

January 1988

Animal Keepers' Forum

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Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

ANIMAL KEEPERS' FORUM, 635 Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS 66606

Editor-in-Chief: Susan Chan
Assistant Editor: Alice Miser
Assistant Editor: Ron Ringer

January 1988
Volume Fifteen
Number One

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Births and Hatchings, Continued

five Burrowing owls which were first seen out of the burrow in late May. Just a month later four Blue-crowned motmots emerged from their nest in the ground. At the same time, our pair of Red and white crakes laid two eggs. When the chicks hatched they and their parents were taken off exhibit until the chicks were large enough to live safely with the other birds. Our Ringed teal in the same exhibit area successfully produced eggs which were artificially incubated. And some of our eleven Greater prairie chicken chicks got to be guests on Captain Kangaroo in mid-August!

The Reptile and Amphibian Dept. was surprised and delighted to find sixteen Giant African millipede babies in the insect exhibit when keepers broke it down for renovations. As part of a reintroduction research project, four wild-caught gravid female Spotted turtles were brought to the zoo to lay a total of 20 eggs. The eggs were successfully incubated and the young are on exhibit. The adult females were returned to the wild.

The Small Mammal Dept.'s pair of Siamangs had their first baby, a female born in August. Within the same week our Blue duikers produced a female also. This was our adult female's second birth at our zoo and our adult male's first offspring born at our zoo. And breeding conditions must have been made right in our newly renovated Japanese macaque exhibit for our first birth occurred in July. Our five-month-old hand-raised Egyptian fruit bat is now being introduced to one adult female and will soon join the exhibit group.

Finally, our Wild North area saw increases in their hoofstock collections with 1.1 Bighorn sheep, 2.1 Reindeer and 0.1 Mountain goat. We also had one of our Mountain goats give birth in September which is 3-4 months later than normal. Even though the baby was a late birth, it was premature and died due to complications related to its prematurity. *submitted by Krista Boyd Larrow, Secretary, Burnet Park Zoo AAZK Chapter, Syracuse, NY.*

Tampa/Busch Gardens...reports the birth of 2.2 Addra gazelle, 2.2 Dorcas gazelle, 6.6 Impala, 1.0 Muntjac, 3.0 Scimitar-horned oryx, 1.1 Cape buffalo, 0.2 Springbok, 1.1 Grant's gazelle and 0.1 Nyala. Hatchings include: 0.0.1 Red-crested touraco, 0.0.11 Sun conure, 0.0.2 Scarlet ibis, 0.0.2 Jandaya conure, 0.0.1 Triangular spotted pigeon and 0.0.1 Yellow-streaked x Green-naped lorikeet. *submitted by Mary Bisenacher, Animal Records, Busch Gardens, Tampa, FL.*

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysore, India...Pundareeka Rao, an Indian keeper sponsored by the Zoo Atlanta Chapter reports the following births at his institution: 0.0.2 Black buck (*Antelope cervicopra*), 0.0.2 Fallow deer (*Dama dama*), 1.0 Rhesus monkey (*Macaca mulatta*), 0.1 Black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*), 0.0.2 Slender loris (*Loris tardigradus*), 0.0.1 Indian gazelle (*Gazella gazella*), 1.1 Bengal tiger (*Panthera tigris*), 0.0.2 Jungle cat (*Felis chaus*), and 1.0 Lemur (*Fulvus fulvus*). Hatchings included: 0.0.2 Sarus crane (*Antigone antigone*) and 0.0.2 Jacobean pigeon (family *Columbidae*).

Henry Doorly Zoo...Notable births at the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo from 1 September through 30 November 1987 are as follows. 29 November brought a first to our zoo with the birth of triplets to our polar bear "Olga" (*Ursus maritimus*). To date mother and cubs are doing fine. They will remain in their isolation den until spring at which time the sex of the cubs will be determined. "Olga" was wild-caught in 1965 and has produced 15 offspring since 1972.

