

SUMMARY OF SUMATRAN RHINO CAPTIVE PROGRAMS - 1984 TO 1991

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>CAPTURED</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>IMPORTED</u>	<u>EXPORTED</u>	<u>DIED</u>	<u>ALIVE</u>
P. MALAYSIA	2/9	0/1	1/0	0/2	2/2	1/6
SABAH	4/1	0/0	0/0	0/0	2/0	2/1
INDONESIA	6/10	0/0	0/1	3/5	0/1	3/5
THAILAND	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/1	0/0
U.K.	0/0	0/0	1/2	0/0	0/1	1/1
<u>U.S.A.</u>	<u>0/0</u>	<u>0/0</u>	<u>1/3</u>	<u>0/0</u>	<u>0/0</u>	<u>1/3</u>
TOTAL	12/20	0/1	3/7	3/7	4/5	8/16

T.J. Foose
19 June 1991



"I THOUGHT I'D BAG THEM BEFORE
THEY BECAME EXTINCT"

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