

# Smithsonian Year 1967

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED JUNE 30, 1967, INCLUDING THE  
FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Washington 1967



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# National Zoological Park

THEODORE H. REED, *Director*



**H**EALTHY GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT in all areas again mark the year for the National Zoological Park. No one event overshadows all others. In the animal department a third gorilla and a sloth bear were born. In the research division a field study of the Ceylonese elephant was started. The new hoofed-stock area was opened and occupied. And constant improvement in such aspects of the Zoo's work as education, nutrition, and beautification of the grounds contributed to a very good year.

In the interest of conserving endangered species of animals, two female pygmy hippopotamuses from other zoos were bred to the National Zoo's Totota. Word has also been received that our male orangutan, Butch, who was sent to the Boston Zoo last year\* is now residing in Colorado Springs for breeding purposes.

## The Animals

Through gifts, births, purchases, and exchanges, the collection has increased so that it now contains not only more individual animals, but a greater number of species than ever before in its history, greatly adding to the diversity of the exhibits.

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\*See *Smithsonian Year 1966*, p. 154.



## STATUS OF THE COLLECTION

June 30, 1967

<i>Phylum: Class</i>	<i>Orders</i>	<i>Families</i>	<i>Species or subspecies</i>	<i>Individuals</i>
Chordata: Mammals	13	47	233	610
: Birds	21	75	426	1,309
: Reptiles	3	23	256	873
: Amphibians	3	13	38	228
: Fishes	5	10	31	177
Arthropoda: Insects	1	1	1	5
: Crustaceans	1	1	2	33
: Spiders	1	1	1	1
Mollusca: Snails	1	1	1	30
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>3,266</b>

To these figures should be added the 28 species, comprising 138 individuals, of small mammals under the care of the research division and not always on exhibit, giving a grand total of 1,017 species and 3,404 individuals.

Increased interest of the scientific community in the history of captive animals has led the Zoo to improve with an easy-retrieval system its method of keeping animal records.

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NOTE: Certain tabulated, statistical, and other information formerly contained in the report of the National Zoological Park in *Smithsonian Year* now appears as appendices to the Separate of this Report (available on request from the Director of the National Zoological Park). This information includes:

Visitor statistics and other operational information.

Report of the Veterinarian, augmented by case histories and autopsy reports.

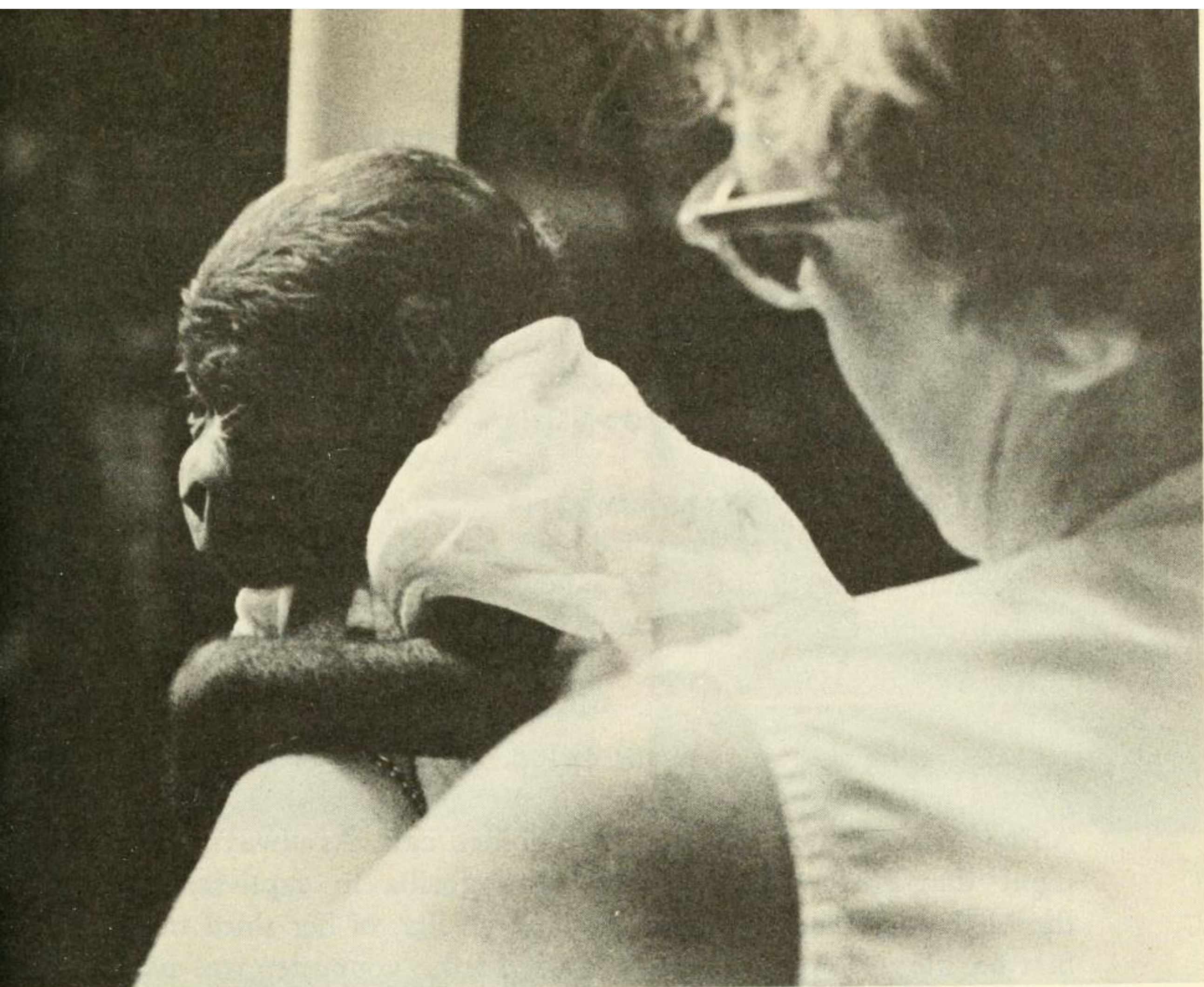
Complete lists of (a) animals in the collection on June 30, 1967; (b) all births and hatchings during the year; and (c) changes in the collection by gift, purchase, or exchange.