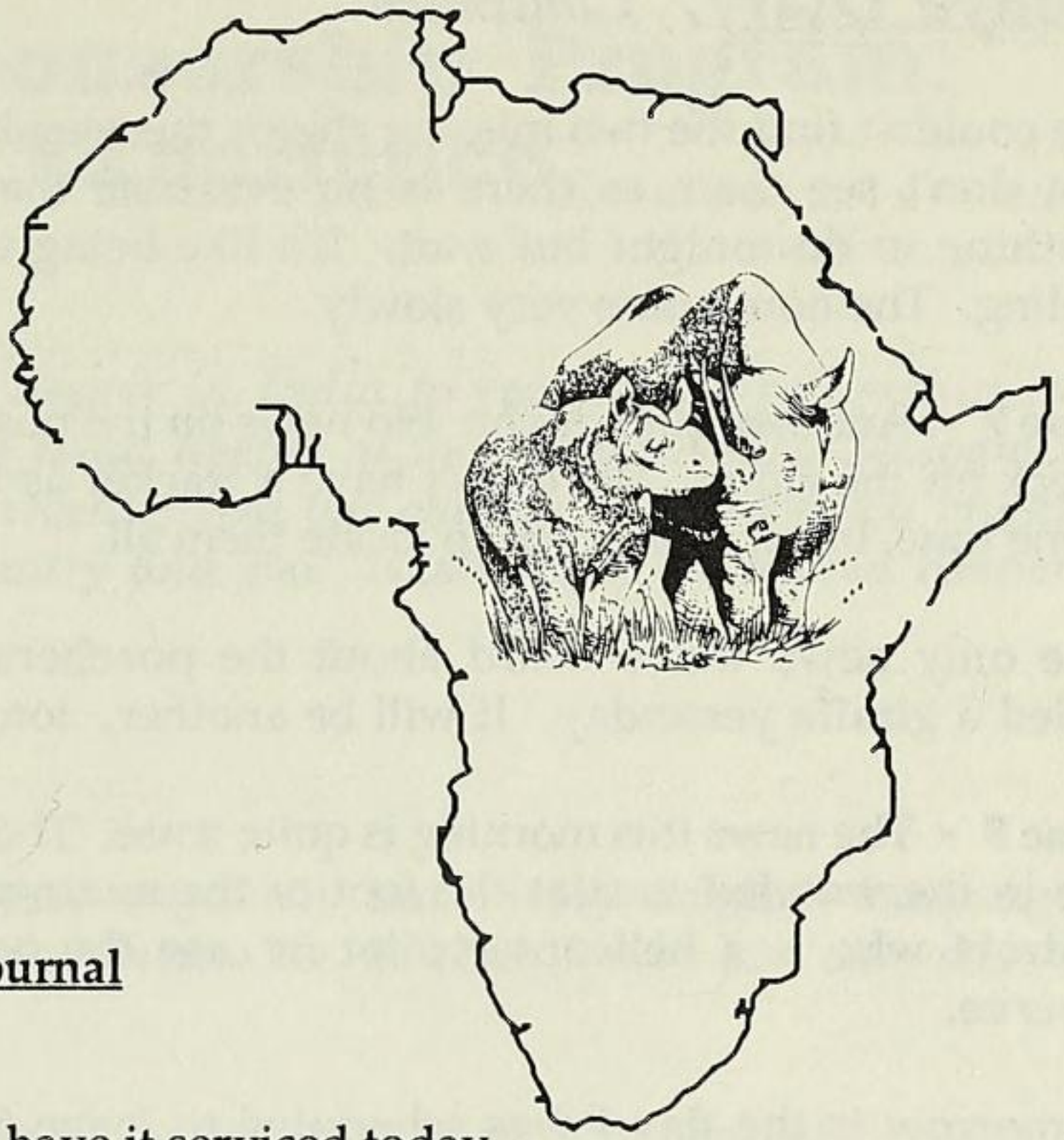
Another first for the Omaha Zoo was the birth of twin (1.1) Saddle-back tamarins (*Sangiunus fuscicollis*) on 10 September. Unfortunately the female died on 7 December.

Hoofstock births include 0.3.1 Nile lechwe (*Kobus megaceros*) [0.1 stillborn], 1.0 Alpaca (*Lama glama pacos*), 3.2 Llama (*Lama glama*), 1.0 Scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) [DNS], 0.0.1 Reeves muntjac (*Muntiacus reevisi*) and 0.0.1 Maxwell duiker (*Cephalophus maxwelli*). Other births include: 1.0 Mandrill baboon (*Papio sphinx*), 0.1

Kenya Diary

Part 4

By
Andy Lodge
Keeper, Columbus Zoo
Columbus, OH



On the Brink of Extinction: A Ngare Sergoi Journal

June 4, 1986 - I had to take my Rover over to have it serviced today as it isn't really running too well.

I was told poachers had killed some elephants near the ranch so everybody at the reserve is on the alert. Anna is quite worried and the fence patrol is on extra duty. They are not taking the poachers lightly.

David Craig is staying on the reserve tonight and he rarely does that. The anti-poaching patrol has been alerted from Isiolo, and trackers will be patrolling all night.

Anna has put Samia back on its normal milk diet, and it is doing much better.

I had another bat in my room last night. I spent from 3:00 until 3:30 a.m. trying to chase it out. It finally went out through an open window.

June 5 - We received more information about the poachers this morning, and the news was not good. They have been seen, or are at least rumored to be, very close to Lewa Downs, and are heavily armed, including machine guns. There are about ten to twelve of them, and they have killed eleven elephants and a giraffe so far.

Everybody on the ranch will be on patrol tonight except Jilly and myself. Jilly and I both insisted that we wanted to go with them, but Anna and David Craig said definitely not as we were not employed by Lewa Downs, and they were afraid for our safety. We both understood and accepted the decision, but we were not happy with it. There is nothing I can do but sit and wait and listen.

I learned tonight that the poachers are from a country to the north, who have terrorized across the Kenyan border before, and from all I hear, these guys play hardball. All of this going on doesn't make for a peaceful night's sleep knowing these guys are around and heavily armed.

June 6 - No trouble on the reserve last night, but we heard this morning there were as many as fifty of them. They killed fifteen more elephants yesterday plus giraffe and leopard. I hope people stop and think before they purchase products made from ivory about the suffering and terror these poor animals go through. I am witnessing first hand that poaching does indeed go on, and it's not a pretty sight.

Anna showed me the hills they were spotted in and said they could be on the rhino reserve in two to three hours. They know the rhino are here, and the rhino horn is much more valuable to them than any other animal product.

We checked on all the rhino this morning, and we've accounted for all but two of them. We will continue to look for those two this afternoon.

Kenya Diary, Continued

We couldn't find the two missing rhinos this evening. They are probably on the move and we just don't see them as there is no evidence that the poachers have been on the reserve. Nothing to do tonight but wait. It's like being under siege. For me it's a helpless, lonely feeling. The hours pass very slowly.

