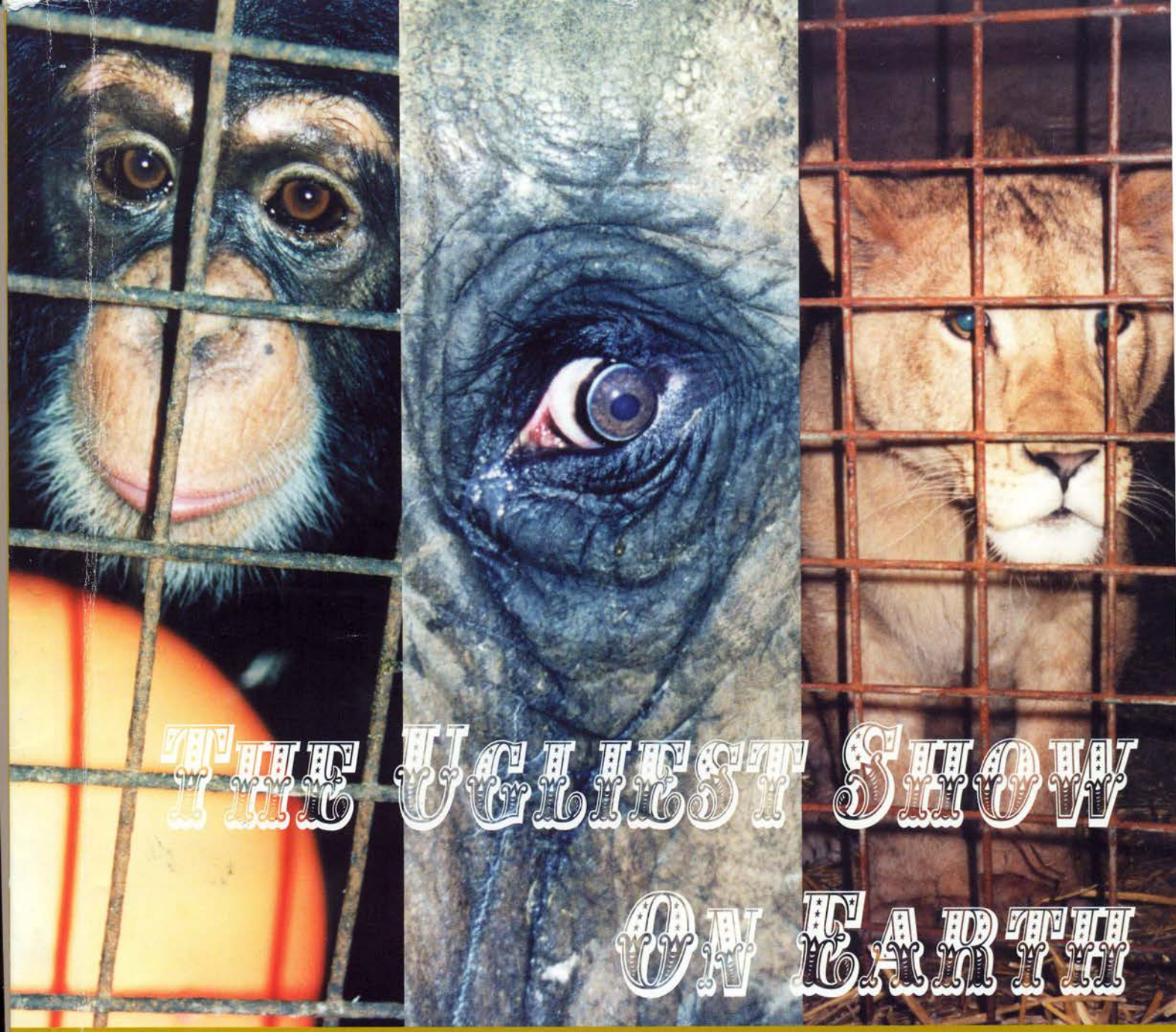


THE UGLIEST SHOW ON EARTH

the use of animals in circuses

The Circuses and Their Animals
Accommodation, Health, Travelling, Training
Physical & Psychological Effects
Circus Animal Trade and Movement
The Law

ANIMAL DEFENDERS

The Ugliest Show on Earth

a report on the use of animals in circuses

by Jan Creamer and Tim Phillips

This report would not have been possible without the work of
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ISBN: 0 905225 12 0

THE UGLIEST SHOW ON EARTH

a report on the use of animals in circuses

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1. INTRODUCTION

During 1997, 23 circuses toured the UK with a total of 305 performing animals. Additional domestic and exotic pets, and animals in training, were present. 10 circuses were animal-free, 6 toured with domestic animals only, and 17 also had exotic animals.

Little is known of what goes on behind the scenes in the circus world. Based upon previous studies of circus animal suffering it would appear that, given the best will in the world, the nature of circuses is such that they cannot provide the facilities necessary for the well-being of their animals.

The last study of the behaviour of animals in circuses was in 1989. Although this study observed circus animals in different accommodation, it did not follow them on tour, nor gain access to routines in winter quarters over a period of time, including training. This study found that all species of animals observed in circuses exhibited signs of abnormal behaviour from stress, and that some species were shut in wagons for over 90% of the time[1].

Almost ten years later, it has been appropriate to look at the living conditions of circus animals again. This report presents evidence gained in the latest study of the use of animals in circuses; information on the working practices and attitudes of circus staff, and the effects of circus life on animals has been gathered. These finding have been related to the inadequacies of current legislation, and recommendations for future action are made.

The Study

Two methods were used to collect data for this study:-

First, a team of Field Officers worked in circuses in a variety of roles such as grooms, general workers, 'beastman', etc.. The task was to observe and note the behaviour of the animals when they were not performing, study working practices, attitudes of staff, animal management routines, travelling, training, circus animal supply, animal accommodation and health.

Second, a survey and paper research to collate data on the number of performing animals in the UK, the number of registered animal trainers, animals registered at permanent, or winter, quarters, circus animal supply, and legislation.

The period of the study was September 1996 to January 1998. Data has been collected on animals performing in circuses for 1995, 1996, and 1997. Study of animals and working practices in winter quarters and in travelling circuses was

7,280 hours. Activity was recorded on videotape, and in addition, fixed cameras were used to record animal activity over 24 hour, 1 week, and 1 month periods to record animal behaviour both when the circus workers were present, and when they were not. Videotaped evidence amounts to 375 hours of tape.

In this report, a picture is revealed of a life of boredom for the animals, all too often punctuated with intimidation and beatings.

It is hard to imagine the physical and mental torment of spending all day, every day, tied to the ground by 1.5 to 2.5 metre chains. Furthermore, there is no relief at night, when again, the chains restrict ability to lie down and turn about. This is life for a circus elephant, for up to 20, 30, or 40 years. Death is the only release.

Definitions

'Winter' Quarters

We have used the circus term, 'winter quarters', to describe the permanent holding facilities where travelling shows reside for 2-3 months of the year. However, it is important to recognise that 'winter quarters', or permanent quarters, are not necessarily empty during the summer. Many circuses and circus act suppliers have a variety of animals in residence in the summer months, whether returning from abroad, or in between bookings.

Job Titles

Beastman is a circus name for a large animal keeper, such as large cats, elephants, an so forth. Grooms look after other ungulates in addition to the horses. A Ring Boy helps put up and dismantle the ring tent, assists with animals, takes props in and out of the ring during shows. Our Field Officers worked in each of these capacities, and also as general workers.

Beastwagon

'Beastwagon' is the term used to the cage on the back of a lorry used for animals such as big cats, bears, and others. The animals live full time on their mode of transport.

Exotic or Wild

Finally, it is helpful to point out that we have elected to use the word "exotic" to cover both the "dangerous wild animals" as defined in law, and the exotic domesticated animals. Thus, exotic in this report covers elephants, large cats, llamas, and all other non-indigenous species.

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1. Kiley-Worthington, M. 'Animals in Circuses', 1989

2. THE CIRCUSES AND THEIR ANIMALS

Circuses use a variety of animals in their shows, and animals are either part of their own collection, or acts of presenter and animals are rented from trainers.

In 1997, some 23 circuses toured the UK with over three hundred performing animals; most common were horses and ponies (almost half of all the animals), but other animals such as camels, dogs, domestic cats, leopards, a rhinoceros, sixteen elephants, fifteen lions and sixteen tigers, sea lions, and others were on tour. In addition, almost all of the circuses were studied had numerous "pet" animals including horses, dogs, pigs, llamas, camels, even a leopard. There are no central records of circuses and their animals, and although local authorities should send copies of Performing Animals (Regulation) Act registrations to the Home Office, many do not. We found also, that the registrations were not kept up to date (see section 8 Legislation).

In order to obtain the numbers of animals travelling, it was important therefore to identify the circuses and their own standing collection of animals, freelance trainers/presenters with their animals, and animal trainers who rent out groups of trained animals with a presenter.

There is much confusion about who owns the animals seen in the ring, who trains them, and the relationship of the presenter to the animals (see section 5, Training, Rehearsals, Performance).

Confusion about numbers and species travelling is common in the circus world as well, for example Malcolm Clay, Secretary of the Circus Proprietor's Association(the main body representing the circus business in the UK) recently claimed that there had not been a sea lion act in the UK for many years[1]. Yet a sea lion act toured in the UK with Chipperfield's Circus in 1994, 1995, and 1996.

In addition, UK circus animal suppliers send animals all over the world. We discovered 85 animals supplied to circuses overseas, including eleven bears, three elephants, fifteen horses and ponies, one hippopotamus, three leopards, nine lions, twenty-three tigers and a wolf. Statistics proved difficult to trace, with the relevant government departments unable to say what animals passed through UK borders, categorised by use of animals. We would estimate that the true figure of flow of animal acts passing in and out of the UK is far higher than this. Furthermore, some animals stay abroad for years, constantly traversing the globe from Europe, to the USA, Japan and the Far East. Often, animals are not returned to the UK because of quarantine regulations (see section 7, Animal Supply).

The tables overleaf give a breakdown of animals which performed in UK circuses during 1995, 1996, and 1997.

CIRCUSES TOURING UK 1995 - 1997

NB: *Domestic animals includes Horses, ponies, dogs domestic cats and livestock (chickens, geese, cattle)*

Number of circuses and types of animals presented

1995

Animal-free	9
With domestic animals only	4
With exotic animals	18
Total	**31**

1996

Animal-free	10
With domestic animals only	3
With exotic animals	20
Total	**33**

1997

Animal-free	10
With domestic animals only	6
With exotic animals	17
Total	**33**

Breakdown of animals by species and year

	1995	1996	1997
Ankole	1	1	1
Bear	1	2	2
Bison	-	-	2
Cattle	-	2	1
Camel	20	15	22
Cats (domestic)	6	4	48
Chicken	1	3	1
Dog	42	22	26
Donkey	2	1	8
Doves/Pigeons	8	12	6
Elephant	19	17	16
Geese	8	11	12
Guanaco	1	1	1
Giraffe	-	1	1
Goat	9	14	13
Hippopotamus	-	-	1
Horse/Pony	158	110	120
Leopard	-	-	2
Lion	18	9	15
Llama	4	17	21
Macaw	2	2	3
Monkey	1	1	1
Mule	1	-	-
Pig	-	1	-
Rhinoceros	-	-	1
Sea Lions	3	3	-
Sheep	-	1	-
Snake	6	9	7
Tiger	20	28	16
Zebra	4	3	1
Zebroid	1	1	1
Total	**336**	**291**	**305**

Animals supplied to circuses overseas by UK suppliers

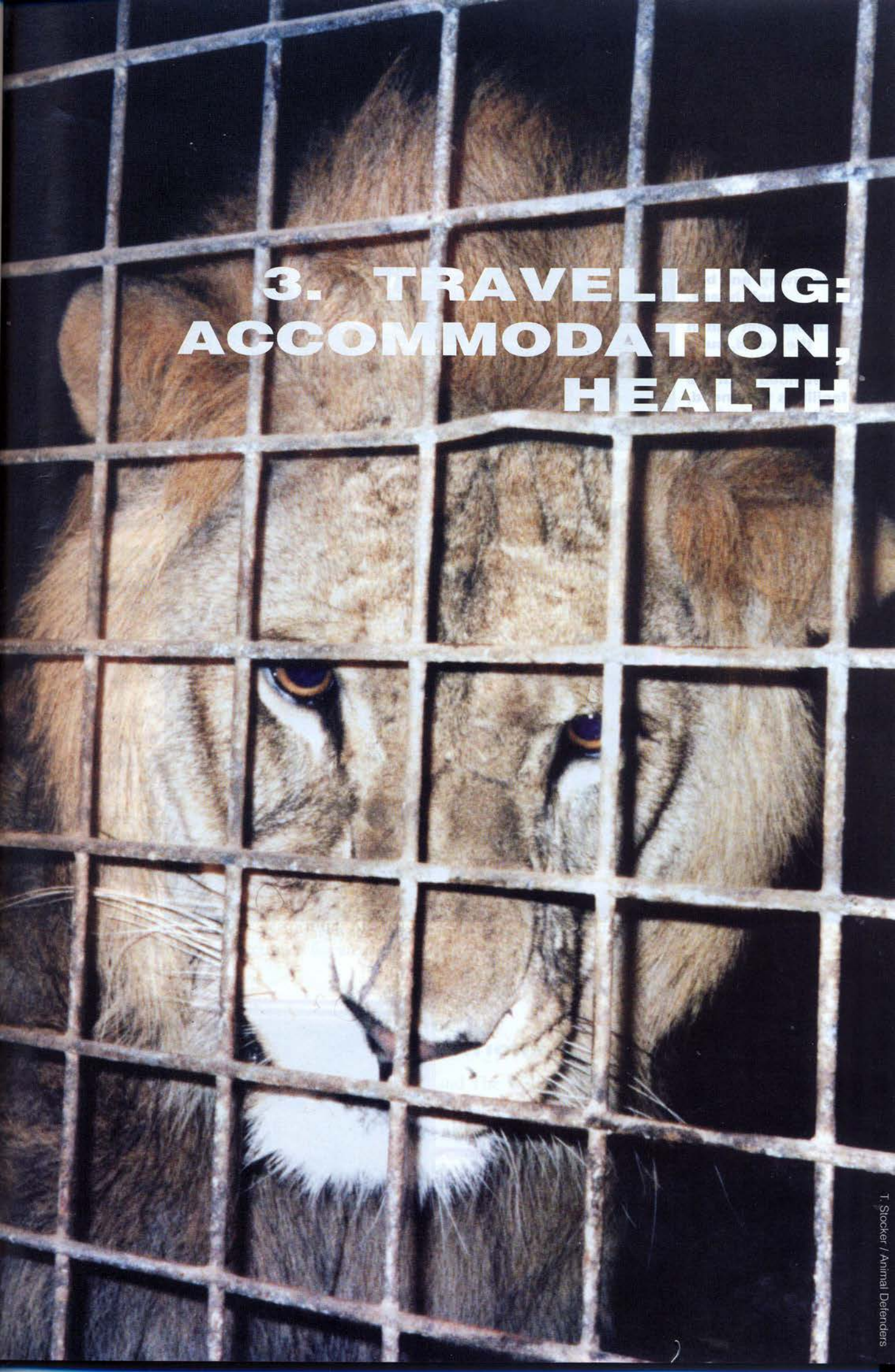
(study sources only: government figures not available by use of animal)

	1995	1996	1997
Bear	9	11	11
Black Panther	3	3	-
Camel	2	2	4
Cattle	-	-	2
Elephant	1	6	3
Giraffe	-	1	2
Horse/Pony	4	17	15
Hippopotamus	-	-	1
Hyena	1	1	1
Jaguar	2	2	-
Leopard	9	15	3
Liger	1	1	1
Lion	12	22	9
Llama	-	2	4
Tiger	22	37	23
Wolf	1	1	1
Zebra	-	2	5
Total	**65**	**123**	**85**

References:

1. Clay, M., speech at 'Circus Safety and Welfare of Animals used in Entertainment', seminar organised by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, Woburn Safari Park, 3.12.97

3. TRAVELLING: ACCOMMODATION, HEALTH



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders



Elephants with Circus King.

Chained onto board with little room to stretch the limbs, standing in their own excrement. Their only relief is to sway, and bob their heads.

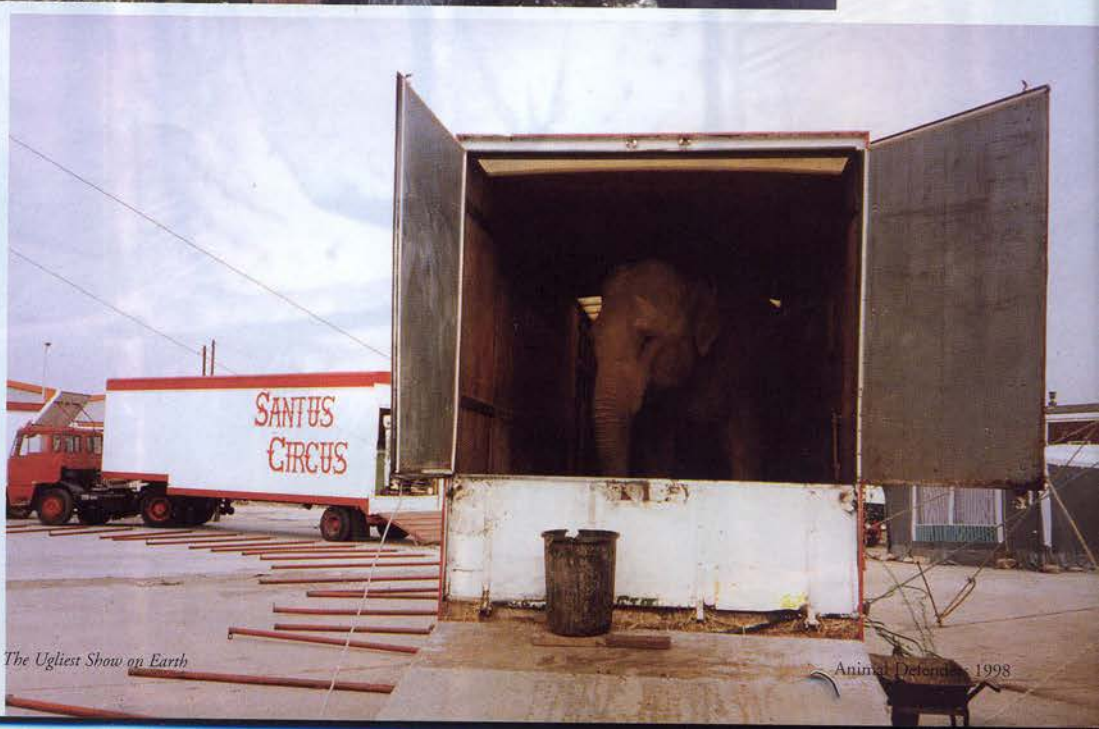
With the best will in the world, such animals cannot be provided with the facilities they need, travelling with a circus



Pony with Circus Markus

Most of the day will be spent tied like this, facing the wall

T. Stocker / Animal Defenders



Rhanee chained in the wagon in which she sleeps. Alternatively, she may be chained in a tent, or chained in a field.

Over 96% of her day is spent chained with no freedom of movement.

3. TRAVELLING: ACCOMMODATION, HEALTH

Circus animals spend almost their entire lives on the road, moving from one makeshift encampment to another. When the summer touring season ends, if they are not booked for a Christmas season, they will go back to winter quarters for two or three months.

Travelling for circus animals means unbearably long hours shut up in transporters and beastwagons. When the circus moves from one site to another, these animals may spend almost a full day, or even longer, in their wagons.

Big cats live in cages on the backs of flatbed lorries, called beastwagons. These average 11.75m long by 2.4m wide, by 2.3m high, and have the appearance of shipping containers, such as those seen carrying goods at dockyards. This study shows that they can spend 75-99% of their lives living in their tiny beastwagons.

Exercise areas or cages may be provided if the site is suitable, space is available, and time permits. In fact, 'exercise' cages are generally far smaller than the name would imply.

Some animals can spend almost the whole day, every day, with their movements tightly restricted. During our study, one elephant spent 96% of her time chained in either the lorry or the tent, or if available, chained in the field. Some days, she was chained up for 98% of the time. This animal rocks and nods her head in an effort to relieve this physical and psychological torture being inflicted upon her by human beings, in the name of 'family entertainment'.

In the wild, elephants live for up to 60 years in large family groups, constantly on the move, travelling up to 20 miles a day. They enjoy bathing in water holes, and socialising. Wild elephants have been observed touching dead companions, sometimes placing leaves and bush over the body and using 'graveyards'.

Stable tents can be very uncomfortable places for horses and ponies. Tent roofs can leak, and in one incident, a leaking roof flooded the stable during the night, in the morning the animals were huddled in corners, damp and cold.

Circuses are allowed to carry on like this because they have been exempted from other welfare laws, and the Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 lacks welfare regulations. See section 8 for an analysis of current legislation, and suggested solutions.