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In cooperation with the American Institute of Biological Sciences, the Smithsonian Institution sponsored an intensive course in bio-medical telemetry at the Natural History Museum auditorium, August 10 to 13. Special exhibits in connection with the course, held at the Zoo August 10 to 19, were:

Caiman: This reptile swallowed a radio transmitter which senses temperature and telemeters it to an external receiver, whether the animal is in or out of the water. Visitors could detect the clicking signal and calculate the caiman's temperature for themselves.





Four-day-old Inaki, lowland gorilla, the third offspring (and first female) born to Moka and Nikumba.

**Llama:** A subcutaneous probe from an attached external transmitter sent pulses to a receiver for continuous recording. These indications, which are useful in disease diagnosis, showed much smaller changes in this warm-blooded animal than in the caiman.

**Pronghorn:** A transmitter carried externally by the animal emitted a pulsating signal which could be heard on a receiver with turnable antenna. Rotation of direction-finding receiver by the visitor allowed him to locate the animal in the paddock.

These exhibits were set up by R. Stuart Mackay of the University of California, in cooperation with the Zoo staff.

Moving the white rhinoceroses turned out to be one of the most elaborate engineering feats to be accomplished during the year. From their rather small cage and outdoor yard in the elephant house, which they had occupied ever since their arrival here on September 4, 1956, Bill and Lucy were transferred to a moated hillside where they can be viewed without any obstructing bars. Their new home is in an area reserved for hoofed stock too delicate to winter outdoors, and it is an ideal spot in which to display these valuable and magnificent animals.



Special ramps that would bear the weight of the rhinos (Bill weighs 4,865 pounds, Lucy 3,630) were built by the mechanical department in order to have the animals walk onto the waiting trucks. With the aid of tranquilizers administered by Zoo veterinarian Clinton Gray, and with eleven stalwart keepers to push and tug, both animals made it safely. The distance traveled was about 500 feet—the time required, four hours.

With completion of the new hoofed-stock area, the zebras and Mongolian horse were returned on September 2, 1966, to the Zoo, after having been boarded at a farm in Maryland. The first major birth in the area was that of a male Grant's zebra on April 12, 1967.