June 7 - Another quiet night. No news on the poachers yet this morning. Anna and I went to check on the rhino. We didn't have a tracker as they are all on guard on the fence. It took some time, but we managed to locate them all.

The only news we've heard about the poachers is that they are still close and that they killed a giraffe yesterday. It will be another, long watchful night.

June 8 - The news this morning is quite tense. The poachers have moved off the mountain and are in the wooded area at the foot of the mountain. Ian Craig has called a friend of his in Nairobi who is a helicopter pilot in case the poachers start their push toward the rhino reserve.

Tomorrow is the day I was scheduled to leave for Mt. Elgon to visit the famous 'elephant caves'. Park East has been arranging this trip for me for weeks. I went to Anna and told her I planned to cancel the trip because of the impending poacher attack. She insisted, however, that I go because it's a rare opportunity that may not present itself again. Since Kenyan law prohibits my having any kind of firearms, she said I wouldn't be allowed to get involved if something did happen anyway. So I guess I'll go, as that seems to be her wish. Although my thoughts will be here constantly on the life and death struggle to save the rhino.

A bit of welcome news today. We are pretty sure another of the females, Juno, is pregnant. We saw her this morning and she certainly gives every indication of calving soon.

During the last three days as I walked through the bush checking the rhino, I collected over one hundred insect bites of one kind or another. Since they are extremely itchy, sleeping is difficult at best.

We received some more good news tonight. The Kenyan Government has decided to take official action against the poachers. They have sent twelve men from the anti-poaching unit to the rhino reserve. This gives us twelve more rifles and we need every one of them.

June 9 - I left very reluctantly this morning for Mt. Elgon. I called Nairobi to make sure what hotel I was to stay in. When I called the Park East office in Nairobi, I was told I couldn't go into the cave area. They didn't say why, just that it was closed. Later I found out that the Mt. Elgon Reserve area was closed because of Ugandan terrorists in the area. Even though I truly wanted to see the 'elephant caves', I was ecstatic about the turn of events that would allow me to return to Lewa Downs and rejoin my friends at this crucial time.

When I arrived back at the reserve, Anna confirmed that there were indeed fifty poachers. She also told me that a government anti-poaching patrol, numbering about one hundred men, had been sent out to intercept the poachers. When they found the poachers a gun battle broke out and the government forces had two men killed and five wounded. As far as anyone knew, none of the poachers were killed. At last report the poachers were still headed our way.

To Be Continued.....

(Note: Andy is available to give talks and a slide presentation on the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Project. If you are interested in having Andy speak to your Chapter or group you may contact him at (614) 766-3413).



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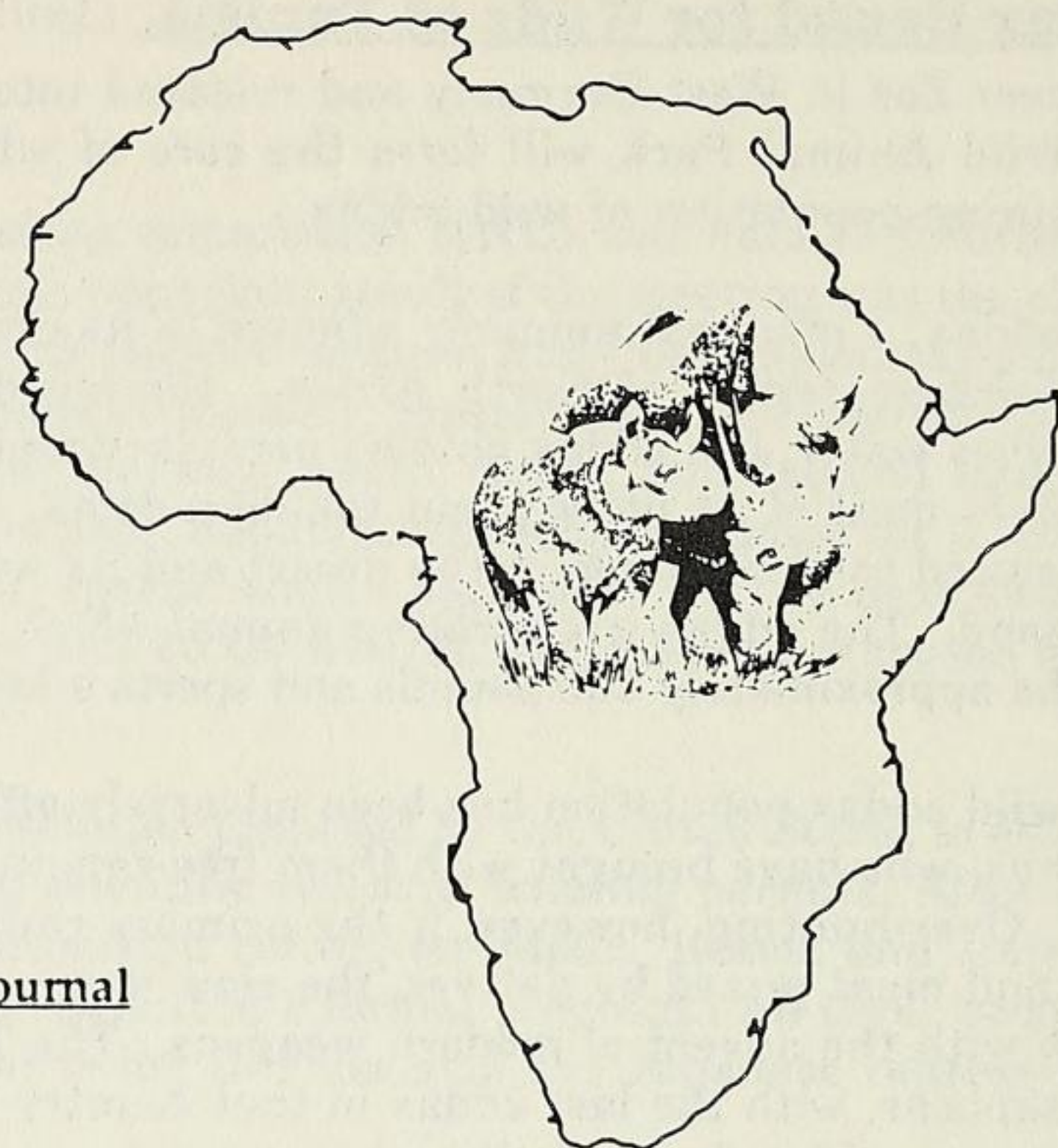
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Kenya Diary