3.1 ANIMAL TRANSPORT REGULATIONS

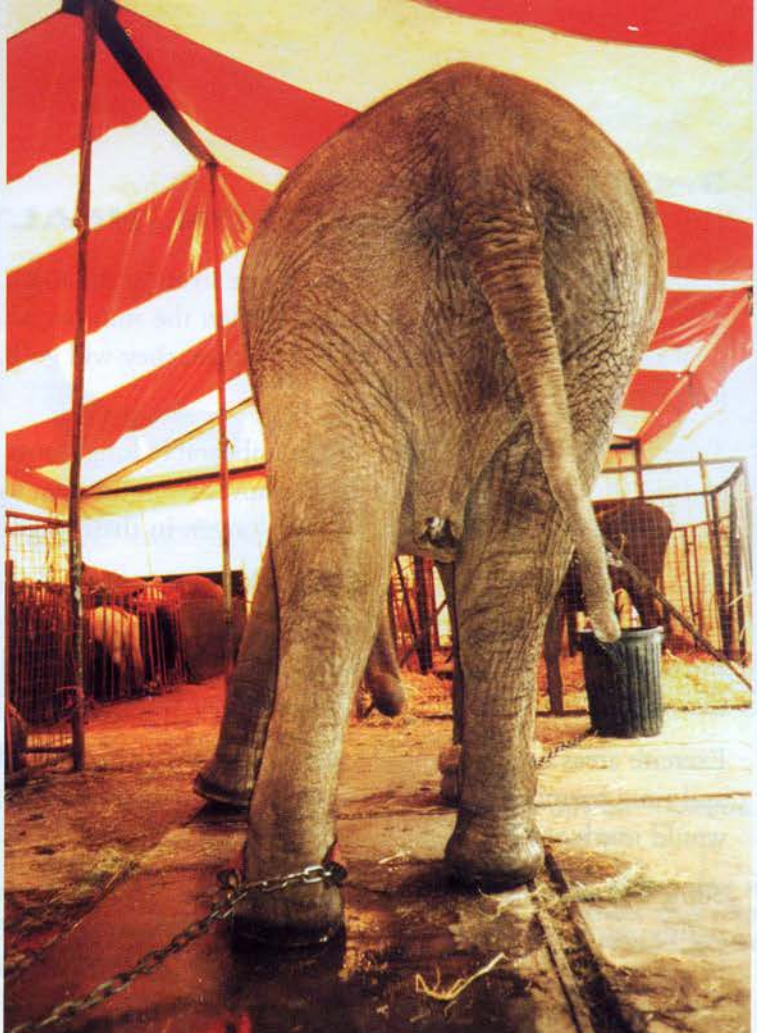
Relevant regulations are the EU Directive 91/628, and The Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 1997. Overall, regulations for animal protection during transport have had consistent themes for a number of years: animals not to be transported in such a way as to cause injury or unnecessary suffering; unfit animals not to be transported; animals falling ill; adequate feeding, watering, cleanliness of vehicles, and rest periods; pregnant animals; newborns; partitions to prevent injury; overcrowding.



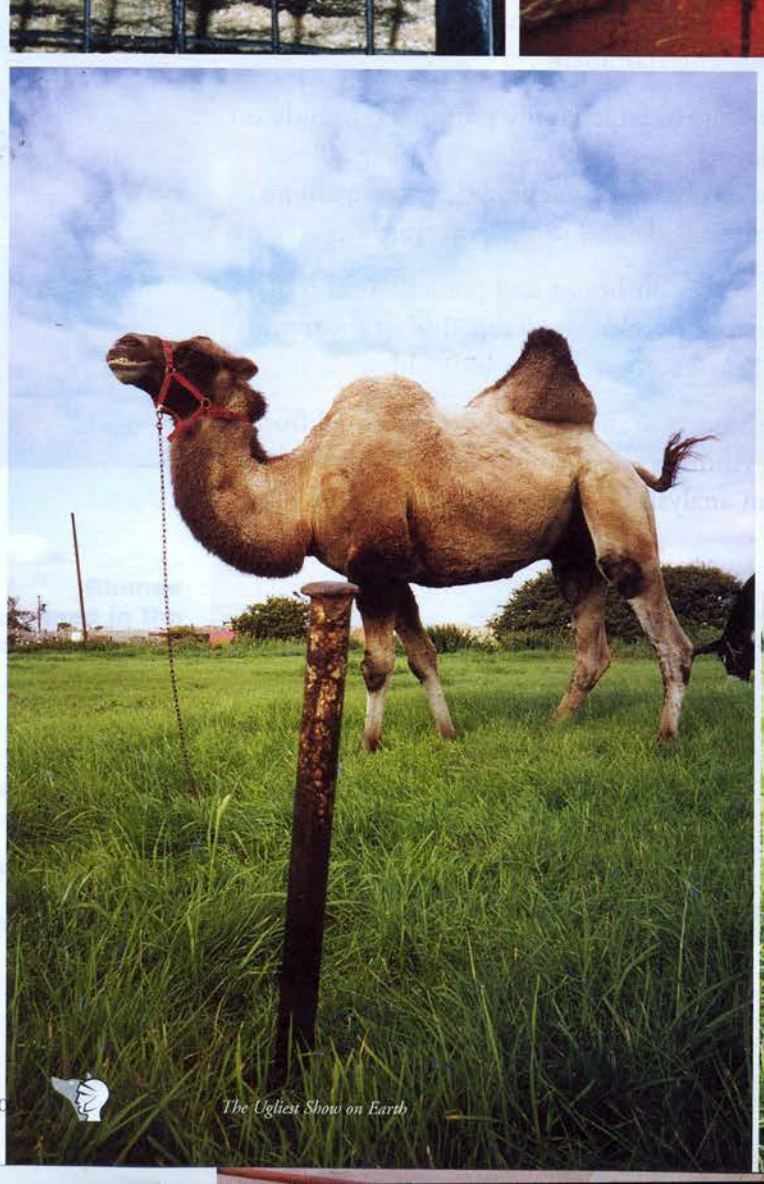
B Everard / Animal Defenders



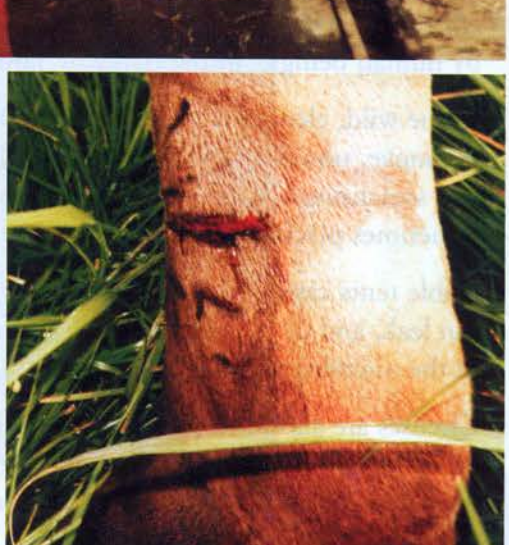
B. Everard / Animal Defenders



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders



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The Ugliest Show on Earth

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The Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 1997, has drawn these themes together and provides regulations for journey times, rest periods (except animals living on means of transport do not need to be unloaded), space allowance, condition of vehicles, trained and competent persons, and others.

Unfortunately, this can rarely be applied to circus animals, because of the nature of the business. There are four main difficulties for local authority officials: (a) they are unlikely to know that a circus is entering their area; (b) circuses pack and load up their animals Sunday afternoon and evening, driving through the night to early hours of the morning; (c) an inspection would have to be conducted and papers processed before the circus moves on; (d) unsatisfactory vehicles present the problem of what to do with the animals.

3.1.1 Transport: Travelling Case Studies

Whilst travelling with circuses, Field Officers observed/videotaped: a seriously ill lioness moved twice; tigers and lions shared their transporter with circus equipment; animal transporters were swept out rather than disinfected.

Circus animals also travel and perform during pregnancy, and immediately after giving birth: 1997, the Circo Darix Togni - Il Florilegio arrived in the UK via Dover with a pregnant **camel**. The circus travelled across England and onto Ireland where it began a tour. The baby camel was born in Galway, the circus moved to Scotland and then England[1].

1997 Flo, from Dicky Chipperfield's 5 **lioness** group, presented by Joe Fossett, was performing whilst heavily pregnant, at Hippodrome Circus. Fossett explained to the Field Officer that Flo would be back in the ring the day after giving birth[2].

1994 two-week old **tiger** cubs were featured in publicity for Harlequin Circus, when it arrived in Boston, Lincs[3]. They had previously been advertised as a feature of the circus in Glen Parva, Leicester, on 29 September, with the hoarding *"Your own private photo session with our lion and tiger cubs, 15 minutes for £35"*[4]. Another report stated that three tiger cubs had been living in a caravan for nine weeks with the Lacey family, of Circus Harlequin. It was reported that their mother, Bengali, *"didn't have enough milk for them"*. One of the litter of four had been sent to Broxbourne Zoo. It was reported that the animals had been born whilst the circus had been in London[5].

When moving site, animals can be kept in their transporters for unnecessarily long periods, for example a Shetland pony with Circus King was kept on board a transporter for 25.75 hours despite the total journey time being 5 hours.

Photos (clockwise): Rhanee chained by two legs in the Santus Circus stable tent; a fresh wound and old scars caused by a chain on Clifford, a camel with Circus Harlequin; young cubs offered to the public for photographic sessions at Circus Harlequin (1994).



R. White / Animal Defenders



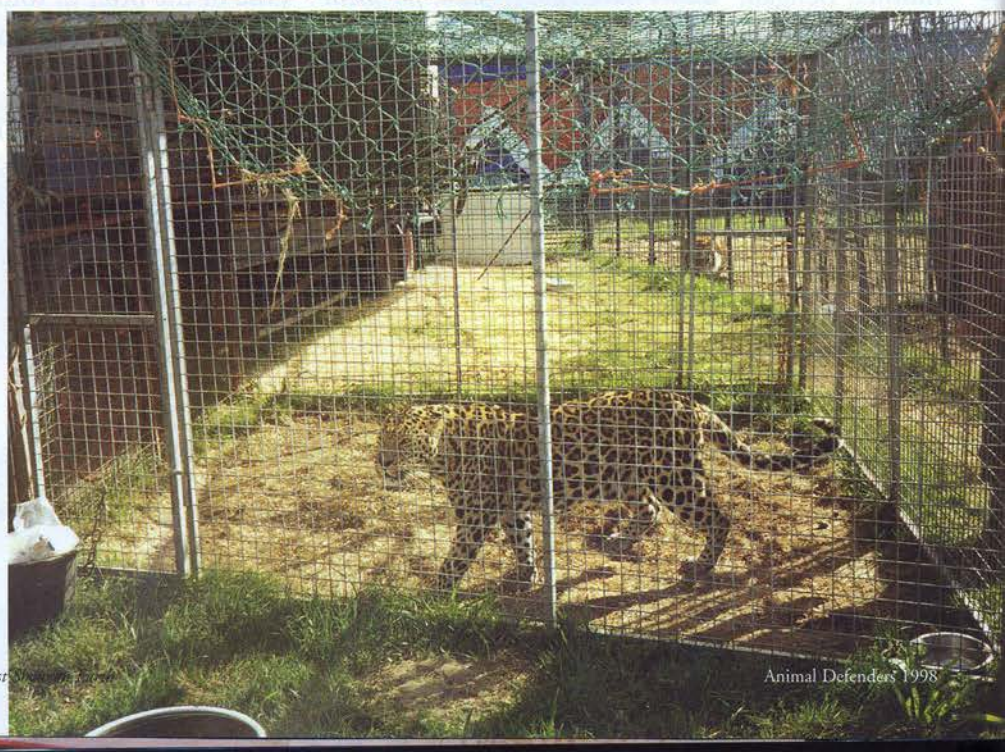
Just how small can an 'exercise cag get?

**Black bear with Circus King.
The metal sheets on the ground are t prevent the bear digging his way out.**

The uninteresting environment provided by this exercise cage is onl surpassed by the completely blank surroundings offered by the beastwagon.

R. White / Animal Defenders

**Leopard with Circus King. Exercise enclosure attached to beastwagon.
The leopard was a "pet", and did not appear in the show.
This was its entire world, every day.**



R. White / Animal Defenders

3.1.2 Transport: Winter Quarters Case Studies

When a consignment of six wallabys, two monkeys, and three Muntjac deer arrived at Mary Chipperfield Promotions/Chipperfield Organisation, the crate holding the Muntjac deer was on its side. The animals had been in crates for two days, and the wallabys were not given water. The monkey crate was put in a stable, and the other animals were left overnight on the lorry. When they were unloaded, the Muntjac deer were turned upright, and tipped out of their crate. Three days after arrival one wallaby appeared to be ill, being trampled by its companions, urinating where it lay. Next day it was dead, and burned in the rubbish pit. Seven days later three wallabys escaped, only two were recaptured. The monkeys were moved into another crate until until collection a week or so later. Five weeks later, the Muntjac deer and remaining wallabys were collected.

A giraffe, hippo, and zebras were loaded into specially-constructed solid metal containers for a 4-6 week sea journey to Japan. When they left the Clubb Chipperfield site by road, the top section of the giraffe container was lowered; it appeared unlikely the animal could stretch up fully in the space once the top section was lowered. (details in Circus Animal Supply, section 7).

3.2 DATA AND TRAVELLING CASE STUDIES

Information contained in this section is supported by diary notes, video footage, photographs, or published reports. It was necessary to gain a thorough understanding of the animal routines and attitudes in the circus world and this was done by Field Officers becoming immersed in the work, asking questions, observing and studying the behaviour of the animals.

The Routine

Travelling circuses usually have two performances a day for five or six days a week, late afternoon (5-5.30pm), and early evening (7-7.30pm); most do two shows on Saturday, some only one. On Sunday, there is one performance, in the afternoon; this is "pull down" day and the circus packs up to move on. This is when the animals spend the longest periods confined in lorries and beastwagons. Although there is variation in the number of shows and performance times between different circuses, the aforementioned pattern remains the basis of the animal routine.

Animals are prepared for the shows from two hours beforehand (sometimes three hours). This means that if an animal is loose in its stall from the morning, it will be tied and prepared from 2.30pm onwards. If an animal is out in an enclosure, it will be brought in and tied in its stall from 2.30pm onwards. Rarely do animals go straight from the enclosure to the show. If so, they are then tied outside the ring tent, prepared, and then after their performance, they generally go back to the stable tent where they either remain prepared for the next show (horses often remain partially harnessed after the afternoon show), or are bedded down for the night.

Broadly, the routine for animals on the road with a circus is that if they are going

to be let out to exercise, this will be in the morning between 9 and 10.30am, and back in at around 2.30 to 3.30pm as the performance dictates. If an animal is let out late (as is commonplace) it will still be brought in for the performance.

After the first performance of the day, most animals do not go out again; they go back to stalls and cages, stay prepared for the last show of the day.

Animal husbandry and working practices were studied at the following circuses between September 1996 and December 1997:-
Chipperfield's Classic Circus, 23.9.96 to 25.10.96, Field Officer Stocker.
Circus Harlequin, 23.6.97 to 5.8.97, Field Officer Stocker.
Circus King, 16.8.97 to 8.9.97, Field Officer White.
Circus Markus, 2 to 5.9.97, Field Officer Stocker.
Peter Jay's Hippodrome Circus, 7 to 14.8.97, Field Officer White.
Santus Circus, 4 to 16.6.97, Field Officer Stocker.
Austrian National Circus (Louis Knie), 28.4.97 to 4.5.97, Field Officer Stocker.

These Field Officers worked for the circuses and generally lived on site. Thus, this section of the report is based upon over 2,000 hours of observation of travelling circuses.

One or two day observations, separate from above, various AD Field Officers:
Circus Atlas, Circo Darix Togni, Circus Harlequin, Hoffman's Russian Circus, Jay Millers Circus, Santus Circus, Monte Carlo Circus Festival.

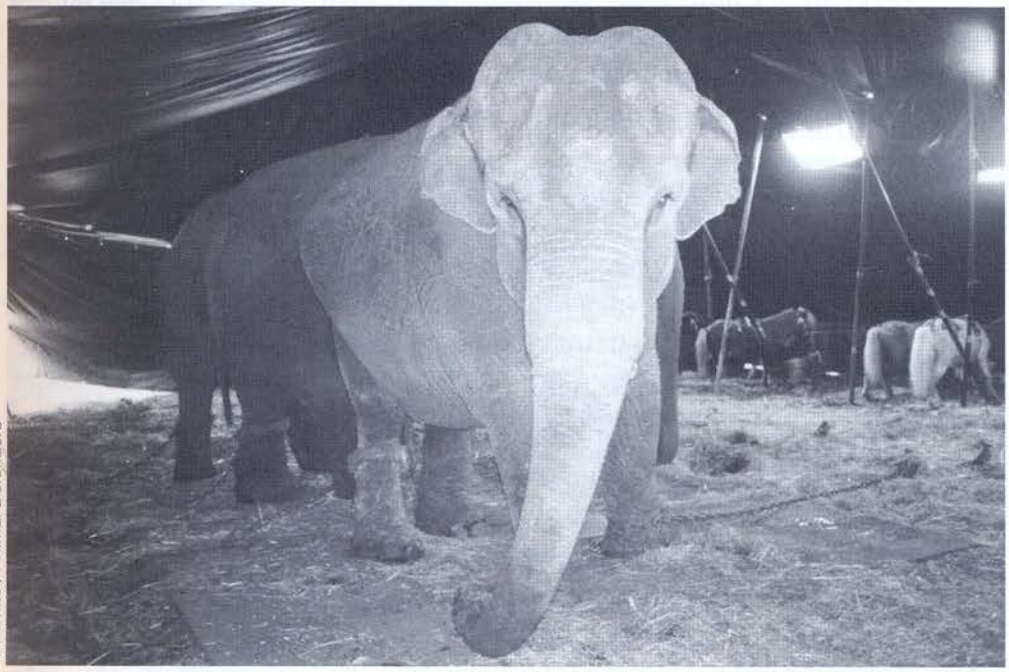
3.3 EXOTIC SPECIES, ACCOMMODATION/EXERCISE

3.3.1 Elephants

Circus King:

Three female Asian elephants (Nelly, Bridget and Titch - about 35 years old) owned and presented by Jeffrey Hoffman. Nelly and Bridget perform but Titch is no longer in the act.

During the winter, the elephants are housed at King's Honnington winter quarters, where they were filmed and photographed in early 1996 (prior to this study) by the Animal Defenders.



R. White / Animal Defenders

Accommodation/Routine:

The elephants were often given an exercise enclosure but spent the majority of their time, over 70%, chained up by a front and a back leg. The front chains were bare, 2.49m long and the back, 1.55m with a leather covering where it touched the leg. When chained, the elephants spent much of their time bobbing their heads; Titch more that the others.

If any of the animals get sick, this will increase the amount of time they are chained. At night, on 'pull down' days, and during rainy weather the three elephants were chained in the stable tent all day. They stood on eight metal boards, each 2.49m x1.4m; when the weather turned cold in early September, the boards were covered in straw at night.

During the morning the elephants were put in an electric fenced enclosure, with Titch separated from the other two. The size of the enclosure varies with the availability of land. The largest observed was approximately 50m by 50m divided into two. Time allowed in this varied radically from, for example, zero to 3.5 hours a day, to 10.25 hours on another.



R. White / Animal Defenders

Circus animals spend so much of their time severely confined that any improvement makes a huge difference. Yet little consideration appears to be given to the quality of the space. Pictured is the largest enclosure we saw during the study - yet the environment remains devoid of interest.

If the elephants were left out up until the performance, they would be prepared and go straight into the ring, but were shackled back in stable tent afterwards.

Water was given 3-4 times a day, depending upon the weather. They had no access to water during the night, when chained up and at one site they had access to water churns in the exercise enclosure, but not at the following location.

Of all the circus animals observed during this study, the King elephants were given the most varied diet which included hay, bread, cream crackers, fruit, sugar lumps, carrots, apples, melons, bananas, cabbages.

When the circus moved to a new site there was only one performance, after which the elephants were led straight into their transport wagon and chained. On 31.8.97 they were loaded at 4pm, moved off at 9pm and arrived at the next site after 2am the next morning. They were let out at 11.30am and put in their exercise enclosure, having spent 19.5 hours in the wagon.

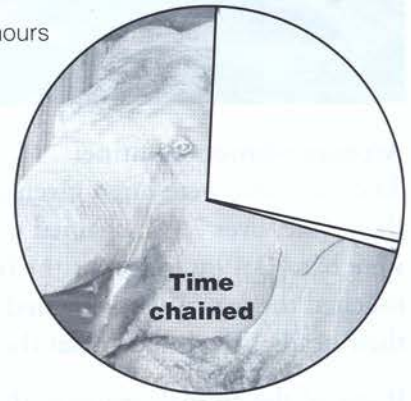
When being walked they were tempted with sugar lumps, bread, etc, and controlled with a stick with a protruding screw.

Average Time Spent in Accommodation:
Based on two periods of continuous observation of 120 hours and 360 hours.

During our observations one of the elephants fell ill (see section 4.3). We have therefore provided separate average timings for when the animals were healthy and when sick.

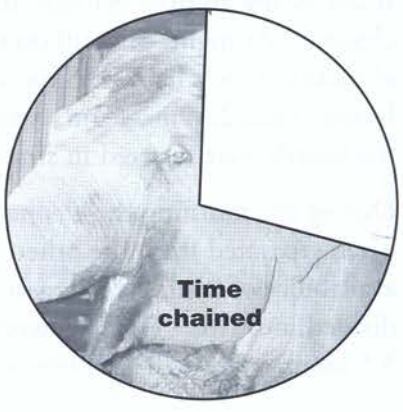
Average time spent in accommodation when healthy (Top)

Chained up (in tent 66.69%; in wagon 5.06%)	71.75%
In exercise enclosure	26.75%
Performing	1.5%



Average time spent in accommodation when sick (Bottom)

Chained up in tent	81%
In exercise enclosure	19%
Performing	0%



Combined average time spent in stable tent (healthy & sick)

Chained up (in tent or in wagon)	76.38%
In exercise enclosure	22.88%
Performing	.75%

Worst day (midnight to midnight) observed (when healthy)
NB on first day sick elephants were chained continuously all day

Chained up in tent	84%
In Exercise enclosure	15%
Being Led (in ring etc)	1%

Optimum day (midnight to midnight) observed (when healthy)

Chained up in tent	56%
In Exercise enclosure	43%
Being Led (in ring etc)	1%

Santus Circus:

One female Asian elephant, Rhanee, 27 years old and owned by Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd. Supplied to Santus Circus for the 1996 and 1997 touring seasons where she has been presented by Roger Santus[6]. In 1995 Rhanee was presented by Suzanne Chipperfield at Chipperfield Brothers Circus when it toured the UK[7]. At the end of the 1997 season Rhanee was returned to Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd (see section 4 on Winter Quarters).