### BIRTHS

Outstanding mammal births included a sloth bear, a brown lemur, golden marmoset twins, five serval kittens, two of the rare little South African black-footed cats, and two golden cats. As always, the excitement that surrounds the birth of a gorilla in captivity attended the birth to Moka, the Zoo's lowland gorilla, of her third infant and first female, on April 8, 1967. Inaki, as the youngster was named, is being reared by Mrs. Bernard Gallagher, who successfully reared the first two gorillas born at the National Zoo. The birth this year of 5 Barbary apes, more than in any previous year, brings to 27 the colony which is being built up for the monkey island that is in the Zoo's future plans. Mating of the black rhinoceroses has been observed, and if the signs of pregnancy are reliable, a rhinoceros will be born during fiscal year 1968.

Among the bird hatchings followed by successful raising were those achieved by crested green wood partridges (14), Hawaiian ducks (9), black-necked swan (1), kookaburras (5), Pentland's tinamou (2), and the bare-throated tree partridge (1). The first emu chick to be hatched in the Zoo appeared, but perhaps the rarest of all was a tiny elf owl; so far as is known, the only other elf owls to be hatched in captivity are at the Sonora Desert Museum in Arizona, where conditions closely simulate their natural habitat and are not at all like those for our little pair behind glass in the bird house. Birds that had first nestings but were unsuccessful in hatchings were the rufous-thighed falconet, red-billed oxpecker, and collared forest falcon.

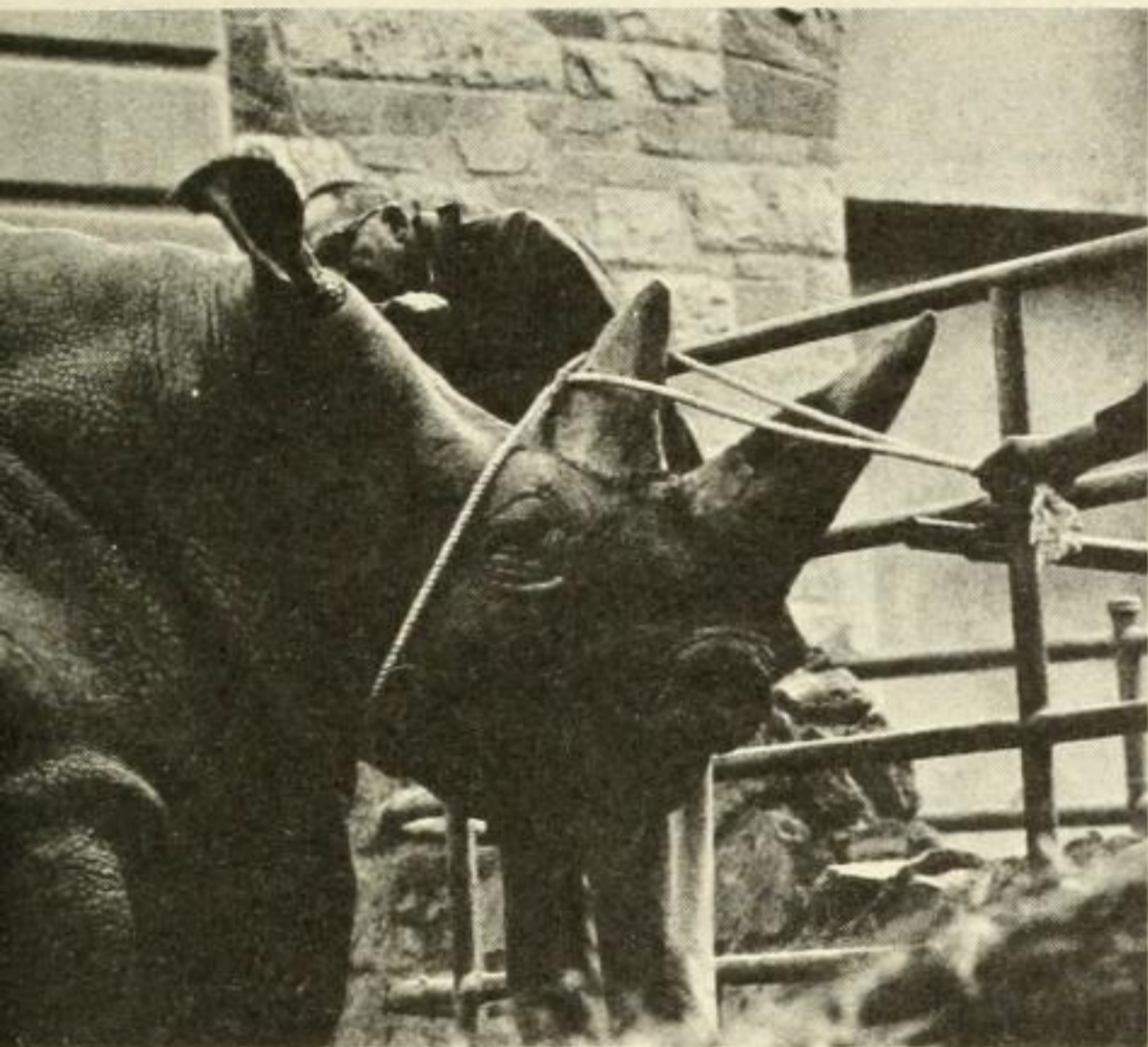
Noteworthy reptile hatchings were those of the banded red snakes (2) and the eastern indigo snake (1).