Part 5

By
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On the Brink of Extinction : A Ngare Sergoi Journal

June 10 - Nothing new this morning except the poachers are still in the area and close to Lewa Downs.

Anna and I discussed what my plans were. She asked if I wanted to leave and go to Nairobi. I told her I wanted to stay and see this out. She made it clear I could be in danger here, and that she would understand if I wanted to leave. I told her I had decided to stay and my decision was final.

Anna and I went through her house getting all the first aid materials we could find. We tore up old bedsheets to make bandages and generally prepared for the worst if a battle broke out.

All the patrols are out twenty-four hours a day, and all we can do is wait and see if these people try to move into the rhino reserve. The sad thing is that with fifty of them they could wipe out all the rhinos in a short time once they got through the fence. Our best chance is to stop them at the fence.

The rhino study is on hold while the animals are still threatened. We are all avoiding staying close to the rhinos. If the poachers would see me from a distance sitting on top of the Rover taking notes, I'm sure they would guess that I was observing the rhino. Anna agreed that I should not be with the rhino until the crisis is over, and no one knows when that will be. All I can do is try to be as helpful to Anna as possible, and be ready if I'm needed in an emergency.

June 11 - The only report today is that the poachers have split up into smaller bands, and haven't moved far. Gun shots were heard last night, but that was it.

Anna and I went around and checked the rhino this morning. They are all right.

June 12 - The poachers, at least eight of them, moved into another game reserve yesterday and had a gun battle with the Kenyan Army. It is not known if there were any casualties on either side. We also heard the rumor that they're on the move again, and no one is certain what direction they're headed.

I spent the day observing Shaba and Jupiter. This was done in a remote section of the reserve where I couldn't be seen from outside the fence.

June 13 - Nothing new on the poachers. They have been quiet in this area for the past couple of days. We are hopeful that the threat to the rhinos is lessening. We can only hope and take it a day at a time.

The rains came today. It's the first rain since I've been here, and how it's needed! Everything has turned brown just in the time I've been here. My roof leaks badly, but I'm so glad to see the rain it doesn't bother me.

Kenya Diary, Continued

We had some really good news tonight. Apparently, the Game Department has captured four of the poachers and recovered some of the ivory. Maybe things are turning for the better.

The lion that's been raiding the cattle was shot today. I went over to look at it. It was a big male. It had killed fifteen cattle, so there was no choice but to kill it. They tried everything to chase it off, but all attempts failed. These are the realities of life in Africa.

June 14 - The news this morning is good and bad. The Anti-Poaching Unit and the Kenyan Army are on the trail of the poachers. The Army has reportedly killed two and have four more in custody. The Army is interrogating the prisoners about the others and the whereabouts of the ivory. From what I hear the prisoners are in for a very unpleasant interrogation session. The bad news is that eight poachers were seen in the valley very close to the rhino reserve. So the twenty-four hour vigil is still in effect. I hope this is settled soon so everybody can get back to normal.

After thirty days of trying to get close to the dominant male rhino, I finally got the chance today. I was within twenty yards of him. It's by far the closest I've been and I was able to get pictures of him from different angles. I was beginning to wonder if I could ever record this animal up close. He's the largest male rhino I've ever seen - a truly magnificent specimen!

June 15 - It's raining today which is good and bad. We really need the rain since it's been so dry, but it also makes tracking the rhino easier for the poachers. Eight of them were seen about two hours walk from here, and they were heavily armed, so the threat has not eased as we had hoped.

We checked the rhino this morning and only saw three of them. The rest are well hidden, but the poachers are expert trackers and could find them easier than Anna and I.

Because of the rains the roads are impassable for my truck, so I'm spending the rest of the day looking through some more of Anna's notes.

June 16 - More rain this morning. The roads are very muddy and driving is impossible. We had to move the horses back to the other side of the reserve where they have shelter.

With the rain, new vegetation comes up and so I've been able to collect some new samples of plants the rhinos eat that were unavailable before.

I received word this afternoon that two more poachers have been captured. Maybe this is finally going to end.

Anna gave me a going home dinner tonight even though I'm not leaving for awhile. We had it tonight because most of the people on the rhino reserve were here. Anna wanted me to see them all before I left. It was a nice evening and very thoughtful of Anna to do this for me.

June 17 - The weather here today is cold, rainy and very foggy. You can't see twenty feet in front of you. They say they've never seen weather this strange in June before.