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Accommodation/Routine:
Rhanee spends almost her entire time chained to the ground - on average over 96% of the time. Just over 90% of the time this is by a front and back leg, whilst 6% of the time is spent shackled by one back leg. Less than 4% of her time is spent out of these shackles - this is the hour or half an hour (if there is just one show) during which she is led to the ring, performs, and poses for photographs.

Overnight Rhanee was shackled by a front and back leg in a container on the back of a lorry with hay and straw bedding. The chains were 1.5-2m long.

In the morning she would be taken out of the lorry - however this could be as late as 1.30pm(11.6.97). If space permitted she would be put in a field with a shackle around a rear leg attached to a metal spike in the ground. This chain

would again be 1.5-2m long. This would give her a maximum range of a circle of just 4m diameter plus the length of her body. However, change of aspect and opportunity to graze is restricted to the availability of land; one London site for example was on concrete.

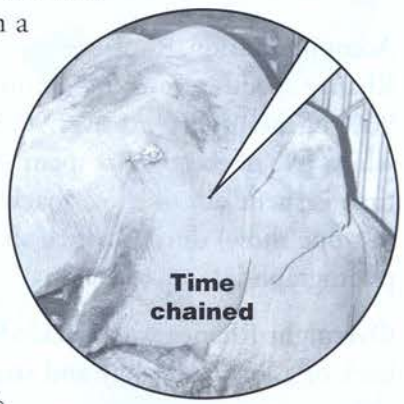
Approximately three hours before the first show Rhanee was moved onto the metal sheets in the stable tent and shackled by a front and back leg with chains 1.5-2m long. Movement is severely restricted, and it would be rare that Rhanee could actually turn around. Visitors can pay 50p to see her like this - photographs are not permitted. After the last show she is led to her wagon, chained by a front and a back leg, and shut in for the night.

When the circus was moving to a new destination, Rhanee would be chained inside her wagon at around 5 or 6pm, and kept there. Two examples are 21 hours (8-9/6/97) and 15 hours (15-16/6/97), despite the journeys themselves lasting approximately 2.5 and 1.5 hours respectively.

At Raynes Park, Roger Santus was observed taking Rhanee for a half hour walk. However, if this became regular, it would still be limited by the activity of the circus, its location, and (illogically) a Dangerous Wild Animals Act licence would be needed if she were taken out of the confines of the circus. Thus, even in optimum conditions (which were not seen) Rhanee might expect an hour long walk and an hour of performance and preparation and the remainder of the day (92%) spent on short chains.

This desolate life of deprivation and close confinement has already had an adverse effect on Rhanee, who constantly sways and rocks on her feet, bobbing her head as she goes. This behaviour has been recorded in both her winter quarters and on the road, for day-long sessions (see section 6, Psychological Effects).

Rhanee still occasionally seeks stimulation, and tries to escape her chains. On 9/6/97 she pulled up one of the tent poles and banged it against the concrete floor, digging at the floor with the end of the pole. She did this on further occasions, and also grabbed the rubbish from the tip near her area in the stable tent to play with it. On 14.6.97 Rhanee was injured when she grabbed a bag of rubbish (see section 3.4 Animal Health). At another site, the circus was on farmland. Rhanee was staked in a field but after a couple of hours, began trying to pull the stake out of the ground.



Average time spent in accommodation
Based on a continuous period of observation of 288 hours

Chained up	96.33%
Performing	3.67%

Breakdown of Average

Chained by front and back leg in wagon	60%
Chained by front and back leg in tent	30.33%
Chained by back leg in field	6%
Performing, led to ring, posing for photographs	3.67%

Worst day (midnight to midnight) observed

Chained by front and back leg in wagon	73%
Chained by front and back leg in tent	25%
Chained by back leg in field	0%
Performing, led to ring posing for photographs	2%

Optimum day (midnight to midnight) observed

Chained by front and back leg in wagon	46%
Chained by front and back leg in tent	27%
Chained by back leg in field	23%
Performing, led to ring posing for photographs	4%

Austrian National Circus (Louis Knie):

Four Asian elephants (Giuly, Jumbo, Siam and Carla) presented by Gipsy and Louis Knie jnr.

Accommodation/Routine:
Overnight the elephants were kept shackled in a tent by one foreleg and one hindleg by chains approximately 1m long. At about 10am they were unchained and put in pairs in two electric fenced enclosures with little grazing but piles of branches. They were out from 10am until they were due to perform at about 3.30pm.

After the last show the animals were shackled in their tent until the following morning. One chain has a cover to protect the leg, but the other does not. The animals all rock, sway or bob their heads whilst chained.

When moving the animals the keepers use a spiked elephant hook to control them.

3.3.2 Big Cats

Chipperfield's Classic Circus:

Twelve Bengal tigers, six lionesses. For most of the 1996 season Richard Chipperfield (jnr) presented a group of twelve Bengal tigers owned by Chipperfield Enterprises Ltd., Richard (Dicky) Chipperfield snr. In mid October '96 Richard Chipperfield and the twelve tigers left the circus and were replaced by Dave Freeman presenting Dicky Chipperfield's six lionesses.

Accommodation/Routine:
Tigers in two beastwagons with an exercise cage. Lions in one beastwagon with an exercise cage. The living area inside a beastwagon is approximately 11.76 x 2.4m deep x 2.3m high providing approximately 1.96 x 2.4m of floor area for each animal (a male lion is 2.7m inc. tail, female smaller). The exercise cage was larger than this but was erected on just plain grass, with no furniture or other environmental enrichment.



The tigers exercised in groups, six and then six. It is therefore unlikely that during a tour the tigers could average more than 25% of their time with access to the exercise cage (this would require 12 hours of continuous use of the exercise cage with no breaks, even to perform - unheard of). The rest of the time would

be spent shut in the beastwagon. On 3.10.96, all of the tigers were shut in the beastwagon by 2.30pm. Access to the exercise cage for the lionesses could only be described as erratic. On 18.10.96 they were practiced in the morning and then put back into the beastwagon where they remained without access to the exercise cage. The following day they were again in the wagon all day without access to the exercise cage. Inside the wagon, they would pace for much of the time and show signs of frustration. Their agitation would become heightened when the sea lions were let out in their pool opposite.

Two lionesses, Laura and Maria, misbehaved and would not come in from the exercise enclosure, so were confined to the beastwagon. The presenter was unable to separate out the two lionesses when the whole group was in the beastwagon and so the others could not go in either. Instead after the first show four of the lionesses would be allowed into the exercise cage for half an hour whilst Laura and Maria were sent straight back to the beastwagon.



On 22.10.96 the lions had to share their accommodation with props which meant they had even less room whilst travelling.

Average Time Spent in Accommodation
Timings estimated, based on video recorded statements made by the beastman looking after the lions on 23.10.96.

4 Lionesses (top)

Time in beastwagon	97%
Time in exercise cage	2%
Time performing	1%

2 Lionesses (Laura & Maria) (bottom)

Time in beastwagon	99%
Time in exercise cage	0%
Time performing	1%



Circus Harlequin:

Two lionesses, one lion, seven tigers. There are two groups of animals referred to as Groups A and B.
Group A: mixed sex group of five tigers (Colombo, Bengali, Mahra, Derha, Bombay) all owned by Martin Lacey[31].
Group B: were being trained, non-performing, mixed group of two tigers (male Alex, one female), two lionesses (Narla and Jill), and a lion (Masai) all owned by Alex Lacey.



Accommodation/Living Conditions:
Two beastwagons and one exercise cage, shared. Group A beastwagon is divided into five equal sections for feeding, of 1.87 x 1.98m. All of the animals in Group A can mix freely in the beastwagon and the exercise cage.

Group B live in a beastwagon 7.26 x 2.2m. Most of the animals in Group B mix freely in the beastwagon and

exercise cage, but the male lion, Masai, was generally kept separate from the others; he exercised with the male tigers. Masai received considerably less access to the exercise cage, on some days he would receive none, and on others as little as 20 minutes. During our observation period Narla, a lioness, was badly injured and confined to the beastwagon (see section 3.3 Animal Health).

The cats routine was to be shut in the beastwagon at night; one group let out in the morning whilst the cage was cleaned, then returned to their beastwagon so that the next group could come out, for their cage to be cleaned. Often the second group, B, would benefit in that they had longer in the exercise cage (until 2.30pm). One hour before the first show the cats would be back in their beastwagons. If it was raining they might not be let out at all in order to prevent them getting dirty - this occurred on 26.6.97 for example.

There was permanent access to water in the exercise cage, but in the wagons they are given water, as they play with the water troughs if they are left there.

The Field Officer observed the move to Trentham Gardens (29.6.97), a four hour journey. After their afternoon act Group A were loaded into their beastwagon ready for travel. Group B were already in their beastwagon but were pushed into just four sections so that the props from the tiger act could be loaded with them - almost half the wagon was taken up with props. At about 3.30pm, the flaps of their wagon were shut so that they were not seen during the "zoo" after the show.

The animals left the site at 8.15pm, and at the new site at 1am in the morning, the tiger props were unloaded. Thus, Group B were in with the props for 9.5 hours. The exercise cage did not arrive until after midday (30.6.97) due to vehicle problems and was erected at 5.30pm, but was not used until the following day.

The props were again put in the beastwagon with the Group B animals when the circus moved to Widnes (6.7.97), a journey of 3.5 hours. For this journey, the injured Narla (see section 3.3) was separated from the other animals, leaving the others more cramped. As before, the Group A beastwagon was kept open for the public after the show but the shutters on the Group B beastwagon were closed. The props were removed from the Group B beastwagon in Widnes - 6 hours after they had been loaded.

This routine was also observed on 13.7.97 for the one hour journey from Widnes to Chester (10-11pm) with Group B again sharing their space with the props for 5.5 hours.

On 14.7.97 Alex Lacey left the circus taking his animals (Group B) with him. This gave greater access to the exercise cage for the Group A tigers but meant that they now had to share their beastwagon with the props when travelling between sites; something with which they were entirely unfamiliar.

On Sunday 20.7.97 the circus moved from Chester to Grantham, a 4 hour journey, 10pm-2am. The tigers (Group A) were moved along the wagon and then had to be separated for travelling, to prevent fights. It proved difficult to separate them after loading the props, and the animals were frightened and

would not move. The beastman, Ian, got increasingly angry, cursing, using a large tent pole, he hit and jabbed the animals with the spiked end. Eventually they were moved into position.



Average time in housing per day when two groups of cats present
Based on 13 full days of observation (312 hours)

Group A (top)

Time in exercise cage	5.15%
Time in beastwagon	92.85%
Time performing	2%

Group B (not including Masai or Narla) (bottom)

Time in exercise cage	14.54%
Time in beastwagon	85.46%
Time performing	0%



On the basis of these observations one might expect that once there was only one group of cats they might enjoy the combined access of these two groups;

Combined time in exercise area	19.69%
Time in beastwagon	78.31%
Time performing	2%

Peter Jay's Hippodrome Circus:

Five lionesses (aged between 5 and 6) supplied by Chipperfield Enterprises Ltd., were previously observed by Field Officers at Chipperfield's Classic Circus in 1996, and at their permanent quarters at Dicky Chipperfield's farm. Previously presented by Dave Freeman, the lionesses were presented here by Joe Fossett. One lioness (Flo) was heavily pregnant.

Accommodation/Routine:
The lionesses' sleeping accommodation is four indoor cages with concrete floors, two measuring approx. 3.66 x 1.22m and the other two 3.66 x 2.44m; each

A lioness backstage at the Hippodrome.

This caging shows no consideration for the needs of these animals whatsoever - there nothing to do but wait to be fed, or for a five minute show.



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with a single lioness and one with two sharing. In addition there was an indoor ring cage with a sawdust floor in a shop front which was used for exercise. This measured 12.2 x 8.54m, and had a tray of drinking water, a log and a tyre as environmental enrichment. The lionesses were kept for the vast majority of their time in the indoor cages (on average 83%).

The lionesses were cleaned out in the morning between 8.00 and 9.15am and then fed 6 days a week, with one fast day. (This could be later, for example on 13.8.97, two lioness were recorded being fed at 12.10pm - if a regular occurence this would reduce the percentage of time the animals spent in the shop front cage).

The lionesses normally went into the shop cage at about 11.30am until 1.45pm when they were prepared for the ring. They remained in their sleeping cages after the show, but were allowed back into the shop front cage again at 5.15pm, until about 6.45pm, when they went back into their cages to prepare for the evening show.

Consequently for most days of the week they were spending around 20 hours in their small sleeping cages. On Fridays, with only one show, the animals get a little longer, spending between two and three quarters to four and a half hours in the shop front, about ten minutes in the ring, and the rest of the time in their cages.

There was an outdoor exercise enclosure which Joe Fossett said was used occasionally but this was not seen in use during our period of observation.



Average time per week spent in accommodation

Small sleeping cages	
average area per animal 3.66m by 1.22m	83%
Shop front cage 12.2m by 8.54m	16%
Performing	1%

Circus King:

The lionesses (Suzie, Jasmin and Jenny - approx. 2 years old) and three Bengal tigers were owned and presented by Paul Richards. They had first gone on tour with Circus King in 1996[8]. For the majority of the season the lionesses did not perform, but went in the ring prior to the main performance to get them used to the audience. The tigers performed, presented by Paul Richards. In the latter part of the season Paul Richards presented the lionesses and tigers as a mixed group[9]. The leopard was also owned by Paul Richards, but did not appear in the ring and was described as a "pet".

Accommodation/Routine:

The three lionesses, three tigers and leopard spent the night in separate partitions on a beastwagon (a beastwagon has a total internal living area of approximately 11.76 x 2m (or less) - giving each of the animals an estimated area of 1.68 x 2.5m). This is where they spent the majority of their time. Each species had access to an exercise cage. Although small, this was the only occasion we observed provision of separate facilities for animals which needed to be

'Exercise cages' are rarely as large as the name implies, and usually even less interesting. Here empty plastic bottles have been added to a small, bare patch of grass to provide interest.



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segregated, rather than sharing exercise caging by rotation.

The exercise cage for the leopard was especially small, measuring approx 2.5 x 2.5m and the cages for the three lionesses and three tigers measured approximately 10 x 6.5m each. Drinking water was provided. There was just a few empty plastic bottles for play - environmental enrichment.

They were confined to the wagon after performing in the last show which was between 3.15 pm and 7.45pm. In the morning they would be into the exercise cages between 9.15 and 10.00 am, although it could be later. If it was raining or 'pull down' or 'build up' day then they would not go out at all.

The "pet" leopard's world was a small section of the beastwagon and the the small cage attached, a completely blank space. He would stay in the wagon for most of the day, but came out more frequently in the evening.

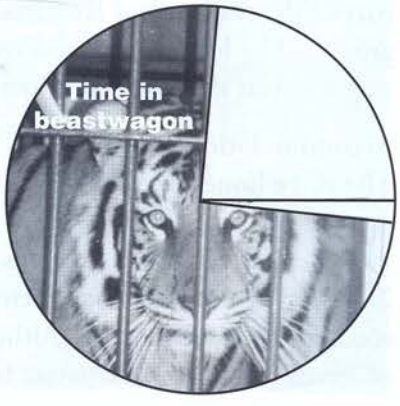
On 30.8.97 the lions and tigers were shut into their wagon by 8pm. The following morning the exercise cage was taken down and not used. Between 3 and 3.30pm, some 19 hours later, each group of animals made an appearance of 15 minutes in the ring before being put back in the wagon. At 3.45pm the cats were ready to travel with the shutters lowered. They finally moved out at 9pm (5 hours 15 minutes later) for a five and a half hour journey from Towyn to Warrington.

Lions & Tigers
Average time spent in accommodation
Based on nine full days of observation: 216 hours

Beastwagon	75%
Exercise cage	23%
Performing	2%

Worst day (midnight to midnight) observed

Beastwagon	99%
Exercise cage	0%
Performing	1%



NB: on one day 1.9.97 the cats were in the wagon for 100% of the day, with no performance and no exercise cage but this was not included in the nine days from which the average was taken.

Optimum day (midnight to midnight) observed

Beastwagon	61%
Exercise cage	36%
Performing	2%

Austrian National Circus (Louis Knie):

Mixed group of fourteen animals: four tigers, Madras, India, Bombay, Delhi; two lions, Matt, Sheba (recent new arrival from Clubb Chipperfield farm); one liger (lion X tiger), Sheena; three leopards, Shabu, Choto, Kim; two Canadian black bears, Jeremy, Mini; one wolf; one striped hyena, Demitri. The mixed group of animals was supplied by Clubb Chipperfield Ltd in the UK and had been presented by David Lowrie and Tina Stiff for the previous two years at Kinoshita Circus in Japan[10], and then Vienna. Later in the year US animal trainer Pat White took over presentation of the act[11].

Accommodation/Routine:
All of the animals were housed overnight in standard beastwagon accommodation. The large number of animals meant that some only have one section of the beastwagon each (about 1-2m wide). Consequently they must use their sleeping quarters as their latrine. Observations elsewhere have shown that given the space, the big cats will not defecate in the area in which they are sleeping (see section 4).

For part of the day the animals were given access to exercise cages approx. 9 x 6m. These had sand on the ground and some cage furniture, for example old tyres, logs and a skip of water but there was little shade. These were hot days and sometimes the animals paced by the gate apparently wanting to get back inside the beastwagon.

There was more than one enclosure but the space still had to be rotated between the animals. It should be noted that although the mixed acts perform together it is not necessarily possible for them to live together. For example in this act Tina Stiff told the Field Officer that the two bears "hate each other" and would "attack" each other given the chance.

The lioness, Sheba, did not settle in very well initially and was extremely nervous and would not go into the ring. David Lowrie told the Field Officer that she would not go past other animals and so could not use the exercise cages. As a result Sheba spent all of her time in a single section of a beastwagon.

3.3.3 Other Exotic Species

Chipperfield's Classic Circus

Four sea lions travel, two perform presented by Hans and Vicky Pedersen.

Accommodation/Routine:
For about 80% of the time the sea lions were kept in a converted lorry which has a tiny pool inside. When the circus arrived at a venue a small outside pool may

be erected, but there did not not appear to be a regular routine for its use. For example on 27.9.97 the sea lions were kept in the lorry until 3.30pm.

Worse still there could be difficulty getting water to fill the outside pool. On Sunday 29.9.96 the circus moved from Epsom to Wokingham. Due to a problem with the water pressure sea lions were still shut in their lorry on 1.10.96. The problem persisted throughout the stay with two of the sea lions only emerging from the lorry to perform, the other two remaining shut inside. The problem was finally resolved once the circus had moved to Bracknell and on 14.10.96 the sea lion pool was finally filled. The animals had been without an outside pool for 15 days.

In February 1994 the police stopped a lorry on the M1 because it was in poor mechanical condition. The driver was Hans Pedersen with five sea lions. The animals had no water and so the Long Buckby fire service were called in and filled the tank with 6,000 litres of water.
When Chipperfield's Circus were contacted by the press, a spokesman said *"We haven't got any sealions in the circus this year so all I can imagine is that he was hoping for an interview with us."*[12].

However, from 2-16 January 1994 Chipperfield's Circus had appeared at the Point Theatre, Dublin featuring Pedersen's Sea Lions presented by Hans and Vicky[13]. The sea lion act was also with Chipperfields when it appeared at St Albans on 30th April 1994[14].

Circus Harlequin

Five camels (Clifford, Ralph, Gorby, Winston and Major) are owned and presented by Martin Lacey. Major does not perform. Clifford is also used for rides[15].

Accommodation/Routine:
The Field Officer was informed that, prior to our period with the circus, the camels had been kept in a stable tent which had been damaged in a storm, and therefore during our observation the animals were kept staked outdoors day and night on 4m chains, in all weathers.
They were moved to fresh grass twice a day, watered evenings and mornings and given extra if considered necessary. If the grass was poor they would be given pony nuts.
On Sunday 29.6.97 the camels were loaded into their lorry at 5pm, left the site at 8.15pm for a four hour journey from Huntingdon to Trentham Gardens. The camels were let out of the lorry and tethered to stakes at 9.30am on 30.6.97 after 16.5 hours in the lorry.
For the move from Trentham Gardens to Widnes (6-7.7.97), the camels were loaded at 5.30pm and left at 8pm for a 3.5 hour journey. They were unloaded at 9.30am the following day after 16 hours in the lorry. For the move from Widnes to Vicars Cross (13-14.7.97) the camels were in their lorry for 14 hours.

Circus King

Black Bear: Fred, 5 year old male (known as "Fat Fred" due to being overweight). Owned and presented by Paul Richards.