### GIFTS

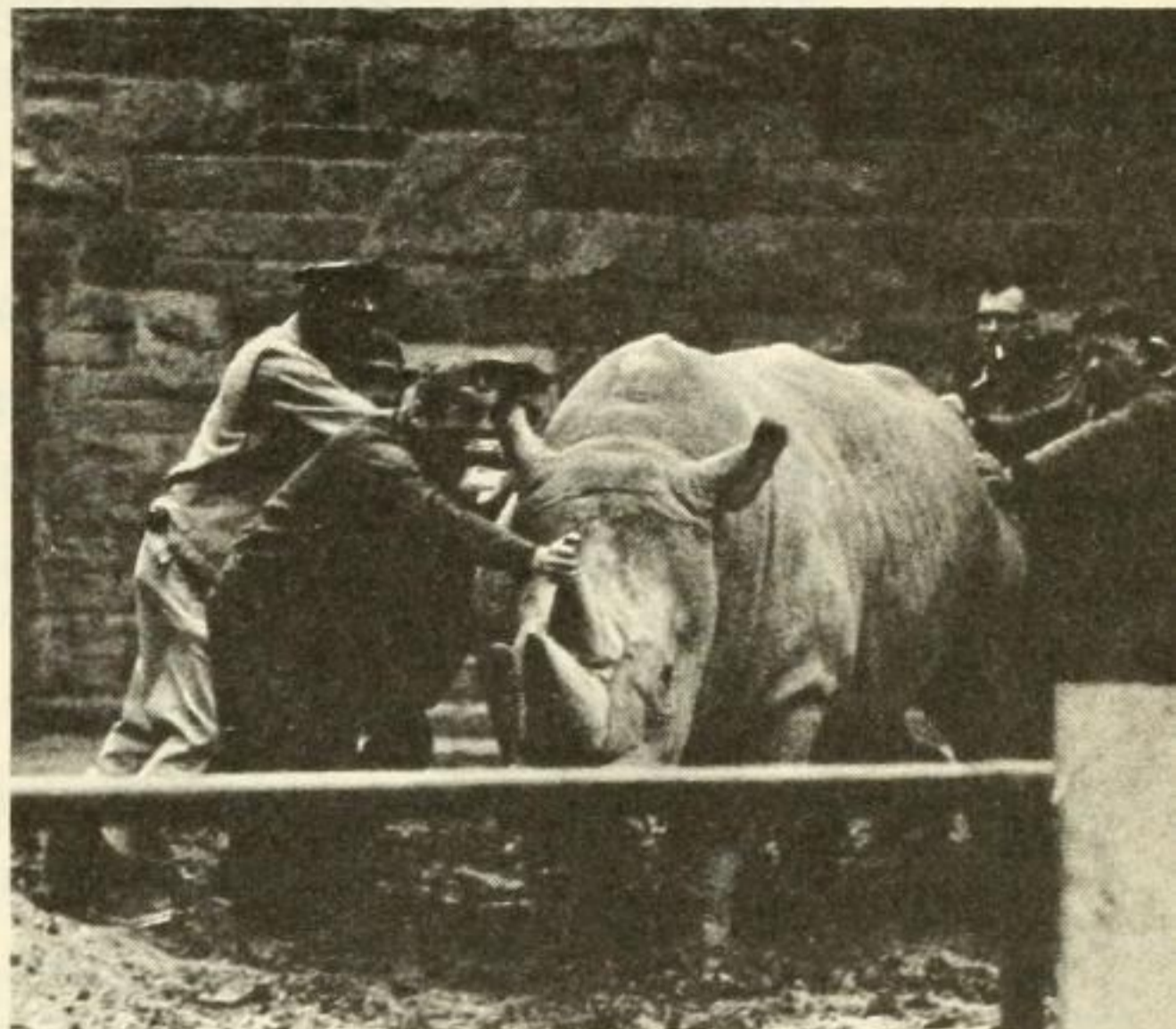
As usual, the Zoo was the recipient of numerous, much appreciated gifts. A complete list will be found in the Appendix (see note, p. 156).