The Game Department captured two more poachers last night and brought them to the reserve for questioning. I hope they get something out of them. Everybody here has been working around the clock for almost two weeks now and are really tired, myself included. The nights have been restless and sleepless for everyone for a long time. I slept a little today. I couldn't do much else because the weather has made it impossible to get around on the roads. I hope I can get some more rest tonight.

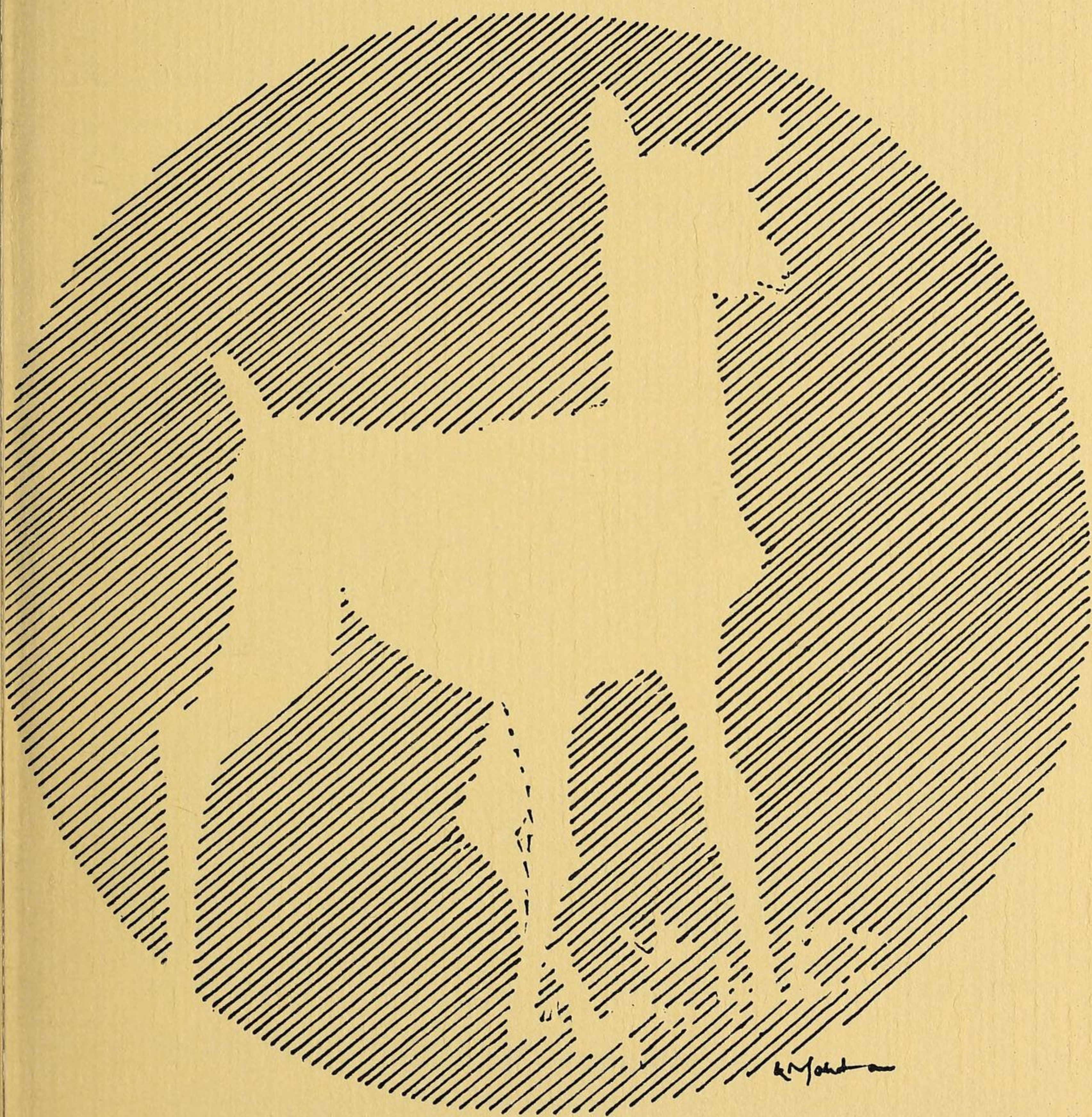
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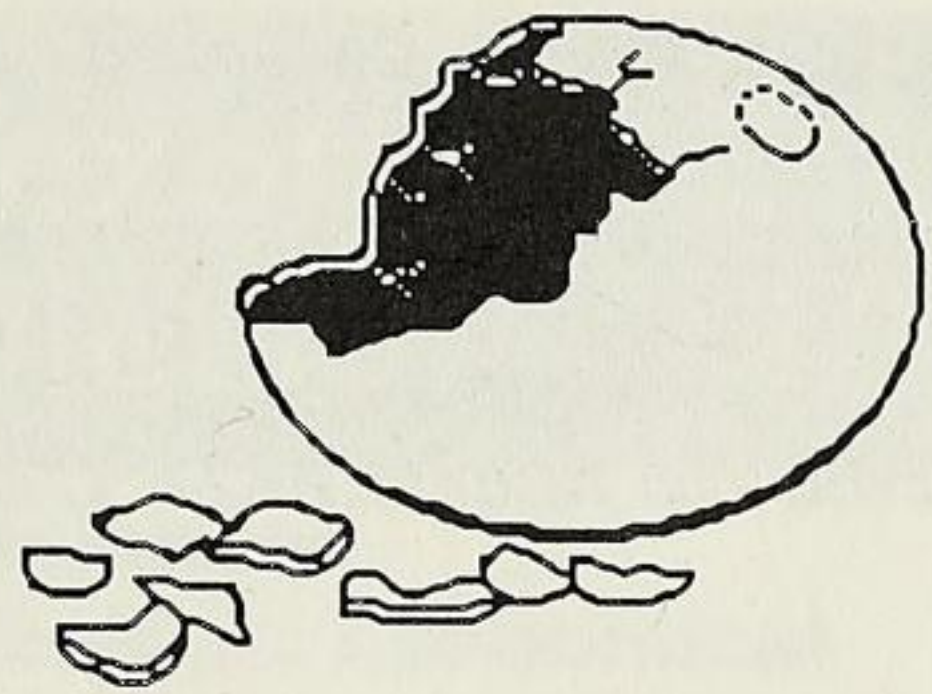
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Births & Hatchings