Accommodation/Routine:
A short beastwagon (approximately 8 x 2.5m) with his sleeping compartment divided by a partition. From this the bear had access down steps to a cage of just 4.27 x 1.53m; an exercise enclosure barely larger than Fred himself. The floor of this was covered with metal sheets to stop Fred from digging his way out, which he had tried to do previously. The outside cage contained a bath of water, a tyre, and a log.

The bear had access to the outside cage during the day, from about 9.15am onwards, when he was cleaned out. He was fed carrots, bread, puddings, fruit, etc and also given sugar lumps before and after performances. Fred would pace a great deal only occasionally venturing down into the adjoining cage (see section 6, Psychological Effects). He was brushed and led into the ring using a chain and muzzle; the act lasted approximately five to ten minutes and after the last show he would be shut in his sleeping compartment for the night.

Fred's exercise cage was pulled down the day before moving on. On 30.8.97 Fred was shut in his beastwagon at 8.15pm after he had appeared in the evening show and his outside cage was dismantled. On Sunday 31st he remained in his beastwagon all day, apart from 15 minutes going to and from the ring and performing, over 19 hours later. At 3.45pm Fred was in his beastwagon with the shutters down. At 9pm his beastwagon left left Towyn, arriving in Warrington in the early hours of the following morning (1.9.97) where he was kept in his beastwagon all day (there was no performance). At 11am on 2.9.97 he was finally given access to the outside cage. Almost 39 hours in the beastwagon with just 15 minutes for performance. On 6.9.97, the bear's cage was again pulled down the night before the move.



Average time spent in accommodation

Based upon random days of observation, 14 day period

In beastwagon:	60%
In enclosure:	38%
Performing:	2%

Kune Kune pig:
Male kune kune pig looked after by Jason and Gracie Timmis. Did not perform, kept as a pet.
Accommodation/Routine: Spent all day in enclosure, which had shelter and free access to water.

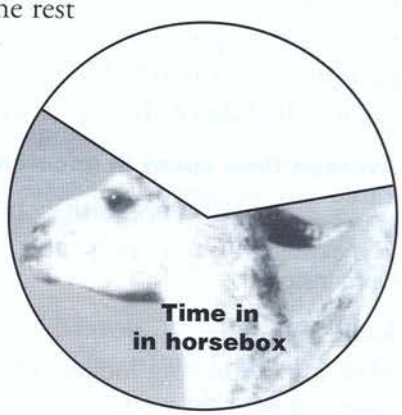
Great Rheas:
Did not appear in ring.
Accommodation/Routine: Kept in enclosure.

Camel:
Called Moscow. The Field Officer was informed that Moscow was kept as a pet as he was too old to work.

Accommodation/Routine: Permanently in enclosure approximately 4.6 x 4.6m, i.e. not taken in at night. No shelter. On 2.9.97-3.9.97 for example it rained all night and then throughout the following day. The animal had permanent access to water and was given hay at least twice a day, and hard (horse) feed once a day. Also given scraps like bread, melons, cabbage etc. The camel would only be moved from the enclosure to be put in the horse trailer when the circus was moving location; water, hay and apples were available in the trailer. On 31.8.97 the camel was loaded into the trailer by 2pm for the move from Towyn to Warrington and was let out at 1pm the following day - 23 hours later.

Guanacos:
The three male guanacos (Tom, Dick and Harry) did not perform, and were owned by Jeffrey and Elli Hoffman.
Accommodation/Routine:
Spent 24 hours a day in their enclosure which measured about 4.6m x 4.6m. Situated next to the camel. No shelter from the weather they were not taken in at night, so were soaked on days or nights that it rained. One side of the enclosure was the side of a trailer. They had permanent access to water and were given hay at least twice a day and hard feed once a day.
The only time the guanacos were out of the enclosure was when they were put in the horse trailer for moving on. On 31.8.97 they were loaded into the trailer by 2pm for the move from Towyn to Warrington and were let out at 4.15pm the following day - 26 hours later. They were given water, hay and carrots when they first went in.

Llamas:
Five male llamas which were 2 months old in August 1997 when they arrived. Owned by Jeffrey and Elli. Will be used in the ring in the future.
Accommodation/Routine: Overnight the llamas were kept in a horsebox and let out into an enclosure from 9.00am onwards for the rest of the day next to the guanacos and camel. They were shut in the horse box at about 8pm.
Access to water during the day, but not at night in the horse box. Given hay and chopped carrots (sometimes apples) at least twice a day and dry feed once a day.
See guanacos for time spent in horsebox when travelling.



Average time spent in accommodation
Based on 7 consecutive days observation 168 hours.

Horsebox	62%
Enclosure	38%

Circus Markus

One llama called Thomas[16].
Accommodation/Routine: Throughout the period of observation the llama was kept permanently in the stable tent in a stall of approximately 1.5m square. He was tethered on a rope measuring 1m so movement was minimal.
During the morning he was given food and water, and watered again after the

show. In hot weather watering might be more frequent. He was fed hay at about 8am and rabbit mix (animal biscuits and cereal) at 10am.

Time spent in accommodation

Based 96 hours consecutive observation

Closely Tethered	98%
Performance	2%



Santus Circus

Two camels, one alpaca, one ankole/African bull, (Andy). A group of exotic animals, supplied to the circus for the third consecutive year by Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd.

Accommodation/Routine:

Overnight all of these animals were kept in the stable tent inside small pens. The pen for the two camels was approximately 4 x 6m; the alpaca and a goat shared a pen approximately 1.5 x 2m; the ankole/African bull a pen approximately 2 x 2m. These contained straw but might be on a hard concrete standing if that was all that was available on the site.

In optimum circumstances these animals would be tethered outside on grass in the morning, then 3 hours before the show, be brought back into the stable tent to be prepared.

But access outdoors was dictated by the site available to the circus. For example, from 10.6.97 to 15.6.97 at Harold Hill, N. London, the site was concrete which meant no change of scenery and no grazing. Confined in the same place all day, all of the animals showed increased signs of stress and frustration with the camels and bull pacing in circles.

To make matters worse, on 11.6.97 the stable tent flooded overnight due to rain leaking through holes in the roof. The camels were forced into a corner of their pen. Also due to staff shortages and the concrete being too slippery, the animals were not practiced in the ring either. On Sunday 15.6.97 the animals were in their pens all day again, and following the show, at 6pm, were loaded onto their travelling lorries. At 8.30pm (two and a half hours later) the circus finally moved out for the one and a half hour journey to the next site. At 9am the next day, the camels, ankole and alpaca were finally put outside on tethers, after 15 hours in transporters.

Austrian National Circus (Louis Knie)

Five camels, presented by Louis Knie jnr.

Accommodation/Routine: Remained in paddock surrounded by electric tape.

3.4 HORSES AND DONKEYS

Chipperfield's Classic Circus

Six chestnut arab horses owned by Tony Hopkins and presented by Sally Ann Roncescu[17]. The same act appeared with Chipperfield's Classic Circus in 1995[18] and with Gerry Cottle's Circus (presented by Tony Hopkins) in 1997[19]. In June Sally Ann Roncescu left the act and Guy Saad took over presentation[20].

Accommodation/Routine:
The horses were kept in stalls measuring approximately 2.5 x 2.5m inside a stable tent. The horses were in these for over 23 hours of the day; only coming out to practice in the ring each morning and perform later in the day. These activities would take about 15-20 minutes at a time, accounting for at most an hour a day. It was noted on 7.10.96 that there were holes in stable tent roof directly above the horse stalls, therefore water would enter when it rained.



Estimated typical time spent in Accommodation

In stall in stable tent	96%
Performance or practice	4%

Circus Harlequin

Three horses, one donkey. One horse (Steel) owned and presented by Amanda Sandow, another (Patches) owned presented by Ivor and Paul Rosaire[21], and Rosie, who was not used in the show, owned by Martin. One donkey (Joe) did nothing, the other two (Granny and Harley) owned by Martin Lacey were used for rides[22].

Accommodation/Routine:
Generally, Steel and Patches were tethered to stakes by ropes approximately 5-6m long. In wet weather they were kept inside the stable tent. Steel occasionally had an electric tape enclosure.
The other horse, Rosie, was permanently tied to a stake by a rope of about 6m.
The three donkeys were tethered on ropes approx. 4m long.
Patches was practiced outside the tent half an hour before the show, the act lasts for about eight minutes, then back to the stable.
Steel is taken out of the stable about ten minutes before the six minute performance, and ridden back to the stable.
A four hour journey to a new site was observed on 29.6.97 to 30.6.97. Two of the donkeys and the horse Rosie were removed from the lorry as soon as it arrived at the new site, at 12.30am. Patches and Steel were both let out at 8am, Harley donkey was let out at 9.30 am.

Peter Jay's Hippodrome Circus

One piebald horse and one Shetland pony owned by Gandey's and presented by Sally Ann Roncescu[23].
Accommodation/Routine: When not in the ring, the horse and pony were kept in individual stalls of approx. 2.5 x 5 with a concrete or brick floor, strewn with straw and wood shavings. During the period of observation, the horses were taken out only to perform or practice, which left them with over 23 hours a day in their stalls in the stable tent.

Estimated time spent in accommodation

Indoor stall	96%
Performing/practice	4%



R. White / Animal Defenders

Backstage at the Great Yarmouth Hippodrome.

Circus King

Two horses, Barnum (performed occasionally) and Venture (retired, now a pet). Eleven Shetland ponies: Angus, Rambo, Shamus, Brandon, Cottle, Austin, Duncan, Magnus, Apollo (dwarf shetland, did not perform), Ingo and Tex (did not perform, pet). Owned and presented by Jeffrey and Elli Hoffman[24].

Accommodation/Routine:

Overnight most of the ponies would be kept tethered in stalls in the stable tent on ropes 1-1.5m. Tex, Barnum and Venture were kept untethered in separate stalls measuring about 2 x 2m each.

In the morning the horses and ponies were taken outside and tethered to stakes or fences and Barnum was put into an enclosure measuring approximately 10 x 10m. Outdoor tethers for the animals would be extended up to several metres during a stay to give the animals access to more grazing. If the grazing was poor they were given hay.

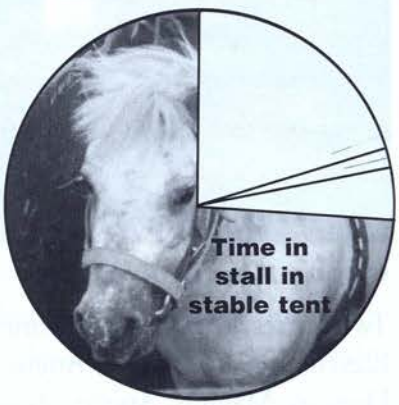
About an hour before the show (usually 2pm) the ponies were brought into the stable tent, tethered and given carrots or apples, hard feed and water. After the show they would remain tethered in their stalls. Therefore on a typical day with two shows and good weather the Shetlands would be close tethered in the stable tent for 19 hours of the day, have 4.5 hours outdoors on a longer tether and be performing or being led to the ring for around 30 minutes. This routine was observed on five consecutive days (25.8.97 to 29.8.97). Tex, Apollo and Venture were often left outside longer, since they were not performing.

If it was raining all of the horses would be brought in early, or not go out at all. The ponies and horses did not go out on moving days. The only other time they were out of the stalls was when they were in the ring.

After the final show the stalls were mucked out, fresh wood shavings were put down for the night, water buckets were filled and hay given. Only Angus and Rambo did not have water buckets at night. At Warrington Duncan, Magnus,

Cottle and Austin no longer had water buckets at night, because they knocked them over.

When the circus moved from Towyn to Warrington the horses remained tethered inside until the performance, then they were loaded into their transporter at 3.30pm. Three ponies (Barnum, Venture and Tex) had already been loaded at 2pm. At 9pm the transporter left the site, but broke down several times on the journey and did not arrive at Warrington until after 2am on 1.9.97. At 11am most of the horses were unloaded and tethered outside, having been on board the transporter for 19.5 hours. Tex was not so lucky; he was not unloaded until 4.15pm, and went straight into a small stall in the stable tent.
He had spent 25.75 hours in the transporter.



Performing horses
Average time spent in accommodation
Based on two continuous periods of observation of 120 hours and 384 hours respectively

In transport trailer	5%
Close tethered in stable tent	74%
Tethered outside	19%
Performing & going to ring	2%

Optimum day observed

In transport trailer	0%
Close tethered in stable tent	65%
Tethered outside	34%
Performing & going to ring	1%

Worst day observed

In transport trailer	0%
Close tethered in stable tent	98%
Tethered outside	0%
Performing & going to ring	2%

Circus Markus

Four ponies. one miniature (24") pony (Thumbelina); one large black pony (Tango); one 'Joey' pony (Prince)[25] one other pony.

Ponies with Circus Markus.

Whether domesticated or wild/exotic, circus animal spend almost the entire day, every day, tied up in uninteresting cages and enclosures.



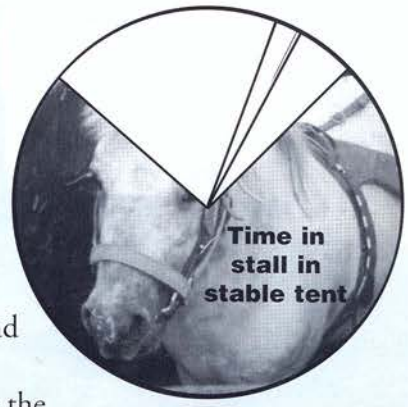
T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

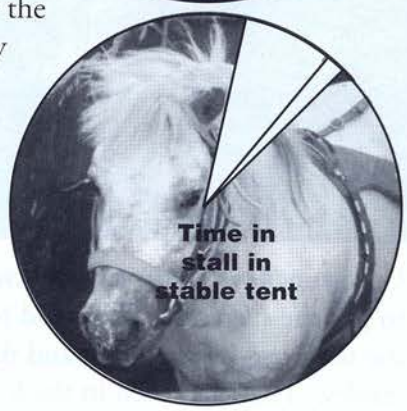
Accommodation/Routine:

Overnight the ponies were tethered in stalls, on ropes 1m long, inside the stable tent. The two larger ponies shared a stall approximately 2 x 2m and the Shetland and miniature pony stalls of approximately 1 x 1.5m. During the daytime, only the Shetland and miniature ponies were tethered outdoors.

On 3.9.97 overnight rain leaked onto the Shetland pony in the stable tent.

The ponies were watered at 11am and again after the show at about 9pm, more frequently if hot. They were fed hay and a mix of biscuits and cereal.







Average time spent in accommodation

The following are based on 120 hours of continuous observation. It should be noted that this did not include any travelling days. It is important to note that all of the other case studies show confinement increases on moving days.

Miniature Pony (top)
Time spent in accommodation

Close tethered in stable tent	91%
Tethered outdoors	7%
Performing	2%

Shetland Pony (middle)
Time spent in accommodation

Close tethered in stable tent	97%
Tethered outdoors	1%
Performing	2%

2 Larger Ponies (bottom)
Time spent in accommodation

Close tethered in stable tent	98%
Tethered outdoors	0%
Performing	2%

Santus

Four Sheltand ponies, one pony supplied by Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd[26]. The Shetland ponies (Caesar, Spot, Berty & Terry) were presented by Roger Santus, the donkey (Henry who is 30 years old) by Anne-Marie Santus and the pony (Copper) by Nell Stroud[27].

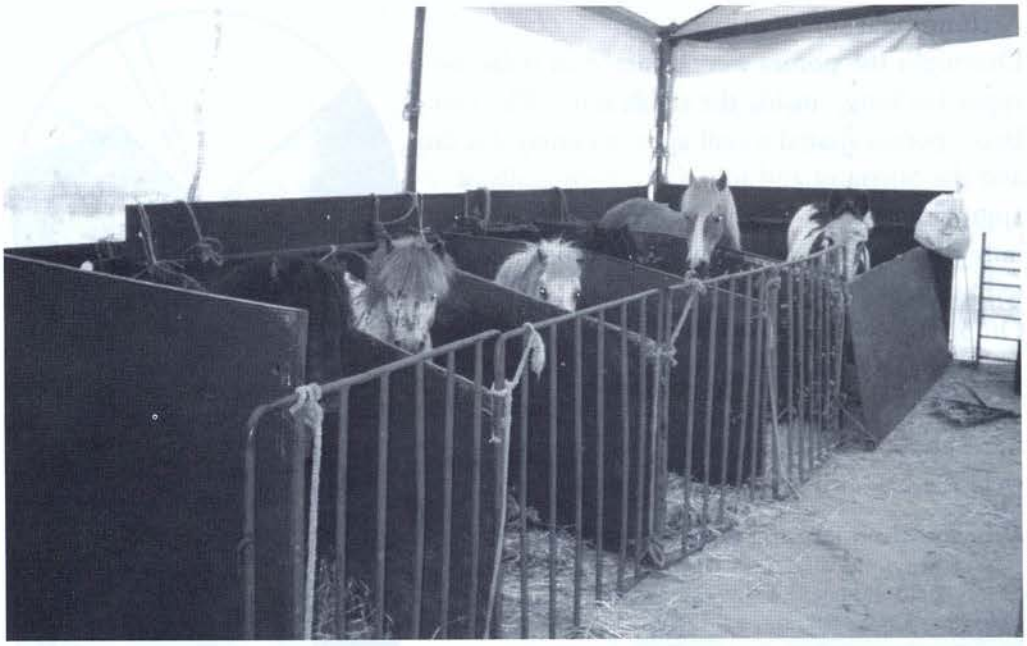
Accommodation/Routine:

The ponies and donkey spent the night in small stalls inside the stable tent. Shetland pony stalls were 1 x 1.5m long - little more than the length of the animal. A Shetland pony could just turn around. These had an uncanny resemblance to veal crates outlawed in the UK a decade ago. The donkey shared a stall of approx. 1.5 x 2m with the pony.

Depending upon the weather and availability of land, the ponies would be taken out and tied to stakes at 8.30am. A concrete site meant no grazing. Sometimes the donkey would be allowed to wander freely.

On 8.6.97, the circus moved from Felixstowe to Harold Hill. The ponies were loaded at about 5pm, leaving the site at 7.00pm, for a journey of 2.5 hours.

Cramped stalls for the ponies with Santus Circus. Almost half of all the animals with circuses in the UK are horses or ponies.

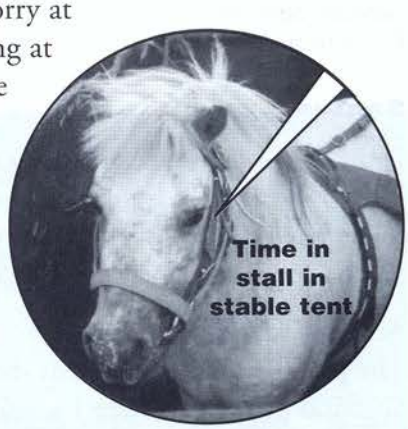


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Unfortunately the site was concrete, so the circus had to wait for a drill in order to put the stakes in the ground for the stable tent. At about 2.00pm (9.6.97), the tent had been erected and the animals were unloaded and placed in their stables. They had been in the lorry for 21 hours.
The ponies had to live in the stable tent until the circus left the site six days later, and furthermore, received no training exercise because of slippery ground and for the second week, a staff shortage. On 10.6.97 it was noted that the ponies were getting irritable and distressed in their stalls and were starting to fight.

On 11.6.97 the stable tent flooded overnight due to rain leaking through holes in the roof. Water collected in one area, and dripped through a hole onto a pony, which could not move away and therefore got soaked all night.

On 15.8.97 the animals were loaded onto their lorry at 6pm and driven to the next site at 8.30pm arriving at approximately 10pm. The following morning the ponies had to be let out of the lorry at 8.45am and tied to stakes because they were fighting inside the lorry; two received injuries.



Time in accommodation
As observed in 7 day period at Harold Hill (168 hours)

In stalls in stable tent	86%
Tethered outside	0%
Performance	2%
In Lorry	12%

Estimated time in accommodation in optimum conditions
Optimum conditions would require the right staff, site & a prompt start each day. We have taken the Harold Hill figures and assumed that every day the ponies could be staked out at 8.30am brought into the ring perform and go straight back out again after the first performance and then finally come back into the stable tent at 6.30pm.

In stalls in stable tent	50%
Tethered outside	36%
Performance & Practice	2%
In Lorry	12%

3.5 OTHER DOMESTICATED SPECIES

Circus King

Three dogs. Two border collies (Paddy and Luke) owned and presented by Jason Timmis and a Yorkshire terrier (Tara) owned and presented by Gracie Timmis[28].

Accommodation/Living Conditions: Although sometimes tied up, the dogs were often seen running around the site.

Circus Markus

Four domestic cats, one dog, group of doves/pigeons, one ferret, one chicken. The cats appear in the ring presented by Linda Mack. The dog, Lincoln, does not appear. The doves appear in the ring, the ferret and chicken do not.

Accommodation/Living Conditions:
The cats were kept in a cage measuring 1.5 x1.5m with a small wooden nest box inside; they were occasionally let out. They had permanent access to water and were fed tinned cat food twice a day.
The dog was kept outside tied up by a 1m+ washing line next to a kennel. He had access to water and was fed tinned dog food twice a day.
All the birds lived at the back of the ring in a small cage (50cm by 75cm by 50cm high) made of wire mesh.
The chicken was kept in a small trailer approximately 1 x 2.5m x 2m high. The ferret lived in the same trailer inside a box approximately 50cm by 75cm by 50cm high. Both had free access to water, but did not leave the trailer at any time.

Santus

Seven goats, only four (Snowy, Blackie, Flash Gordon) appeared in the ring presented by Anne Marie Santus[29]. They were supplied by Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd[30].