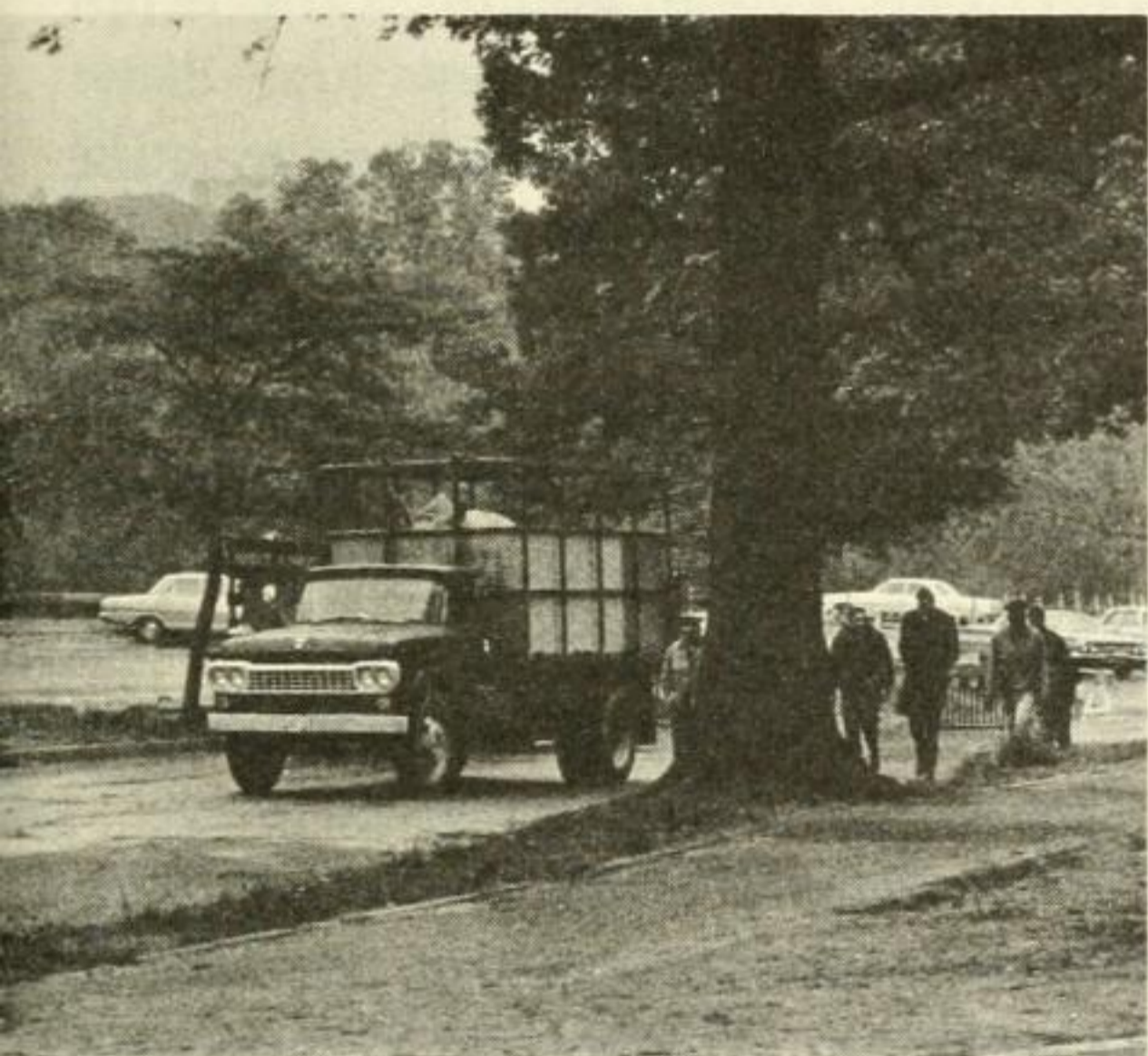
MOVING A WHITE RHINO  
TAKES . . .



*Tranquilizing . . .*



*coaxing . . .*



*hauling . . .*



*pulling . . .*

*and finally . . .  
the new quarters.*