Correction from January B&H...on page 3 under the listing for North Carolina Zoological Park, the Troupial was incorrectly identified as an African species--it is native to South America and is in fact the national bird of Venezuela. Also the correct scientific name for the Indian sarus crane noted in the listing on page 4 from the Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysore, India should be *Grus antigone antigone*. Thanks to Paula Strasser, Assistant Director of the Pittsburgh Aviary, for bringing these to our attention.

Metro Toronto Zoo...reports these notable births and hatchings for November 1987: 1.0 Brush-tailed bettong, 1.0 Lion-tailed macaque, 1.1.1 Polar bear (a first for Metro Toronto Zoo - unfortunately they DNS), 0.0.3 West African dwarf crocodile and 0.0.7 Green spiny lizard. *submitted by Heidi Manicki, Chapter Liaison.*

Silver Springs Attraction (Florida)...B&H reported for June 1987 through January 1988 - A 1.0 White-handed gibbon (*Hylobates lar*) was born 19 November and was being nursed by its mother. But because of sibling rivalry from its older brother, the mother dropped the infant. We pulled it to hand-raise and he's doing just fine. Also being hand-raised are a 1.0 Sable antelope (*Hippotragus niger*) bringing our total number of this species to eight, and a 1.0 Reticulated giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) named "Khama" who was born 27 June. These two are located in our petting zoo. Other mammals born were 1.1 Reeves muntjac (*Muntiacus reevesi*), 1.1 Guanaco (*Lama guanicoe*), 1.0 Llama (*Lama glama*) [DNS], 0.1 Grant's zebra (*Equus bruchelli*), 10 Fallow deer (*Dama dama*), 1.0 Addax (*Addax hasomaculatus*) [DNS], and another Reticulated giraffe born on 6 January bringing our herd total to 11. Also born were 10 Mouflon (*Ovis musimon*) within a four-day span the week of 16 January. *submitted by Joann Zeliff, head keeper, Silver Springs Attraction, Silver Springs, FL.*

San Diego Wild Animal Park...reported is the birth of the Park's 70th Southern White Rhinoceros. The baby, a male, was born on 5 January and weighed in at 125 pounds. He was born in public view. He was named Dhoruba, meaning storm in Swahili (as it was raining during his birth), and is being well cared for by his mother, Dabula. It is Dabula's eighth offspring since 1976. Dhoruba's father is Rahisi, who arrived at the SDWAP in 1983. The age of both parents is unknown as they were captured in the wild as adults. The Wild Animal Park's breeding program began in 1971 with a gift of 18 white rhinos from the Natal Parks Board in Zululand, South Africa. Since then, there have been more white rhino born at the SDWAP than anywhere outside of Africa. Park-born rhinos now reside in New Zealand, The People's Republic of China, Belgium, Canada, West Germany, Taiwan and throughout the U.S. *San Diego Wild Animal Park News Release.*

Tampa/Busch Gardens...reported B&H for January include: 0.1 Grevy zebra, 0.0.1 Grant's zebra, 1.1 Addra gazelle, 0.1 Addax, 2.1 Soemmering's gazelle, 0.1 Dromedary camel, 1.0 Roan antelope, 0.1 Reticulated giraffe, 0.1 Muntjac, 0.1 Greater kudu, 1.0 Scimitar-horned oryx, 1.0 Sitatunga, 0.0.4 Jandaya conure, 0.0.1 Scaly-breasted lorikeet, 0.0.1 Scarlet macaw, 0.0.2 Goldie's lorikeet, 0.0.3 Golden-capped conure, 0.0.5 Sun conure and 0.0.2 Black-capped lory. *submitted by Mary Eisenacher, Animal Records, Buash Gardens, Tampa, FL.*

Births and Hatchings, *Continued*

Zoo Atlanta...B&H for Zoo Atlanta from 15 October 1986 to 15 January 1987 include: 0.1 Reeves muntjac (DNS), 0.1 Grant's zebra, 0.1 Mandrill baboon, 0.0.2 Black-necked swan, 0.0.4 Uracoan rattlesnake and 0.0.4 African shield-nosed cobra. *submitted by Tim Kurkowski, Zoo Atlanta AAZK Chapter Co-Vice President.*

Knoxville Zoo...The Smoky Mountain Chapter reports these significant births and hatchings at the Knoxville Zoo for 1987: A male Brazilian tapir, "Kiwi", was born on 4 September was our first tapir birth. Also in September, our Binturong pair produced their first offspring, a female named "Spooky".