Accommodation/Routine:
In theory, the goats were kept overnight inside the stable tent in two pens 1.5 x



Goats with Circus Santus

T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

2m (6 goats together, and one goat which is bullied by the others, sharing with an alpaca). In the morning they should have been placed in an outside pen, but during the period of our observation this did not happen, due to escapes, the weather, or the site. The goats escaped frequently.

For example on 7.6.97, after two days of escapes, the goats paid the penalty and were kept in the stable tent all day. Neither did they go out the next day, because the circus was moving. At midday (8.5.97) the four non-performing goats were loaded up, and joined by the others at 5pm. The transporter left at 7pm and arrived at the new site at 9.30pm. The animals were unloaded at 2pm the following day. The two groups of goats were therefore on the transporter for 26 and 21 hours respectively. For the duration of the stay at the new site, they remained in the stable tent.

For the next move (15.6.97), the non-performing goats were loaded at 1pm and joined by the others at 6pm. At 8.30pm the transporter left, arriving at the next site at approximately 10pm. Despite the site being on farmland, the goats remained in the lorry until 5pm at which time they were put in the stable tent; in the transporter for 28 and 19 hours respectively.

Non-Performing Goats
Average time in accommodation
Based on 288 hours continuous observation

Outside pen	4%
Stable tent pen	82%
Loaded in transporter	14%

Travelling Accommodation: Short-term Studies

The following were visited to confirm various points of animal husbandry, the routines, and presence of particular animals. The duration of visits and periods of observation were between half a day to two days, carried out by a number of AD Field Officers: Circus Atlas, Circo Darix Togni, Jay Millers Circus, Hoffman's Russian Circus.

3.6 ANIMAL HEALTH/ACCIDENTS/ESCAPES

There were many minor incidents with animals, ranging from tripping over chains or ropes, to minor infections, and injuries. Some examples have been included here.

Circus Harlequin

Lioness, Narla. Jaw injury and attack by tiger.
Narla is one of a group of lions and tigers owned by Alex Lacey. These incidents occurred between 24 June and 14 July 1997:

The beastman (cat keeper) attempted to move Narla out to the exercise cage. She was very reluctant to move, so he used a tent pole to poke and hit her. This had little impact until he struck her hard, in the mouth. She clearly felt this, turned and ran down the wagon, with the beastman continuing to beat her until she went into the exercise cage. The next day, Narla was uncomfortable eating;

the trainer had not seen the incident, but when asked about her discomfort, said that Narla had an ulcer on her jaw. Three days later, a vet arrived to see a camel but did not look at Narla.

On 1st July, after the 5pm show, Narla was found seriously injured in the beastwagon, having been attacked by the male tiger, Alex (another of her group). She had bad wounds to the neck and shoulder, which were bleeding, was covered in scratch wounds, eyes were rolling and almost closed, and her breathing was laboured. A discussion about calling a vet ensued, and Alex Lacey decided that he would treat her himself. The next day, Narla was lying down, breathing abnormally, eyes almost closed, bleeding from the mouth. The circus staff were of the opinion that a vet might put the animal down.

Later that day, the staff were told that an RSPCA inspector was scheduled to visit. Alex Lacy instructed that when the inspector arrives he should not see Narla (Harlequin advertises itself as 'RSPCA Inspected'). Narla had been isolated from the other animals in the end section of the beastwagon. Bags of sawdust were packed against the partition so that she had two solid sides to her cage, as well as the solid back. Then the bottom shutter was pulled up so that she could not be seen from the outside. When the inspector arrived the beastman was told to pretend to be cleaning the shutters so that it did not look suspicious. It worked. The RSPCA official looked around the site and for several minutes, and stood in front of the wagon where Narla had been hidden. Nothing was noticed, and once he had left the bags of sawdust were removed, but he shutters were kept up.

The next day (3.7.97) Alex moved Narla to the end cage, placed a partition over her to control her, put a bar in her mouth and cleaned her wounds. She moved out from under the partition but he continued to clean the wounds; he injected salt water into the punctures in Narla's neck, which made her vomit. The tubes in her neck could clearly be seen, and the punctures could be seen. The Field Officer asked Alex if a vet should visit and Alex said again, that if a vet saw Narla now he would either have her put down or would want to operate, which may



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

Despite this sign outside the Circus Harlequin ticket office, a seriously ill lionesses was carefully concealed during once such inspection.

kill her. Alex said that she was dehydrated and attempted to feed her small pieces of meat.

Narla's condition remained serious for the next five days. The beastman also maintained that if a vet had been called, Narla would have been destroyed, and that it would take a long time, but she would get better. Narla remained isolated from the other animals.

On 6.7.97 the circus was due to move. As the afternoon tiger act finished, Group B animals were pushed along their wagon and the tiger props were put into the end section.. The animals in wagon B were even more cramped during the move because Narla remained isolated in her own section. All cats were packed and locked up, with shutters down, by 8pm. They arrived at the new site by 11.30pm and the props were removed. Thus, Group B, including the sick Narla, were cramped in the wagon with the props for 6 hours.

On 8.7.97, the Field Officer assisted Alex Lacey in constructing a makeshift crush cage, out of the tunnel. Narla was moved into this and boards were inserted to push her to one side. Alex Lacey then gave her an injection of penicillin and multi-vitamins followed by antiseptic spray on the wounds. This operation was repeated three days later, and Narla appeared to be getting a little better. Two days later the circus moved site again, with Narla still separated from the others, causing conditions to be more cramped than usual. Group B spent 5.5 hours with the props in their wagon.

On 14.7.97 Alex Lacey left the circus, taking Narla and his other animals with him. Narla appeared somewhat better, although uncomfortable.

Camel, Winston, eye infection; camel, Ralph, lame
Winston's eye was closed up and weeping. A vet attended and administered treatment over a four day period.
During his visits, the vet also noticed that Ralph was lame and instructed that he should not perform for a while.

Camel, Clifford. Chain rub injury
Clifford often cut his leg on his chain and had several scars on his leg from previous injuries (See photographs).

Camel, Gorby. Injured in transporter
Gorby became panicked whilst being unloaded, because he got stuck on a gate inside the transporter. The more he struggled, the more it stuck into him. He was eventually released, but with an injury to his side.

Peter Jay's Hippodrome Circus

Lioness, Flo. Heavily pregnant

Joe Fossett, presenter, remarked that one of the Chipperfield 5 Lioness Group was pregnant and about to have her cubs any day now. A worker commented to the Field Officer that Flo was about to "drop her litter" and that she was likely to have them here and still go into the ring. One day, all of the lionesses were eating except the pregnant Flo. By mid-August, the cubs were due anytime during the next week. Joe Fossett said that Flo would go into the ring right up

until she gave birth, and then the day after. He believed this was acceptable because in the wild lionesses hunt the day after they give birth to their cubs. He separated Flo from the others every night so that the newborn cubs would not be eaten by the others.

Lioness, Laura. Tail tip severed in accident
Joe Fossett, presenter, was opening one of the internal drop doors in the lion cages, via a pulley, in order to clean out the lionesses. The doors are very heavy and the pulley hard to grip. A door slammed down just as Laura was going through. It appeared that she had just got through. However, as Joe continued continued to clean, the Field Officer pointed out a ball of black hair inside the cage, which Joe retrieved, it was the end of a tail, complete with bone. Laura's tail had been chopped off by the door slamming down, and her tail could be seen to be bleeding. Joe complained about the cages, and said that it really needed two people to clean them out. He said he would disinfect the cage to reduce the chance of infection and call a zoo vet. Later that day, Laura had to be removed from the cage in the shop window because her tail was bleeding. The vet came and administered antibiotics, but it was felt that Laura's tail needed stitches. She was to be removed from the performance that evening, in case her tail bled in the ring.

Circus King

Ponies, Texas, Barnum & Venture. Degenerative condition of horses' hooves
During the period of observation, Marie, a twelve year old circus worker, was seen to treat the horses' feet for "thrush" on five occasions. Marie claimed that the cause was damp ground. However, although dampness is a factor, thrush is commonly associated with poor husbandry or conditions and occurs in horses which stand in stalls that are full of urine-soaked manure, lack exercise, do not have their feet cleaned, or stand in manure-soaked paddocks.

Elephants, Titch, Bridget & Nelly. Frostbite, eye discharge & upset stomach
A worker and performer claimed that the ragged ears on the elephants were caused by frostbite, during the winter on the farm.
A white discharge coming out of Titch and Bridget's eyes was said to have been caused by the wind.
Over a five day period one of the elephants became sick, and received veterinary treatment: One morning Bridget's stomach was gurgling and then she had diarrhoea. Jeffrey Hoffman looked at her and thought that it may be caused by her eating the rape plants in the field. The grazing for the elephants was poor on the site. Bridget refused to eat the mid-day meal of hay, carrots, nor the sugar lumps. Later that day, she was given buckets of warm glucose. She continued to have diarrhoea. The others were fed bread and apples, but Bridget was still not interested. Jeffrey tried her with bananas and sugar lumps, but she would not eat, and lay down a couple of times. Jeffrey and Elli informed the Field Officer that the elephants would not be going into the ring. Later in the day, Bridget finally drank some water.

The next day Jeffrey Hoffman gave water to the elephants, followed by hay and bran. Bridget lay down a few time in the enclosure, and she was brought in with

Nellie and chained up at mid-day. Titch stayed outside. Nelly and Bridget were given more hay. At 3.10 pm the two elephants were back outside again. A vet had given Bridget an injection of antibiotics and thought that she had caught something, like salmonella, from the cabbages she had been eating. The next day, Bridget was still not well and the elephants did not perform. On another day, hay and sugar lumps were offered, which Bridget would not eat. The vet attended again, and now also thought that the problem might have been the rape growing in the elephant enclosure. The following day, 7.9.97, the elephants had bread, hay, carrots and water, and Bridget some bananas; she was later given glucose solution. The circus moved on that day.

Camels, eye infection/tangled in ropes: although a minor incident, this further example of an eye infection in a camel is of interest, considering the other examples noted.

Santus Circus

Asian elephant, female, Rhanee.
Rhanee had a "cyst" (more like a boil) on her right shoulder, which Roger Santus told the Field Officer had been there for some time. Each day, Roger cleaned the cyst by squeezing out the pus and injecting an antibiotic into it. This squeezing out appears to cause some distress, as can be seen from the videotape. Rhanee rubs her shoulder and leg with her trunk as Roger is working on it, raises her leg, cries out, and he tries to sooth her. She can be seen to be standing in her own urine and faeces. At the end, she gets slapped and told off for trying to pick some straw and dirt off the ground to rub over herself. (See also Health Section - Winter Quarters concerning treatment of other elephants for this condition).

Rhanee had a nasty accident, when trying to play with some bags of rubbish. As someone walked past her, Rhanee grabbed one of the bags of rubbish and stood on it. The bag contained some beer bottles which broke, and a large piece of glass stuck into Rhanee's foot. She screamed and held her foot in the air. Roger Santus removed the glass and treated the wound.

Pony, Spot.
Spot had wounds on the sides of his body from bites from another pony. Although often separated, it was not uncommon for fights to break out in the stable tent between the ponies, causing minor injuries. Later in the period of observation, Spot and another pony, Terry, received more injuries when, after 14.5 hours in the transporter, fights had started within the vehicle.

Goat, Snowy.
No-one saw what happened to Snowy's leg, but he could not put his foot to the ground. The injury prevented him from performing for a few days.

Austrian National Circus

Leopard, Sabu. Renal infection.
The leopard was being kept on a drip in a small cage in the back of a truck. The two vets were visiting daily out of interest in the animal's welfare. They told the Field Officer that Sabu had been like this for the past ten days, but that the illness had been over a period of about four weeks.

Wolf, **stomach infection.**
The wolf was also very unwell, and missed several performances because of a "stomach infection".

Liger, Sheena. **Head wound from rubbing bars**
Sheena, the liger, had a nasty wound on her forehead, which appeared to be a running sore as there were older wounds around it. Presenter David Lowrie told the Field Officer that the wound was due to 'bar rub', saying Sheena had been taken on a promotional job for cars and became stressed and paced, causing the injury. Now it bleeds every time it is knocked.

Escapes/safety/accidents

Chipperfield's Classic Circus

Sea lion escape
The two non-performing sealions escaped from their lorry and made their way across the site and into the ring during Hans Pedersen's act with their companions. Although this caused some chaos, Hans carried on with the show.

Circus Harlequin

Camel escapes
Between 25.6.97 and 30.7.97, various camels pulled their stakes out of the ground and broke harnesses, being found in various places on four occasions. On another occasion, a camel managed to get away as it was being led out of the ring, it charged towards a neighbouring camp site, but was caught before any damage was caused.

Circus King

Llama escape
25.8.97 to 3.9.87: Various escapes by llamas noted, all recaptured.

Pig escape
On one occasion, the kune kune pig escaped and wandered about by the lion and tiger enclosure, it was, however, lured back into its pen.

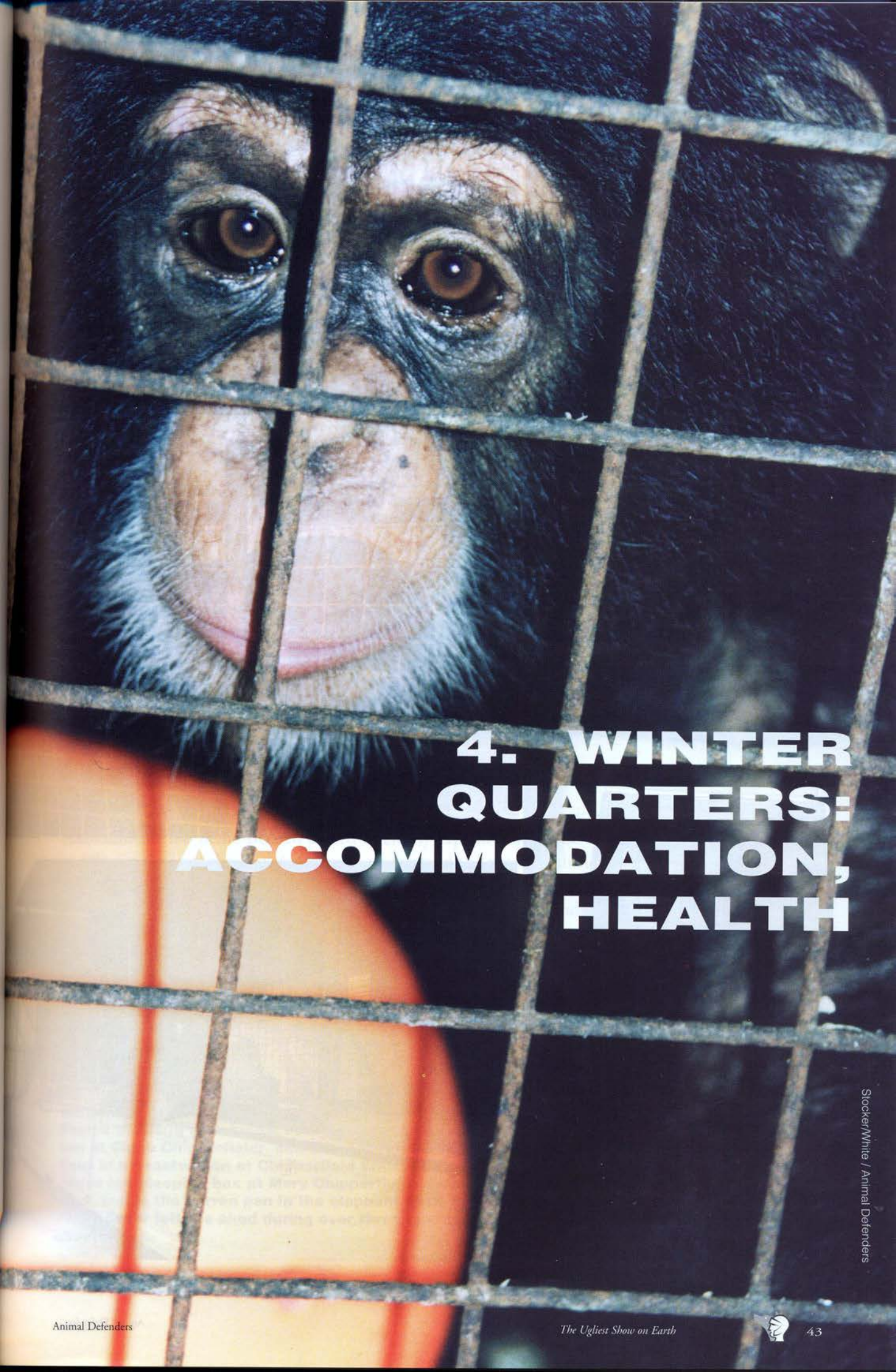
Pony escapes
Two pony escapes were noted, all recaptured.

Santus

Goat escapes
The goats repeatedly escaped from their pens over a short period of time. All recaptured.

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16. *King Pole*, September 1997, p28
17. *King Pole*, June 1996, p35-36
18. *King Pole*, December 1995, p26-27
19. *King Pole*, June 1997 p33
20. *King Pole*, September 1997, p30; *World's Fair*, 17-23.10.97
21. *King Pole*, June 1997, p34; *World's Fair* 25-31.7.97
22. *King Pole*, June 1997, p34; *World's Fair* 25-31.7.97
23. *King Pole*, September 1997, p27-28
24. *World's Fair*, March 28 -April 13, 1997; *World's Fair*, 22-28.8.97
25. *King Pole*, September 1997, p28
26. *King Pole* Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd advert, June 1997
27. *King Pole*, June 1997, p35
28. *King Pole*, June 1997, p31-32; *World's Fair*, 5-11.12.97
29. *King Pole*, June 1997, p35
30. *King Pole*, Mary Chipperfield Promotions advert, June 1997
31. ML promo sheet



4. WINTER QUARTERS: ACCOMMODATION, HEALTH

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StockerWhite / Animal Defenders



4. WINTER QUARTERS: ACCOMMODATION, HEALTH

Data on permanent (or winter) quarters accommodation and health has been gained from various sources, including reports in circus press. Almost all of the first-hand evidence and videotape footage is the result of Animal Defenders' Field Officers working at the establishments. Additional videotape footage is from visits to circuses by the Animal Defenders' Special Investigations Department.

The following winter quarters were visited during 1996/7 and 1997/8:

Chipperfield Enterprises:	14.11.96 - 6.4.97, Field Officer Stocker
	3.3.97 - 9.3.97, Volunteer Field Officer Hill
	10.3.97 - 15.3.97, Volunteer Field Officer Phillips
Clubb Chipperfield	Monitored during the above.
Mary Chipperfield's farm	7.10.97 - 26.1.98, Field Officer Stocker
	18.10.97 - 26.1.98, Field Officer White

Chipperfield Enterprises

Trainer and supplier of lion and tiger acts to circuses worldwide.

Clubb Chipperfield

Trainers and suppliers of circus animals, and for advertising, and films.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd & Chipperfield Organisation

Mary Chipperfield Promotions Limited trains and supplies animal acts. Chipperfield Organisation Limited is an international animal supplier and transporter business. Chipperfield Organisation (for Chipperfield Trust) manages and trades the animal stock at Longleat Safari Park.

Plans

Previous experience of the debate about animal exercise routines in circus establishments has demonstrated a need to clearly explain movements of animals at different times of the day. In order to understand the practical difficulties presented by sharing space between different groups of exotic animals, it is important to understand the daily routine. We have therefore included plans where this aids understanding.

Section cover photo: baby chimpanzee with her comforter.
Photos opposite (clockwise from top right): Lions inside the big cat corridor one at Clubb Chipperfield; bears in a metal container at Clubb Chipperfield; lions in a beastwagon at Chipperfield Enterprises; baby chimpanzee Trudy inside her sleeping box at Mary Chipperfield's farm; elephants, Rosa and Opal, inside the barren pen in the elephant shed at Mary Chipperfield's farm - they never left the shed during over three months of continuous observation.



Stocker/White / Animal Defenders

4.1 EXOTIC SPECIES

4.1.1 Elephants

Mary Chipperfield Promotions/Chipperfield Organisation Ltd

Four African elephants
One Asian elephant

On 6.3.97 a single elephant was observed in the barn, and on 26.9.97, an African elephant.

At commencement of this study (7.10.97), three African elephants were in residence. Two females, Rosa and Opal, and one male, Tembo. According to the beastman, Steven Gills, the male had been transferred from Longleat earlier in the year, and the females had arrived approximately two months earlier. CITES certificates dated 1992 show that Rosa (14 years old) was removed from the wild in South Africa, Opal (15 years old) from the wild in Zimbabwe, and Tembo (12 years) from the wild in Zambia.

On 22.11.97, they were joined by Rhanee, a 27 year old female Asian elephant, who had been supplied by Mary Chipperfield Promotions to Santus Circus for their touring season (see section 3).

On 21.12.97, they were joined by Flora, 10 year old female African elephant; according to documents imported from Zimbabwe in 1988. Previously described by Mary Chipperfield as an "orphan" from a cull.

Accommodation:
The elephants live in a steel barn, elephant pens on one side, horse stalls opposite. There are no windows, only skylights. The barn is shared by horses during the day, which are taken out to fields at night. A giraffe occupied one of the horse boxes between 23rd October and 8th December, not leaving the horse box at all during that period. The elephant pens are made of large steel columns,



Stocker/White / Animal Defenders

sunk into concrete. There are three pens, one main pen measuring 7.73 by 10m, one small one at the back measuring 5.13 by 4.68m, behind a very small cage (2.6m by 4.86m), small enough to serve as an elephant crush-cage.

The elephants were shackled at night by one front and one back leg on chains approximately 2 metres long, and unshackled in the morning . Before the arrival of Rhanee and Flora, Tembo had been shackled with Rosa and Opal in the large pen at night, and placed loose in his small pen in the day.

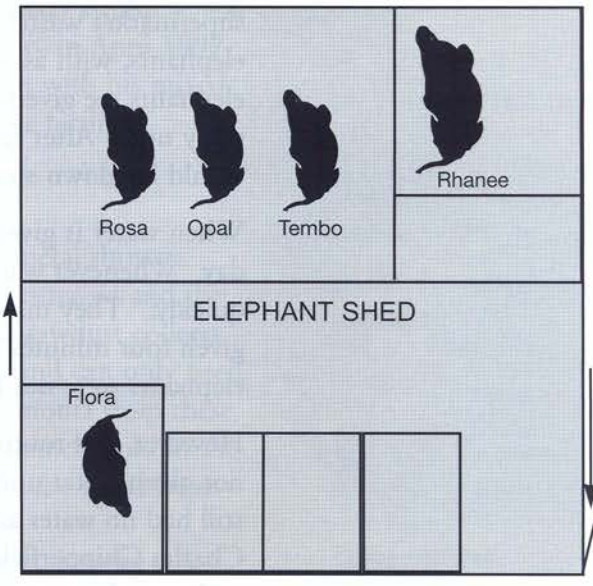
The day after Rhanee arrived, she was moved into Tembo's pen, and he was moved in with Rosa and Opal.

Flora was in the large pen with Tembo, Rosa, and Opal from her arrival on 21.12.97. On 29.12.97 she was moved into the stall vacated by the giraffe

During our observations the elephants were kept permanently in the elephant shed apart for some time in the training ring for Flora and Rhanee. Early in this study (16.11.97) a partially dismantled electric fence was packed away, so it is possible that this was used prior to our study.

However, during our study there was no access to the outside and on several occasion the elephants remained chained up all day, for example on 30.11.97, 8.12.97, 21.12.97 until 24.12.97 when they were unchained during the day, but the following day were left chained all day (25.12.97). They remained chained until 29.12.97. On 11 and 12.1.98 they again remained chained throughout the day.

Below the elephants drawn approximately to scale with their surroundings



There was nothing in the pens to amuse or interest the animals. Just a small, blank concrete space.



Routine/Exercise/Training:
During the period of observation these elephants suffered the most appalling abuse (see section 6), they were smacked, punched, hit with shovels and brooms and viciously beaten with an iron bar. To greater or lesser degrees each elephant showed disturbed or frustrated behaviour (see section 6).

The average daily routine was as follows:-

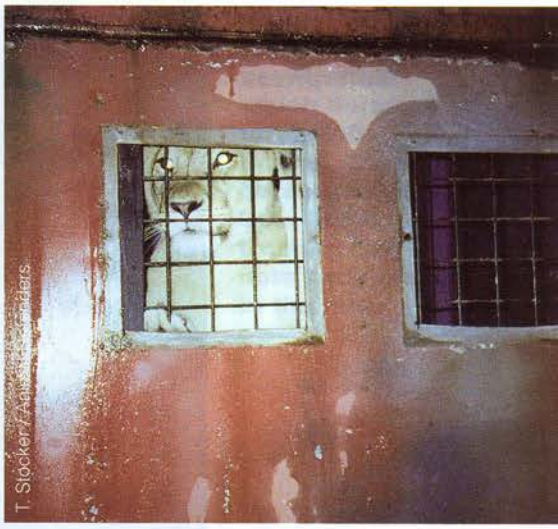
7.30 to 9.00am: Steve Gills(SG), the beastman would fill the water bucket, and start mucking out the pens, amongst other tasks. The water bucket was shared by Opal, Rosa and Tembo, and stands outside of their pen.
If Mary Chipperfield Cawley (MC) or Roger Cawley (RC) are in residence, they bathe the two cysts on Rosa's shoulders. The elephants are then ordered "trunk up!", and the beastman lays out one scoop of cereal mix and one scoop of high fibre nuts or pony nuts. The elephants are then unchained and can move freely around their pen.
9.00 to 10.30am: the elephants are fed hay (by SG,MC or RC), and water is topped up. Rhanee's water is taken to her, then dragged back. (Rhanee tends to knock her bucket over, therefore water is taken to her). If there are titbits from the supermarket bins, the elephants get bread, fruit, vegetables.
(Out-of-date food is collected for the animals from a local supermarket rubbish container each week).
10.30 to 12.00: water is checked, elephants are given hay by SG, MC or RC.
12.00 to 1.30: elephants are given out-of-date bin food if available, plus hay. SG performs some mucking out.
1.30 to 3pm: given hay.
3 to 4.30pm: SG, MC, or RC give the elephants hay, and titbits from the supermarket wastebin if available. Sg will muck out, then chain up the elephants, with assistance from RC or MC. At the command of "trunk up!", the elephants are given one scoop of cereal mix and one scoop of high fibre nuts or pony nuts. After feeding, they are mucked out again. At 4.30 to 5pm, SG would lay down straw for the night.

When water is given regularly, it totals about 1.5 buckets three or four times a day. Whenever water is put into their water bin the elephants drink it all very quickly. They may not have long to do so, for example, on 4.12.97, Rhanee was given four minutes to drink her water, then the water bin was removed. The elephants were not left with water overnight.

However, this routine was not fixed. For example on 8.12.97, the elephants were not given water until 3.30pm. The following day at the same time the elephants still had no water and were given three buckets by Field Officers. The next day Charles Chipperfield commented that the elephants did not have a enough water and gave them more. On 11.12.97 a Field Officer gave them water at 10.30am.

Average time spend in accommodation/day:
Tembo, Rosa, and Opal did not leave the shed between 7 October 1997 and 26 January 1998. On 25.11.97, Rhanee was taken to the training ring, returning 7 minutes 45 seconds later. On 30.12.97 and 1, 2 and 9.1.98, Flora was taken into the training ring. Rhanee was also practiced on 9.1.98. These practice sessions last approximately 10 minutes.





Lion and tiger living quarters closed for the night at Chipperfield Enterprises.

4.1.2 Big Cats

Chipperfield Enterprises Ltd.

18 Lions, 5 Tigers:

Big Cats away on tour during the observation period

12 Tigers	presented by Richard Chipperfield jnr with Cirque Arlette Gruss, France[1,2,3], Monte Carlo International Circus Festival[2,4], Ringling Brothers, USA.
7 Tigers	presented by Marnie Louise Dock with Circus Busch-Roland, Germany[2].
10 Lions	presented by Graham Thomas Chipperfield with Ringling Brothers Circus, USA.[5].

Also it was noted during the observation period that presenter Gary Ambrose was expected to bring up to 9 tigers (6 adults & 3 cubs) to the facility in April 1997. During the late summer, 1997, Alex Lacey left Circus Harlequin with his mixed group of 2 lionesses, 1 lion and 2 tigers and brought them to the facility.

Accommodation:

Container One: 3 Lionesses, 3 Tigers

Steel Lorry container with metal sides, top, back and closeable metal shutters over a cage front. The floor is wood but is severely pitted and damaged and the first partition has two holes through the bottom. Urine soaked sawdust collects in these holes, and at the joint between the back and the floor, and can only been cleaned out by hand. Even after just 24 hours, the smell of ammonia from these pockets of urine soaked sawdust is extremely strong. It was extremely cold in the containers during the winter months, and water would freeze in the water trays overnight.

The total living area of the container, 11.7 metres by 2.34 metres deep by 2.3 metres high, made up of two 1.68 metre by 2.34 metre partitions and seven 1.19 metre by 2.34 metre partitions. Two groups of animals were kept segregated in the container.

The Two Group: Sky, young lioness, Shandru, young tiger

Total living area 2.87m x 2.34m deep, giving 6.7 square metres = 3.4 square metres per animal.

Indoor dens at Chipperfield Enterprises



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

The Four Group: 2 lionesses, 2 'Irish' tigers: Sita, tigress, Rani, tiger, Cloudy, lioness, Sunny, lioness:
Housed in Container 1: Living area 8.82m x 2.34 metres deep, giving 20.63 square metres = 5.15 square metres per animal.

Container Two: 2 Lionesses, 1 Lion, 2 Tigers
The same as container one except it was slightly smaller and although pitted there were no actual holes through the floor. Also the floor opening through which food and water is given to the animals did not have shutters which meant that animals could always reach out through them.
The total living area of the container, 11.2 metres by 2.28 metres deep by 2.3 metres high, made up of seven partitions of 1.6metres wide by 2.28 metres deep by 2.3 metres high. It held a single group of animals known as the Five Group.

The Five Group: Three lions (I male Thunder & 2 Lionesses), two tigers (Onyx & Raj)
Living area 11.2m x 2.28m deep, giving 25.5 square metres = 5.1 square metres per animal.

Beastwagon: 8 Lionesses, 1 Lion
Of similar design to the containers but mounted on a wheeled chassis. The floors were also pitted and damaged and urine soaked sawdust collected in these holes, and at the points where the back meets the floor, and can only been cleaned out by hand.
The total living area of the wagon, 11.76 metres by 2.4 metres deep by 2.3 metres high, made up of four partitions 2.14 metres wide by 2.4 metres deep and one partition 3.2 metres wide by 2.4 metres deep. Three groups of animals were kept segregated in the beastwagon

The Five Lioness Group: Laura, Flo, Sarah, Ruth, and Vivienne
Living area 6.42m x 2.4m deep, giving 15.4 square metres = 3.08 square metres per animal.



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

Solomon and Maria in the beastwagon which Solomon rarely left. Below: Solomon gets some rare time in the training ring - note he is alone in the ring.



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

With Maria have appeared with Circus King in 1995 presented by Paul Richards[6]; Chipperfield's Classic Circus presented by Dave Freeman in 1996; Peter Jay's Hippodrome Circus presented by Joe Fossett in 1997. (see Section3).

The Two Lioness Group: (believed to be Jan & Joyce)

Living area 3.2m x 2.4m deep, giving 7.68 square metres = 3.84 square metres per animal.

In addition to their living area, they generally had access during the working day to a "veranda" cage added on to the beastwagon measuring approx. 2.5 x 2.5m.

Solomon & Maria (lioness & lion)

Living area 2.14m x 2.4m deep, giving 5.14 square metres = 2.57 square metres per animal.

Solomon was badly attacked by the Five Lioness group (see section 4.3) and could only live with Maria, both appear to like each others' company. Given the freedom of the whole wagon, they almost invariably chose to be together. Sadly in April 1997, they were expected to be separated in the future.



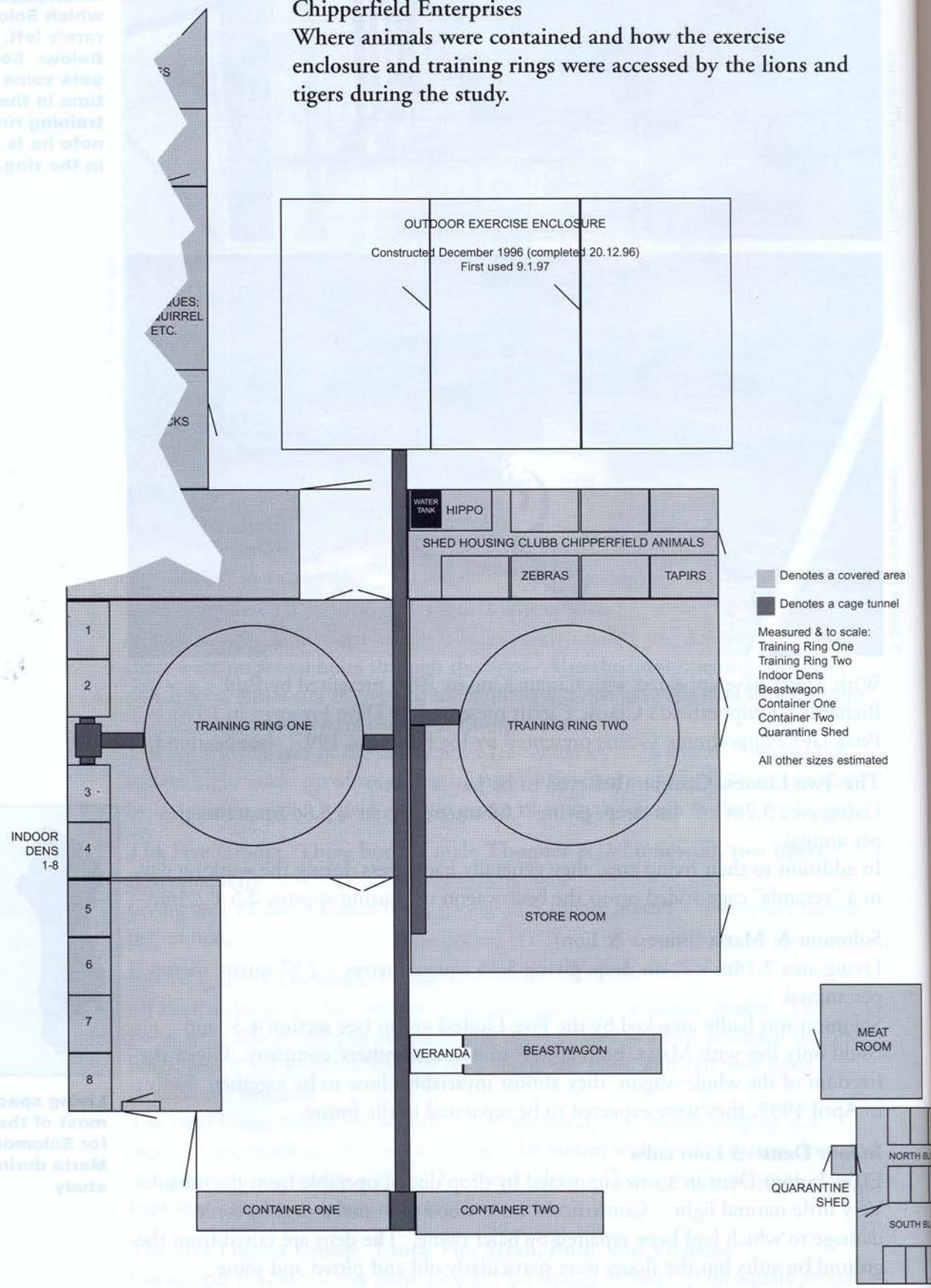
Living space for most of the day for Solomon and Maria during the study

Indoor Dens: 3 Lion cubs

Eight Indoor Dens in a row connected by drop doors, operable from the outside. Very little natural light. Constructed from wood with metal caging, some damage to which had been repaired by baler twine. The dens are raised from the ground on stilts but the floors were particularly old and pitted and some remained permanently damp. During the early part of the study some of the

Chipperfield Enterprises

Where animals were contained and how the exercise enclosure and training rings were accessed by the lions and tigers during the study.



lionesses in the beastwagon were housed here. During the latter part of the study (on which our timings are based) only the cubs were kept permanently here. The dens were also used for feeding. The floor opening through which food and water was given to the animals did not have shutters which meant that animals could always reach out through them.
Each den measured 3.5 metres across the front, 2.6 metres deep and 1.94 metres high.

Two young lion cubs and slightly older lion cub.
Received from Mary Chipperfield 6.3.97
Initially kept in two separate "dens" each measuring 3.5 metres wide by 2.6 metres deep by 1.94 metres high. From 12.3.97 onwards they were allowed access to both dens. By 15.3.96 had been given no access since arrival to exercise areas ("because they are new animals").
Total living area 7m x 2.6m, giving 18.2 square metres = 6.06 square metres per animal.

Quarantine Shed:
During the observation period there were no cats kept in the quarantine shed, although the Animal Defenders have previously filmed and photographed animals there. The quarantine shed was an old wooden building, although caging had recently been renewed and had a capacity for around 12 cats in extremely small cages, in dingy conditions. These would be held in four cages 1.59m by 2.09, four cages 1.55m by 2.15m, and four more cages 1.55m by 2.31m. There were no exercise facilities attached to this and, of course, the quarantined cats could not share the other exercise facilities even if a long tunnel could be rigged up to them (see plan). As the smallest group of animals Richard Chipperfield snr had out on tour at the time of the study was six animals and the largest 12, the best these animals could expect would be one or two of these tiny cages. Cats placed in quarantine will have to endure 6 months in this shed.

The Practice & Training Rings:
Both rings are inside dimly lit barns. Ring One which was used for 'exercise' and training; 12.58 metres wide, with some props and a hard dirt floor. Ring Two which was used for training, but rarely for exercise, was approximately 12.5 metres wide, contained more props and also had a dirt floor. In a previous debate over exercise facilities at this establishment, these have been misleadingly described as exercise enclosures.

Outdoor Enclosure:
In May 1996 the Animal Defenders criticised Chipperfield Enterprises for having no proper free access exercise facilities. The response appears to have been to build a new enclosure, which was completed in December 1996 and first used on 9.1.97.

This is an outdoor pen made of single chain link fencing (no secondary containment), accessed by tunnels from the animals' containers. There are three adjoining enclosures, with normal hinged doors in the partition fencing. However, due to a design error the interconnecting doors were placed in the middle of the enclosure, and cannot be operated from outside of the enclosure. Thus, they had to be left open. This means that only one group of animals can use the enclosure at a time, and also that moving animals back out of the

enclosure is difficult.

Between December 1996 and April 1997, no effort had been made for environmental enrichment, although the lions and tigers eagerly played with any bits of rubbish that happened to blow in. As it is this barren bit of field is the most attractive space for the animals.

On occasion animals would refuse to leave the enclosure to return to their cages; they would sit in the middle, well out of reach. It was impossible to drive them to one end of the enclosure, or to lure them out. Instead, stones had to be thrown over the fence at them until the animals moved, although sometimes they would just walk further into the centre where they could not be reached. When all else failed, Richard Chipperfield snr. would go into the enclosure and drive the animals out; on occasion this included a beating. The animal would probably then be denied access to the enclosure until further notice.

Routine

The animals were kept overnight in their living quarters with the shutters closed (unless the weather was particularly warm - which means that for much of the year these animals are entombed for approximately 62% of every day).

Most of the animals only had enough space for their sleeping quarters and therefore defecated in or near their bedding. Yet, when provided with enough space (for example a section of cage with just sawdust), they would use this and not soil their bedding. For example, when the two lionesses kept together in the beastwagon were allowed access to the veranda overnight, in addition to their normal section of beastwagon, they chose to defecate on the veranda. Few species actually choose to lie in their own excrement, but the very nature of circus housing generally forces them to do so.

There is no doubt that the animals relished any change of scenery; nearly all left their beastwagons or containers at speed and returned at a slow trudge. When released into the outdoor enclosure, the cats would rush about, exploring the bland environment. They were alert to their surroundings, rushing to the fence to look at workers walking past, horses moving along the road or to stalk the chickens living on the other side of their fence. But such 'privileges' were extremely short lived (see figures for actual time in accommodation).

Cats responded less enthusiastically to an exercise session in Ring One, where there were props for them to climb on but clearly less outside stimuli. Nonetheless the cats still appreciated time in this over time in their containers. The cats would sometimes be put in the cage tunnel whilst their containers were being cleaned. They appeared to enjoy this short-lived change of aspect and could be difficult to get back in. Also given the choice of lying on fresh straw in the beast wagon, or the bare veranda area, the lions invariably chose the veranda area where they could watch the other animals.

The free exercise enclosure was more popular than the ring, which undermines the notion that circus animals have an improved quality of life over other captive animals because of the stimulation the ring provides. Practice time is, of course, strictly regimented (see training section) and involves the same tricks again and again.

The working day was approximately 8.30am to 5.30pm - a nine hour day (for which beastmen and women are paid £1.59 per hour). Sometimes work would go on longer, but the day was never extended purely for extra exercise for animals. Opening and closing up the wagons would take approximately half an hour, and feeding the animals in the late morning (which had to be done with the animals separated in the wagons) would take up to two hours. There were eight different groups which would generally be kept separated. Staffing was usually low and on regular occasions only one person with responsibility for the animals would be on site - in such circumstances they were instructed (for obvious safety reasons) not to leave the cats in the outdoor exercise enclosure whilst away on lunch break.

This latter point is important because such restrictions clearly make some of the claims about the amount of exercise these animals have on a regular daily basis (especially when there were only two ring cages) a physical impossibility.

The animals would be fed once a day, with a fast day, and if animals misbehaved in training, food would be withheld. This encouraged them to perform for meat titbits during practice.

Average Time Spent in Accommodation Per Day:
Detailed timings were taken for the amount of time all of the lions and tigers spent in the different 'exercise' facilities over a 24 day period, 576 hours. Over the same period timings were made of any practicing or training. It was noted (from the study up to this point) that certain groups would be favoured for practice if they were booked out (for example during our time study practice was dominated by a lioness group that was being prepared for Joe Fossett to show at the Hippodrome Circus and at the end of the study, Chipperfield began to concentrate his efforts on a new mixed group). Therefore the practice timing have been averaged across all of the animals to give the most accurate long term view possible.

Richard Chipperfield snr stated that Solomon was not going to trained, but used for breeding, which is not accounted for in his Performing Animals Act registration, and neither does the organisation hold a Dangerous Wild Animals Act licence.

The training average has not been carried across to cubs, since they are always present and at different stages of training. Solomon, used for breeding, is not trained and rarely exercised (see 4.3).