A total of five Siberian tigers were successfully raised in our feline area under the Species Survival Plan: 2 females were born in January and 3 males in May. We are expecting Snow Leopard cubs in 1988. A male Malayan sun bear, "Teddy", was born on 18 July and was the first cub to be successfully raised by the mother, "Theta".

The Knoxville Zoo is second only to the National Zoo in breeding Red pandas and 1987 was a very successful year. A total of four Red pandas were born last summer bringing the number to 32 Red pandas born at the Knoxville Zoo since they were first acquired in 1977. All three breeding pairs produced cubs: one female born on 24 June and one male on 1 July; two more cubs were born on 31 July. The male did not survive and the female, "Spandea", was pulled at six days of age and has been successfully hand-raised. A male cub, "Wickett", was brought to Knoxville from the National Zoo as a companion for "Spandea". All four cubs were recently introduced to each other and continue to do well.

Our Herpetology Dept., noted for their achievements in reptile propagation and recipient of the Bean Award in 1986, reports 14 varieties born or hatched. The following were first breedings for the Knoxville Zoo: 0.0.3 Madagascan giant day gecko, 0.0.10 New Guinea blue-tongue skink, 0.0.6 Pueblan milksnake, 0.0.3 Russel's viper, and 0.0.2 Dwarf caiman (these two Dwarf caiman hatched 21 and 22 October, represent the first successful crocodilian breeding here). Also of significance: 0.0.3 Aruba Island rattlesnake, which is the first 2nd generation of captive breeding of snakes for our Reptile Dept.

Our Bird Dept. reports that last year 40 Emu eggs were laid and all but one hatched and was healthy. For the fourth year in a row we have been successful in hatching American kestrels and returning them to the wild. Six eggs were laid this year: five hatched and the chicks were raised by the mother. All five were released locally.

Births in our Primate Dept. include: 0.2 Ring-tailed lemur, 0.1 Brown lemur and 0.2 Lion-tailed macaque, our first for this species. Gibbon and Chimpanzee births are expected in 1988.

Some notable hoofstock births include: 1 male gaur born on Mother's Day, the third calf born at Knoxville under the Species Survival Plan. After two weeks of round-the-clock watching and much anticipation, our female Reticulated giraffe, "Patches", arrived in the early morning hours of 9 June.

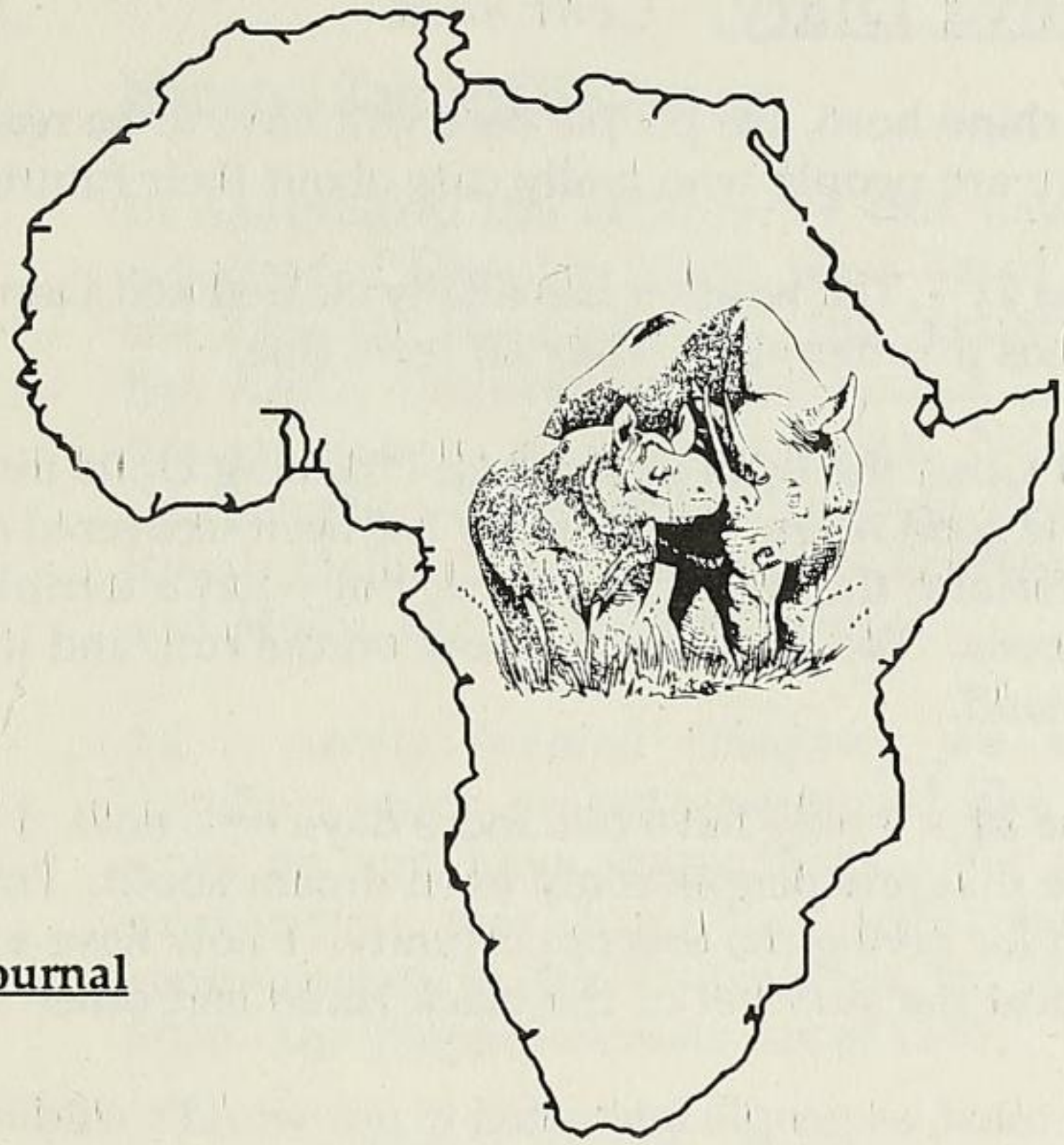
Breeding the Southern white rhino has been one of the most successful programs for the Knoxville Zoo, second only to the San Diego Wild Animal Park. In February, one male white rhino was born; although he did not survive, he was the 14th calf to be sired by our male, "Marvin". *submitted by Smoky Mountain Chapter, Knoxville Zoo, Knoxville, TN, Susan Ilgner, Chapter Liaison.*