During the study there were no days on which either the ring or exercise enclosure were not used at all. There were numerous days on which certain groups of animals received no exercise time. The worst incidence of this was with the Two Group, the Two Lionesses, and Solomon and Maria. Time varied in the extreme, for example from no exercise or 30 minutes up to 3 and a half hours. A longer time would inevitably be at the expense of another group. Group Two got just one brief visit to the exercise pens during the study and consequently average 1 minute there.



Total time in accommodation averaged for all animals

Time in various containers	96.13%	23 hours 4.2 minutes
Time out of containers	3.87%	55.8 minutes

Five Group
(2 Lionesses, 1 Lion, 2 Tigers)

In Container	94.84%	22.76 hours
In Ring	1.33%	19.2 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	1.58%	22.8 minutes
Practice & Training	2.25	32.4 minutes
Total time out of Container:	1.24 hours	

Four Group
(2 Lionesses, 2 tigers)

In Container	96.23%	22.94 hours
In Ring	1.46%	21 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	.06%	10.2 minutes
Practice & Training	2.25%	32.4 minutes
Total time out of Container:	1.06 hours	

Two Group
(1 Lioness, 1 Tiger)

In Container	94.61%	22.7 hours
In Ring	3.08%	44.4 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	0.06%	1 minute
Practice & Training	2.25%	32.4 minutes
Total time out of Container:	1.3 hours	

Five Lionesses

In Beastwagon	92.51%	22.2 hours
In Ring	1.12%	16.2 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	4.12%	59.4 minutes
Practice & Training	2.25%	32.4 minutes
Total time out of beastwagon:	1.8 hours	

Two Lionesses

In Beastwagon	96.38%	23.13 hours
In Ring	1.37%	19.8 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	0%	0 minutes
Practice & Training	2.25%	32.4 minutes
Total time out of beastwagon:	52.2 minutes	

Maria
(Lioness)

In Beastwagon	96.46%	23.15 hours
In Ring	1.29%	18.6 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	0%	0 minutes
Practice & Training	2.25%	32.4 minutes
Total time out of beastwagon:	51 minutes	

Solomon
(Lion)

In Beastwagon	98.71%	23.69 hours
In Ring	1.29%	18.6 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	0%	0 minutes
Practice & Training	0%	0 minutes
Total time out of beastwagon:	18.6 minutes	

3 Lion Cubs

In Indoor Dens	100%	24 hours
In Ring	0%	0 minutes
In Exercise Enclosure	0%	0 minutes
Practice & Training	0%	0 minutes

Refs:
1. *King Pole*, June 1996, p22; 2. *World's Fair* 24-30.1.97; 3. *King Pole*, June 1997, p16; 4. *World's Fair*, 14-20.2.97; 5. *King Pole*, September 1997, p27-28; 6. *King Pole*, June 1995, p41.



T. Phillips / Animal Defenders

Jaguar in 'modern' accommodation at Clubb Chipperfield

Clubb-Chipperfield

Various Lions and tigers

Big Cat Corridor One: 2 lions, 2 black panthers, 2 Jaguars.

This was a modern purpose-built facility with cages replicating beastwagons in terms of dimensions. Each cage was approximately 2.5m by 2.5m. The lions would have access to either two or four of these cages. The other animals would be either housed individually or in species pairs with access to two cages. The jaguars and panthers had a log through the top part of the cage onto which they could jump. During the period of observation two outdoor exercise enclosures were being built (but were not completed) attached to the corridor. During our study the only exercise the cats could have had would have been in the indoor Clubb Chipperfield training ring - but it was noted that the caging around the ring was not permanently erected.

Big Cat Corridor Two: Various lions & tigers

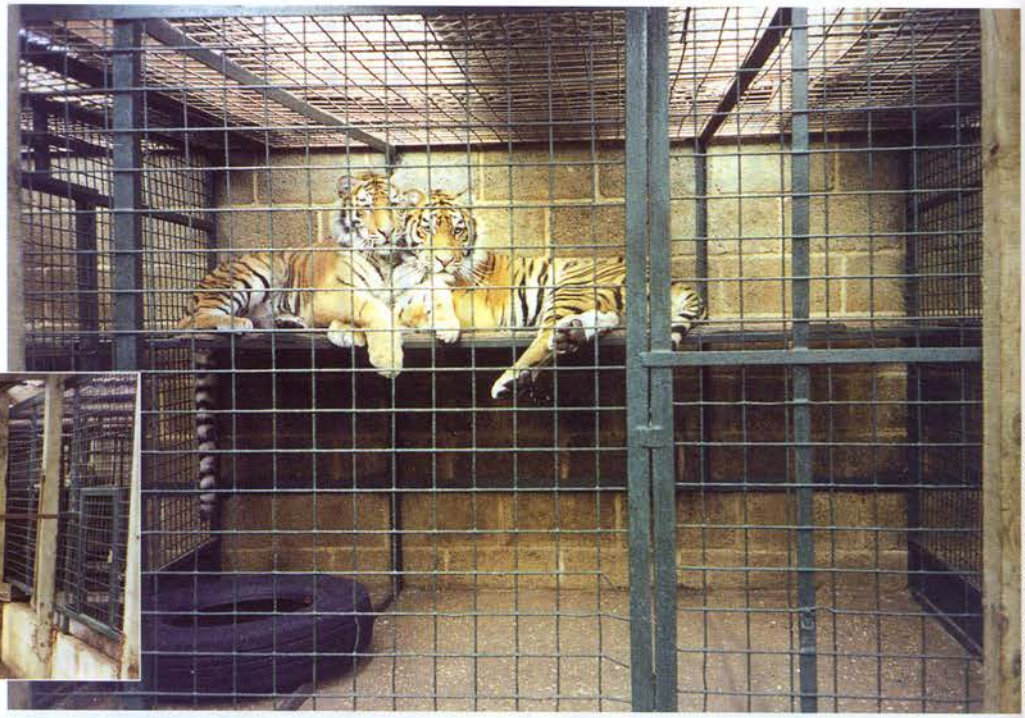
The same as corridor one, although during the observation period no outdoor enclosures were being built. A small ring cage was erected outside (see plan). This was closely monitored for a two week period during March 1997 and was not used.

Container: Two cougar (puma, mountain lions):

Kept in a beast container on the ground, approx. 2.5 metres by 10 metres with no furniture or stimulation. The cage is easily divided for cleaning out which takes place every other day. There was no tunnelling attached to the exercise, enclosure and so throughout the period of observation the cougars remained in their container.

On average the big cats spent just over 70% of their time in cages like these at Mary Chipperfield Promotions

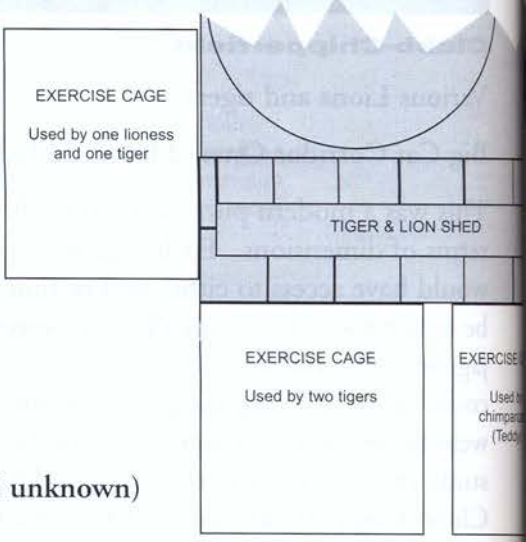




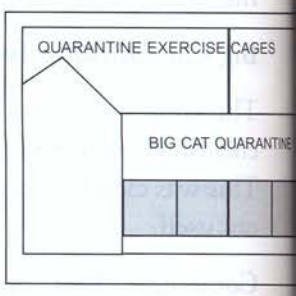
Stocker/White / Animal Defenders

Mary Chipperfield Promotions

Eight tigers
Three Lionesses
Two lion cubs (overnight on 23.11.97, in transit with Jack Corney of Isle of Wight Zoo)
Seventeen Lions (7.12.97, in beastwagon in transit from Ireland to Spain)

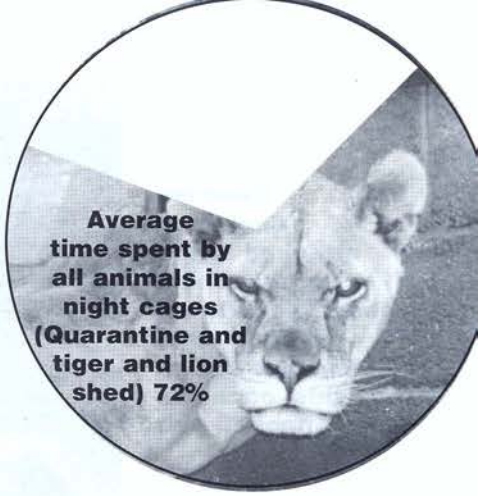


Accommodation:
Big Cat Accommodation Block
Five tigers (Candy, Columbine, Gita & 2 unknown)
One Lioness (Clara)



The cats lived in three pairs. Two tigers (Candy and Columbine), one lioness and one tiger (Clara and Gita), and two tigers which the beastman didn't believe had names. Overnight each pair is kept in a single cage, measuring approximately 2.8 by 2.2m. During the day, Candy, Columbine, Clara and Gita have access to the two respective outdoor cages (the third was used by the chimpanzee, Teddy, until January 1998 when the bear, Harry, replaced him). The two 'unnamed' tigers did not go out until 8.1.98, but prior to that were given access to three additional indoor cages during the day. The cats were let out at 9.30am and returned to their single sleeping cages at about 4pm where they had no water until the morning. On 8.1.98 Candy, Columbine and Clara were despatched to Spain.

The indoor cages were concrete floored and had an old tyre and a shelf. Both outdoor cages are relatively featureless. The one used by the two tigers was 10 by 10.3m had a ramp to a bath (which only ever contained rainwater), two railway sleepers, a tyre and a small metal frame. The outdoor cage used by the lioness and tiger is slightly overgrown and features a log.



Average based on 68 days of timekeeping during October, November, December 1997. Two continuous periods.

Quarantine:
Three tigers (Sheena, Madras,another
Two lionesses (Tracey, Sharon)

The cats had been in quarantine since returning from France at the beginning of October 1997. These are believed to be the animals that Suzanne Chipperfield presented on Cirque Alexis Gruss in France in 1996[1]. A Field Officer was informed that Sheena is 20 years old. Overnight they were kept in cages measuring 2.5 by 2.48m with a shelf to lie on. Initially, they were given no straw bedding just a sprinkling of sawdust - on one occasion the sawdust ran out for three days leaving nothing to soak up their urine and faeces. From 12.11.97, the cats were provided with straw bedding.

For most of the working day, the cats would be in the exercise cages. These were very small (the largest measures under 3.78m by 9.18m) with wooden boards or a concrete floor for the cats to lie on, have very limited furniture (for example a log, a tyre, and one has an empty tub), and have no shelter when it rains. Poor design meant that only one exercise cage had direct access to the sleeping cages. If there is a heavy downpour the cats were put back in for the day but generally had to tolerate showers. If it rained all day they were kept in. Water would pool in the exercise cages and in January 1998 they were badly flooded.

There were no footbaths between the quarantine facility and the rest of the farm and workers regularly moved between the different animals. On one occasion a dying rat was discovered inside the quarantine area. The exercise caging was held together with wire ties. However, there was secondary fencing and the whole area was covered by netting, so the risk of an escape is reduced.

The premises were inspected by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food



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Small, bleak enclosure in the Mary Chipperfield Promotions quarantine facility.



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Exercise enclosure attached to the tiger and lion shed. Not a lot of environmental stimulation and on this occasion flooded out.

(MAFF) during October and November.

Routine:

The cats were kept overnight in their sleeping cages, fed at around 7.30am, let out into their exercise cages (if allowed out) at 9.30am and then shut in for the night at approximately 4.00pm. They were fed half pigs heads every day except one fast day. The food supply was erratic.

On 11.10.97 due to some confusion over the collection of pigs' heads the cats didn't eat, except for Sheena, whom the vet had said looked a bit thin. The following day they received titbits such as chicken Kiev in breadcrumbs, which some wouldn't eat, and pieces of steak. Sheena and Madras each had half a pig's head. On 13.10.97 there was still no food, but in the evening some chickens were delivered which were fed to the cats on the following two mornings before the supply of pigs' head resumed. When the vet visited on 13.11.97, he commented that the diet could be more balanced and incorporate vitamin powder and that Sheena should receive extra food.

On 2.1.98, torrential rain flooded the quarantine area and the big cat accommodation block. Rain was running off the surrounding fields and pouring into the quarantine area The cats were all kept inside except for the two lionesses in the quarantine area, whose shutter was left open so that they could go out. The flood kept the cats in the following day; they were let out again on 4.1.98, but by 10am a storm had brought the flooding back and so the cats were back inside again. On 5.1.98, feeding the cats was difficult because the quarantine exercise cages were flooded - with five cats one still had to be fed there. On 6.1.98 the cats were let out into the muddy, wet conditions.

In order to familiarise them with getting into crates, on 7.1.98 two tigers were shouted, screamed, and poked at with bars. The following day the two tigers (Columbine and Candy) and the lioness (Clara) were poked into travelling crates - Clara took the longest and snarled and roared at the people trying to move her. One tiger finished the ordeal with a bloody nose. The cats left in the evening for Marcel Peters in Spain. Gita who had lived with Clara for two years, was left alone.

These cats leaving meant the two tigers who had not been out since commencement of this study could finally go into the exercise cage.

Refs:
1. World's Fair, 13.9.96

4.1.3 Other Exotic Species

Clubb Chipperfield

Two tapirs

Housed in a poorly lit stable rented from Richard (Dicky) Chipperfield snr. (see plan Chipperfield Enterprises) The light was so poor in this building that it must have been painful and disconcerting for any animals leaving it, especially after months inside. The two tapirs were kept together in a pen measuring approx. 3 by 3 metres, walled on all sides and with a solid door over a metre high. Thus for the tapirs it must have been like living at the bottom of a pit. The animals were clearly inquisitive about visitors that looked in, raising their snouts to anyone looking over the door and enjoying a stroke. They lived for months like this until April 1997, when they were moved to an enclosure on the Clubb Chipperfield side, with access to the outside world.

Three Zebras:

Housed in the same stable as the tapirs. An adult and a juvenile kept together in a pen approx. 3 by 3 metres and another adult in a similar pen. They were bedded on straw and the adults could just manage to peep out but could see very little. The pair were moved to a field on the Clubb Chipperfield property on 11.3.97, where they remained for the remainder of the study. When they were moved, they were extremely nervous, but the workers appeared aware of this, and moved them slowly and attempted to keep people at a distance. The single adult was moved on 4.4.97.

Pygmy Hippo:

Housed in semi darkness at the very end of the same stable as the zebras and tapirs. One of the worst examples of animal husbandry ever witnessed. The hippo has access to a dry enclosure approx. 2 by 2.5 metres and a tank of water approx. 1.5 by 2 metres. The dry area was bedded with straw and the tank filled with water. This was cleaned out once a week, but when a sample of water was taken 15.3.97 it was filthy, brown, and opaque. A further sample taken a week later was considerably clearer. Previously there had been two hippos in the shed but one had been sent to Japan. The hippo is either blind or its sight is severely impaired by cataracts. This hippo remained in this shed throughout the four months of this study.

This hippo was kept in these conditions throughout the five month study at the site. New accommodation was expected at some time in the future.









Hyenas living in a beastwagon.

Two Black Bears:
Kept in a steel container on the ground, approx. 2.5 metres by 10 metres with no furniture or stimulation. Straw bedding was provided in half of the cage. The cage is easily divided for cleaning out which takes place every other day. One bear has a damaged nose, which according to the beastman looking after them was possibly from a nose ring put there by a previous owner. There was no tunnelling from which the animals could gain access to an exercise area. Throughout the period of observation, these bears were kept permanently inside this container.

Four Hyenas:
Kept in three separate beastwagons, two together and two individually. Each has a space of approx. 2.5 metres by 5 metres with straw bedding. One hyena had a box provided. There were no tunnels off these cages to any exercise areas, and throughout the period of observation they remained permanently in their beastwagons.

Four wolves and one dingo:
All kept overnight in a beastwagon and then released for the day into an exercise enclosure measuring approximately 8 metres by 8 metres. The animals tended to lie around this enclosure throughout the day, showing that they welcomed the increased space even though it lacked any environmental enrichment, being a blank, muddy pen. The beastmen who looked after them told Field Officers that the wolves get very little work and haven't been used for quite some time.

Clubb Chipperfield primates





Various Primates

On the Clubb Chipperfield side of the site were enclosures housing primates (see plan). However on the Chipperfield Enterprises side there were more primates housed in small cages in a shed, which a Clubb Chipperfield worker told a Field Officer was owned by Sally Clubb. It was not possible to monitor this group of animals on a regular basis but video and photographs were taken of the facilities and an operation on a mandrill was videotaped there (see section 4.3). The primates kept in the shed included at least four ring-tailed lemurs, three mandrills, two squirrel monkeys and two macaque monkeys.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions

NB: Llamas, camels, zebra and ponies are on similar husbandry routines at Mary Chipperfield Promotions, therefore these animals have been reported together, under the horses, etc., section in "Domestics/Exotic Domestics".

Bear:

Harry is 20-30 years old, reportedly from Longleat, and performed in the circus during the 1970s.

Accommodation:

The bear's den was a small wooden shed, in two compartments, one sleeping area and the second a free daytime area where he took his food to eat (a total area of 4.68 by 1.95m). His outdoor pen was almost barren, with just a couple of tyres and a small pool containing stagnant water.

In January 1998, the bear was moved out of this enclosure to the tiger shed, where he lived in an open cage in a corridor of cages with other animals next door, and opposite, rather than an enclosed den. This appeared to cause some distress, since the bear was used to sleeping in a dark den, undisturbed by people walking by.



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Routine/Exercise/Training:
Out from den 7.30-9.00am each day, in from outdoor pen 5.00 to to 8.00pm each day. The pen would be swept daily, food put down and water replenished and his den would be cleaned once a week. However, it appears that the cleaning was just a shallow layer of new straw, since when our Field Officers cleaned out the pen, long-term sodden straw and faeces were found, with some of the straw sprouting.

Harry spent the day slowly eating and pacing up and down. His food supply was erratic to say the least, since it was obtained from the local supermarket wastebins and consisted of out-of-date packets of meat, bread, buns, cake, sometimes vegetables and fruit. Sometimes the packaging was left on the food for Harry to remove it himself. The food was collected each week by one of the Field Officers and the beastman. This meant that quantities of food given to Harry ranged from a single apple on one day, to bread, fruit, and vegetables on another.

Five Chimpanzees:
Breeding group: male, Micky (27 years old), Mandy (17 years), Lucy (15), all transferred from Longleat (See Animal Supply section, 7, for chimpanzee background). Trudy, 18 months old, and Teddy, 5 years old, were both born at the farm, and reportedly, had been rejected by their mothers (see section 7, Circus Animal Supply, 'breeding'). The youngsters both undertake film and TV work, but the adults are considered to be unsuitable.

Accommodation - Adult Chimpanzees
The adult chimpanzees lived together in two adjoining cages each measuring 1.98 by 1.93m inside a dingy barn, with access to an outdoor enclosure. The outdoor enclosure was grassed with a number of wooden telegraph poles, however, the animals spent most of the day sitting around doing nothing. One female chimp rocked from side to side, making a spitting sound.

Routine/Exercise/Training - Adult Chimpanzees:
Micky, Mandy and Lucy were let out of the indoor cages at 7.30am each day,





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Night cages for the adult chimpanzees.

and brought back in from 5pm onwards. They were fed and given water when let out, and when brought back in again. Food was out-of-date cake, bread, old fruit, vegetable, or from the supermarket bins, and all were given water by bottle. On 15.12.97, Field Officers watered the chimps by holding a bottle of water out for each of them, finding the animals thirsty; the routine only provided for drink twice a day, at feeding time. Food was put down in front of the cage and the chimps would reach through the bars and retrieve it. The night cages were cleaned out once a week.

If the chimps did not move willingly from their night cages to the exercise enclosure, they were hit, or prodded with a stick. On one occasion, when the beastman prodded the male chimp, the chimp screamed out and began hitting things in the cage, and then attacked one of the females. This particular female appeared to be mentally ill as she shook her head side to side continuously for long periods.

Accommodation - Trudy

Trudy lived in a cage measuring 3.10 by 2.48m, inside a section of a barn with no other animals present. Each night, she had to go into a sleeping box, which was a skykennel travelling crate of the size used for dogs or cats. Going into the sleeping box each night was the cause of beatings, because Trudy did not like to go into it. Trudy lived all alone.

In early December, the keeper and the Field Officer noticed that Trudy's hands and feet were freezing cold, due to the cage being uninsulated and in the middle

The baby chimpanzee, Trudy, in her cage at Mary Chipperfield Promotions. Opposite with the baby bouncer to which she clings.



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of a large barn. On the same day, Teddy's feet were so cold when he was walking to his day cage that he could not walk properly, so had to be carried.

Routine/Exercise/Training - Trudy:
At commencement of the study, Trudy was spending the night in a cage at the house with her keeper, but this routine ended in November, and since then she has remained in her "day cage" all of the time, sleeping in her box at night. The day cage contained a swing, her sleeping box.

Trudy was taken milk or juice and the scraps of food (Jaffa cakes, old fruit, biscuits) from the supermarket bins in the morning, and let out of her sleeping box. The wet wood shavings were taken out each morning, and the cage and sleeping box cleaned out each week. In the middle of the day Trudy would receive more fruit and a drink, and then again the in the late afternoon, before being put into her sleeping box for the night.