Kenya Diary

Part 6

By
Andy Lodge
Keeper, Columbus Zoo
Columbus, OH



On the Brink of Extinction: A Ngare Sergoi Journal

June 18, 1986 - It rained all night. The reserve is at an absolute standstill. We can't move! Everything has turned into a quagmire. The roads are impassable. I can't even go in a four wheel drive. It's great for the rhino and other wildlife, but for people - we just have to wait the weather out.

They sent three more men from the Anti-Poaching Unit up last night. That gives us three more guns. The only report today is that five poachers are still in the hills near the reserve. They are on the move again, but their direction is not known.

The price of ivory is up, so this will probably be an ongoing problem for some time. The head of the Game Department is coming up tomorrow to discuss beefing up security at the reserve until the poaching raids are stopped. The Game Department confiscated twenty more sets of tucks yesterday.

We now have a cooking gas shortage, so boiling water for coffee and tea is on hold for awhile. We boiled just enough to fill thermos bottles to try to get us by for awhile. Oh, life in the African bush!

June 19 - The sun came out this morning for the first time in five days. I hope it will dry up the roads enough so I can get on with my work. Nothing new about the poachers yet today. We are still waiting for news.

June 20 - Rain and more rain today. Things are at a standstill again. It's starting to get a little boring. You can't get out, just have to stay inside and wait it out. This week they have had more rain than anybody ever remembers in the month of June. Anna's sick today. I'm looking after the horses and doing what I can for her. Even getting to the stables is difficult. The roads are totally impassable.

My time here is about up. Anna and I are going to try to leave soon to visit some other rhino reserves here in Northern Kenya. She wants me to see how some of the other reserves are run.

I think I've accomplished what I wanted here. A lot has happened while I've been here. I've tried to the best of my ability to fulfill the expectations that were set up for this study. I have arranged with Anna for others from the Columbus Zoo to come and study the rhino in an ongoing program. I know that our people coming here and observing the rhino in a wild environment will be of great value to us and to the zoo in preserving this truly magnificent animal.

The poaching threat seems to have lessened and everyone is breathing a little easier. Things were quite tense here for the past two weeks. Everyone is relieved that the threat to the rhino is hopefully over for the time being. However, I'm sure that as long as there is a market

Kenya Diary, Continued

for rhino horn, the people here will have to be ready to defend them. It's good to know that there are people who really care about their future.

June 21 - The weather has finally cleared and I am able to get around. I went and checked the rhinos this morning. They all seem fine.

Ted Goss, the head of the Anti-Poaching Units for all of Kenya, was here today and brought some good news. All the ivory has been recovered except for two missing tusks. It is important to reclaim the ivory, of course, but what a terrible waste in the slaughter of those innocent animals. The poachers are now on the run, and it definitely looks like the problem is finally in hand.

June 22 - I only have two more days here now. I have been privileged to have an experience here that few people could even dream about. I'm grateful to Anna Merz and the Columbus Zoo for giving me this opportunity. I now have a much greater understanding of how really critical the survival of the black rhino and other wildlife is in Africa.

We must, as people interested in our world's wildlife, do everything we can to make sure those like Anna can carry on their work. Without these people, animals like the black rhino have no chance for survival as a species in the wild. Anna's program, and others like it, need our support. Without financial help it's hard to say how much longer Anna can continue to keep the reserve going. I know that I will do everything I can to help her. I only hope I can encourage others to help in this important and worthwhile project.

This evening I got an unexpected surprise. Francis Dyer, the ranch foreman, came over and asked if I'd like to take an airplane ride. We flew over Lewa Downs and I really can't describe in writing how incredibly beautiful it was flying over this rugged landscape and watching the scattering of the wild herds below us. We flew as low as twenty feet over the heads of animals and all I can say is Wow!. It certainly was a great going away gift.

June 23 - Anna and I are leaving tomorrow for the other rhino reserves. I feel very good about her asking me to go with her.

We spent most of the day out with the rhinos. As evening approached we took the baby on top of the hill and watched the sunset. It was kind of a melancholy time.

As I leave, I know I shall never forget this place or the people who have been so very good to me. This ends the journal of my stay at Lewa Downs. I hope by sharing this I can convey to others what life is like on an animal reserve in Africa.

--- ***Kwaheri***

(Note: Andy is available to give talks and a slide presentation on the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Project. If you are interested in having Andy speak to your Chapter or group you may contact him at (614) 766-3413).