Apart from feeding times, she spent the day alone, and was considered to be very insecure, constantly cuddling a large 'baby bouncer' comfort ball during the day. It was said, she did not like the company of other chimpanzees.

Accommodation - Teddy:
At the commencement of the study, Teddy lived in a horsebox in the yard, going out most days into a cage in the tiger shed which had access to an outdoor pen.

Teddy was observed rocking himself back and forth in his cage in the horse trailer in March 1996, when a Field Officer was present at the farm for a collection of lions cubs for Chipperfield Enterprises.

Teddy's night cage in the horse trailer amounted to just under half of the trailer, 1.97m high, 1.90m length and 2.2m width. The remainder was used for storage of supplies.

By late December, Teddy was staying almost full time in a cage in the chimpanzee shed, due to the cold weather. As the light was switched off after



feeding, he was in the darkness most of the time.

Routine/Exercise/Training - Teddy:
Teddy was taken out of his horsebox at approximately 8am each day, and taken to his day cage in the big cat accommodation shed, and given a breakfast of cake, bread, or fruit, with milk or water. The day cage had access to an outdoor pen. He may be given more food and a drink at lunchtime, and again at 4 or 5pm, when he was returned to his horsebox (and late November onwards, taken to the chimpanzee shed). He had no access to water during the day or night.

During November, Teddy almost broke out of his day pen. Since there was no-one available to fix it, he was confined to his night cage in the horse box for several days and became very depressed and lethargic, barely moving. At the end of November, Teddy was moved to a night cage in the adult chimp shed instead of the horsebox. He also spent many days in this cage, because of the cold, and lack of staff to move him about. On 27.12.97, there was only bourbon biscuits and jaffa cakes for the chimpanzees. On 2.1.98, Teddy had a meal of milk, mince pie, a satsuma, and a banana.

Wallabys, Muntjac Deer and Spider Monkeys:
These animals stayed in small crates and in the stables whilst en route elsewhere, and have been reported upon.

Giraffe:
The giraffe, Ben, was one year old and arrived on 23.10.97 from The Netherlands. He was due to stay in quarantine until onward transport to Brazil, but eventually went to Clubb Chipperfield in Oxfordshire, on 8.12.97.

On arrival it was placed in a stall in the elephant barn measuring 4.4m by 3.52m. The giraffe was fed on hay, and his stall was not cleaned out during its stay, as it was considered dangerous to go so near to the animal.

During his stay, Ben's behaviour became increasingly disturbed, walking around in circles, kicking out, stretching his neck up, bending it back, and twisting his head in an upward circular movement.

4.2 DOMESTIC/EXOTIC DOMESTIC SPECIES

Clubb Chipperfield

Cow:
A cow required for a television commercial was kept in the stable used for the tapirs, hippo and zebras (see section 4.1.3) from 13.3.97 to 15.3.97. She would be led to the Clubb Chipperfield side for training. She appeared nervous, and bolted one day when leaving the ring.

Rabbits:
These were in the same shed as the primates and some were filmed in small sky kennels and others loose on the floor of a pen.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions

NB: The horses, ponies, llamas, guanacos, camels, and zebra are managed on similar husbandry routines at Mary Chipperfield Promotions, therefore these animals have been reported upon together.

Animals in residence during the period of study were: Several horses, Tulsa, Padash, Star, Icon, Raven, Annie, Sam, and others kept permanently in the fields. Eight ponies, Polo, Kelpy, Witch, Spot, and others in the fields. Eight camels (including two Yasmins, Uri, Ruby and others), several llamas and guanacos; water buffalo, Brenda; African bull, Andy; and a zebra.

Horse Stables in the Elephant Barn:
Two horses, Raven and Icon, were usually brought into the stables in the morning for the rest of the day. If Mary Chipperfield was in residence, they would receive training for approximately twenty minutes, if they were not to be practiced, they were kept in their stables and let out into the field at night, or left out all day. During the day they are given hay and horse nuts.

Stable Pens and Animals in Fields:
Animals permanently in the fields included the zebra, racing camels, African bull, water buffalo, some of the horses and ponies, and some of the llamas/guanacos.

The stable pens were part-covered pens of hard standing, in the yard. The horses, ponies and some of the camels, llamas, and guanacos which were to be trained were brought into the pens from the fields each morning. These animals would go back into the fields in the late afternoon, about 5pm.

The animals were fed small rations throughout the day. The animals in the pens would get hay; two camels and the horses, Tulsa, Raven, and Icon would receive



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horse nut and cereal mix. Animals in the fields were fed hay, cereal mix, etc.

Some of the animals appeared to be hungry, especially those spending long periods out in the fields. Many of the fields had been grazed to almost nothing. Availability of drinking water in the fields was also poor. Baths of water were found to be full of thick, green, algae, and at other times to be frozen over. An inspection of the various fields found that although there were some watering systems, the camels, llamas, and zebra had no water. Some water buckets were empty. The African bull could not get to the water in the old bath in his field because his horns were too big to allow him to reach down into the bath.

There was little shelter from inclement weather in the fields; this was queried by the Field Officers, and the gate to the pens was left open to allow llamas, ponies, and others to shelter in the yard as necessary.

As more and more animals arrived back at the farm at the end of the touring season, the facilities became more cramped. Some animals, especially horses, which had been used to coming in during the day were kept out full time.

4.3 ANIMAL HEALTH

Chipperfield Enterprises

Lion with swollen joint

24.11.96: One of the lions, living in one of the steel containers, has got what the beastman, has described as "water on the knee". There was a large lump on the elbow of the right foreleg. On 3.1.97, the swelling was still there. It was commented that this had happened before.

Lion cub died of 'genetic illness'

27.11.96: The beastman, told a Field Officer that a young lion had died of a "genetic illness"earlier in 1996. This was apparently one of the two cubs filmed earlier in 1996 at the site. The survivor of the pair was the lioness known as Sky.

Scars on lions & tigers

Many of the cats, particularly the lions, had scars on their nose and faces (our photograph on p119 for example). The cuts and grazes heal quickly, but due to rubbing on the cage bars the wounds are often reopened.

Solomon injured leg and attacked

Solomon was a supplied to Clubb Chipperfield by Mary Chipperfield. Clubb had been unable to train him, so he was passed to Chipperfield Enterprises. Richard Chipperfield snr planned to use Solomon for breeding only and not train him. He was mated with at least two of the lionesses.

6.1.97: Solomon had a painful leg leg and was limping. On 24.1.97: Solomon, who had not been out of the beastwagon since his arrival, was sent out into the outdoor enclosure with the group of five lionesses. Solomon made his way very tentatively down the tunnel, and had to be repeatedly shouted at and poked to get him moving until he reached the final string tunnel before the enclosure. At this point two of the lionesses ran from the enclosure into the tunnel and attacked the terrified Solomon. Chipperfield shouted staff to drive the lionesses

out of the tunnel into the enclosure and Solomon reluctantly followed them in. He was promptly attacked by the five lionesses who pinned him to the ground biting and scratching him. Solomon fought back and attempted to break away. Eventually the lionesses were driven out of the enclosure.

Tiger (Sita) diarrhoea and lethargic
15.1.97: In the morning the Field Officer noticed that one of the tigers from the four group was lying down and would not move and pointed her out to Chipperfield. He agreed that she looked poorly but felt she was well enough to be practiced.

Lioness (Cloudy) injured during practice
25.1.97: In the morning, Cloudy, one of the lionesses hurt her leg during practice. The Field Officer was informed that the props collapsed. The ground is uneven in both practice rings and the props somewhat unstable. Coincidentally during a performance presented by Dave Freeman at Chipperfield's Classic Circus some props had fallen over. Cloudy continued to limp several days later.

Lioness (Maria) believed bitten
28.1.97: Richard Chipperfield snr comments that the lioness, Maria, has a lump on her side and suspects that one of the other lionesses has bitten her through the bars when she's leaned against them.

Lion (Thunder) castrated in container
28.1.97: Thunder was castrated inside Container One. The vet complained that there was no weighing cage. Thunder was darted, and once unconscious was operated on by the vet on the floor of the container on straw with a surgical drape under the area immediately around where the surgery was being performed. Thunder's leg twitched during the operation and the vet said that he could feel a little bit. During the operation the young lioness and tiger, Sky and Shandru, were shut in the container at the opposite end to the operation but could see what was happening.

Clubb-Chipperfield

Mandrill prolapsed rectum
21.3.97 A mandrill was observed having a prolapsed rectum pushed back. The mandrill's arms were pulled back behind its body by Michael Howse (Clubb Chipperfield site manager) and another Clubb Chipperfield worker held the animal down. Michael Howse then slipped on a pair of surgical gloves and pushed the prolapse back The animal struggled and Howse shouted "stop it" several times and also commented that this was the second time this had happened. Howse commented after he had finished that this was not uncommon amongst the primates, pointing to another mandrill that had previously prolapsed, associating it with both the stress of training and the fact the animals have to walk on its hind legs.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions

Elephants: A female African elephant, Rosa, had a "cyst" at the top of her front legs, on both shoulders. This "cyst" produced pus, however, which was squeezed out and the wound treated with peroxide and garlic. Another female, Opal, had similar lumps developing on her shoulders.. Rhanee, the female Asian elephant who arrived in November, also had such a "cyst" on her shoulder.

On 8.10.97, as Mary Chipperfield was injecting a garlic solution into Rosa's wound, the elephant kept trying to touch her hand and she shouted at the elephant, instructed the beastman to hit her, and then took the stick an hit Rosa across the side of the head herself.

It is apparent from the film of Rhanee and Rosa during treatment of these cysts that it is a distressing experience.

It was noted that the elephant's cysts went mostly untreated whilst Mary Chipperfield was absent on two occasions during October and November. Some treatment was given by Roger Cawley when he was present.

When Tembo moved in with Rosa and Opal, he chased them around their pen a great deal, mounting them. At this time, the beastman was beating the elephants almost constantly, thus, Rosa and Opal were being beaten by the beastman, and then attacked by Tembo, receiving various injuries. (See section 'Physical, Psychological Effects & Abuse').

26.12.96: Injuries were noted on Flora, one on her left side and two on her backside; 27.12.97: Both Opal and Flora have wounds on their bodies; 28.12.97: Flora's ear was bleeding; 30.12.97: pus is coming from the wound on Flora's ear, which is treated with antiseptic. Despite this, she was beaten, whipped, and made to practice in the ring.

The came to see Flora and decided to get a blood and dung sample. Getting the former proved difficult. The vet was going to get the sample from her ear, but Flora did not want anything near her face so he decided to get it from her tail. Roger was in the pen with her using an elephant hook to control her. Two ropes were tied around her legs as well in order to control her. Roger was saying that he thought Flora was either anaemic or had worms and had not been well for a while. She had spent a year in Belgium and last year had been treated for boils.

In the morning, Flora had a large piece of skin missing from her head near the top of her ear. It was red and looked quite sore. I spoke to Steve who mentioned the injury on Flora's head. In the evening, Flora was found laying down on her side. She ate some fruit, but would not drink.

The vet reported back that one of Flora's problems was a vitamin E deficiency.

Big Cats:
November: Sheena, one of the tigers in quarantine, was looking very thin and sickly, not interested in her food. Although she was elderly (20 years), the vet felt that the cats were not getting a balanced diet. She was getting half a pigs head a day, and this was not enough; he also added that in the wild, they would

eat a variety of things and recommended vitamin supplements, as well as egg yolks and milk.

On his next visit the vet commented again on how the cats were not getting the correct vitamins and minerals and that it is well worth supplementing the lions and tigers, rather than them just eating meat and bone. The vet asked for Sheena to continue to get straw bedding, adding that he did not want Sheena to have any bone since, due to her age, her kidneys may not be working too well. The vet commented on these animals behaving like other captive wild animals, displaying "stereotypic movement".

Once Sheena had improved, her food ration was cut back to half a pig's head again. The vitamin supplement was not given to the other cats.

Horses, Ponies, Camels, Llamas/guanacos

The standard of health amongst these animals was generally poor, with constant injuries, coughs, hoof problems, eye problems, and matted coats. Food supplies were erratic. When food was scarce, some animals simply went without. The horses and ponies had to make do with what they were given as stocks became low.

Although veterinary attention was regular, there appeared to be more problems with the animals than there were people available to ensure that ongoing care was administered.

10.10.97: A lame shire horse was brought in from the fields.
On 21.10.97, Annie, a horse is usually kept in the fields, was brought into the concrete pens because of lameness. Her condition continued to worsen over the next few days, and on 25.10.97 she was holding her hoof off the ground completely.

Three days later, a vet inspected the hoof and scraped away the old hoof, releasing a foul smell. He said that he had cleaned Annie's hoof before and requested that they keep it clean.



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The next day, Annie was laying down, refusing to get up. Her breathing was slow and deep and her stomach was gurgling. She occasionally put her head down, but kept sitting up again. The vet was called, and he found that she had both colic and laminitis. He said that she should be kept off dry food and grass and should only be given some soaked hay. The vet then gave her a pain killing injection, left some more painkiller, bandaged her foot and said that she should have had lots of straw bedding to support her foot. The Field Officers brought three rubber mats into her stable with plenty of straw.

The Field Officers continued with Annie's aftercare and medication for three weeks, during which time the vet prescribed antibiotics for an infection which developed in the hoof as a result of the laminitis It was decided that Annie should return to the fields on 13.11.97.

On 18.11.97, Annie was limping again and was brought in. The vet concluded that her left hind hoof had separated; she had laminitis in a different hoof (front right rather than back left) and bruising of the bone. He scraped away the muck from the infected hoof, and the distinctive putrid smell. The vet said that that he could tell by looking at the hoof that Annie had suffered from laminitis for a long time. Although he attempted to find out the cause of Annie's persistent laminitis, no-one knew enough about the horses to help him. We had to keep her in (either the stable or pen), keep her off grass, just feed her hay, and put a poultice on her hoof once a day. On 25.11.97: Annie's poultice came off for the last time, and Mary Chipperfield took her outside. The animal's stomach was gurgling again, but Chipperfield did not think it was colic; she cleaned Annie's front hooves with a penknife and cantered her around in the ring shed; she added that Annie would be in foal next year, and that she would then not "have all this trouble". Chipperfield then had the horse returned to the field.

A racing camel, Hassan, was found dead in the field in late November, with no obvious cause. The vet performed a post mortem, and found a large amount of solid, rather than soft, straw. The vet asked the Field Officer to check the water trough in the field, and although it contained water, it was green with algae. The vet concluded that the camel probably died from the build up of solid food causing the food to press on the lungs; either the animal had not been drinking, or it had been suffering from a condition where its digestive system was not operating properly.

3.12.97 Some of the camels had diarrhoea, and so were wormed.

8.12.97: A tiger injured her foot.

9.12.97: Kelpy, pony, had overgrown hooves.

11.12.97: Young female camel, Ruby, was holding her foot up and limping; Icon, horse, had a cough; a pony in the meadow had a cough.

13.12.97: Ruby, the baby camel, was still lame.

26.12.97: One of the llamas, in the racing camel's, field had faeces caking its rear end. Roger Cawley thought it might be worms. The animal was wormed. on 8.1.98, the llama was found dead in the field. A post mortem was not considered necessary.





Mary Chipperfield Promotions: a llama in a poor state which died shortly after the photograph was taken. A camel was discovered dead one morning.

Wallaby

A sick wallaby from the delivery at the beginning of October was dead within a few days of arrival. See section7.

Minor examples of problems of management, illnesses, injuries:

21.10.97: A horse panicked when being chased around a pen, slipped, and smashed its head on a metal hay basket leaving a deep cut, down to the bone.

2.11.97: Racing camel found with a wound just below the knee.

4.11.97 Padash an Arab, was frequently attacked by another horse and had cuts on his legs.

9.11.97 Most of the horses are not groomed at all, partly because it takes up too much time; grooming is only carried out if the animals are working. Consequently, some have particularly matted manes.

9.11.97: Ponies and llamas were out in a thunderstorm with no shelter.

11.11.97 Whilst collecting a pony for worming treatment, one of the other ponies was noticed to have conjunctivitis, and a cough.

23.11.97: A male pony was put into a pen with two female ponies, so he repeatedly attempted to mate with them. The two females became frantic in their attempts to escape, running in circles. All of the animals were slipping over the wet concrete floor and the male's penis was bleeding.

28.11.97: Llamas and guanacos fighting in the pens, whilst all waiting to go in for training.

4.4 ESCAPES/SAFETY/ACCIDENTS

Chipperfield Enterprises

Lion escape averted 1997

28.3.97: Due to poor maintenance of the facility a lion (Thunder) very nearly escaped; the escape was in fact only averted by AD Field Officers. A Field Officer heard Rebecca (a new beastwoman) shouting at Thunder to "get down" and went to assist. Thunder had climbed onto the props inside the practice ring, discovered a hole in the netting and begun to clamber out of the ring. His head, front legs and entire torso were through the netting, his front legs were draped over the top of the ring caging. One Field Officer attempted to drive Thunder back in, whilst another went for assistance from the Clubb Chipperfield premises. Thunder initially appeared trapped in the netting and that the only way of freeing himself would be to come out through the cage. Finally a Field Officer was able to lure Thunder back into the cage by throwing in some meat. The ring was emptied and a Field Officer sewed up the hole with baler twine.

Escape of five lions - February 1993

During 1993, in an unreported incident, a group of five lions escaped from the Chipperfield Enterprises site. According to Richard Chipperfield snr., and Michael Howse, Clubb Chipperfield manager, someone left a door open by mistake and the lions got loose. One was recaptured in the offices. Another attacked the Clubb Chipperfield zebras in their field and two attacked their camel; grabbing it from behind, attempting to bring it down and tore the flesh on its legs. The lions were steadily cornered and pushed into crates. The last lion to be caught went onto a neighbouring farmer's land and Michael Howse and others went after it armed with a shotgun. It was eventually corned in the farmer's barn and pushed into a crate without recourse to the shotgun.

Tiger escape

A tiger escaped from one of the indoor dens and was loose inside the shed. Michael Howse recaptured the tiger with an alligator pole (a sturdy version of a dog grasper).



Thunder who almost escaped on 28.3.97.

Lion escape

Marni Dock (a long standing Chipperfield Enterprises employee) recounted how a lion had got loose in the shed with indoor dens 5 to 8. Richard Chipperfield and he had eventually recaptured the animal. During the incident the lion had run past Dock, who struck the lion full in the face with a shovel, but this had no effect.

Disrepair & poor facilities

In May 1996, BBC television used film shot by the Animal Defenders of various 'minor' repairs with baler twine to the outside cage sections and tunnels, as well as rusting sections of caging. Repairs to the cage tunnelling to the training rings, and the junction used later to connect the beastwagon to the tunnel were in the the worst condition. Following the broadcast much of this was welded and repainted. However, baler twine was still used on makeshift repairs which are out of sight. The tunnel leading from the indoor dens to training ring one, which had to be climbed over whenever feeding animals in the dens (almost daily), had a steadily growing gap at the top. During the study the top of the cage tunnel was held together by baler twine.

One tunnel which presented an immediate danger was the string tunnel running to the outdoor enclosure. This was not properly fixed to the ground and could easily be moved several metres in any direction by a lion or tiger with a will to do so. At the point where this met the enclosure it was tied in place by rope.

The indoor dens and container one have no flaps where food and water are put in. This meant that the cats could always take a swipe at the outside world and have a surprisingly long reach (one Chipperfield Enterprises worker reported having his shoe pulled off and must have been lucky not to lose his foot).

Lack of training

A potential danger is one of poor staff training. There is no formal training (although Chipperfield is there most days); no warnings around the site to check doors are shut (the only door with 'keep closed' written on it is in fact permanently held open by cage tunnelling). The beastmen and women were paid £100 for a seven day week - so attracting skilled labour is unlikely.

The greatest risk at the site is that a door will be opened whilst another has not yet been closed, or another worker is inside a container cleaning it out.

All of the Field Officers working at the site were rapidly given responsibilities and left unsupervised - one being left alone there after just a few days.

People wandering off the footpath

A public footpath dissects the site, with Chipperfield Enterprises on one side and Clubb Chipperfield on the other. The large gate at the end of the compound (next to container one) is rarely locked and was only erected after the Animal Defenders film in early 1996. The other end of the compound was either completely open, or accessed through a low temporary fence which was generally left open to make working easier.

25.1.97: A Field Officer was informed that a family (two adults and three children) had been by the outdoor pen fence when there were animals inside. The Field Officer then told the family that they should not leave the footpath and that it is dangerous to approach the lions.



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

Lions locked in outdoor enclosure
22.3.97: The five lionesses were out in the exercise enclosure for about three hours and were due to come in, but had managed to close one of the gates and lock it, with two trapped inside. Someone had to enter the enclosure to open the inner doors.

Feeding & Hygiene

During the study, the majority of meat was fallen livestock from local farmers, mainly pigs but also calves, lambs and piglets. Some farmers would deliver dead animals others were collected by Chipperfield Enterprises employees (including Field Officers).

At Chipperfield Enterprises the animals would be butchered in the yard outside the meat room. All of the guts and entrails would be dumped on the rubbish tip and limbs for consumption hung in the meat room. The blood and guts that remained were hosed away into a makeshift open drain that ran alongside the meat room and into the wood behind.

The meat room was a dilapidated, wooden shed, it was neither chilled nor insulated, conditions were filthy and the stench appalling Mice would run along the beams from which the meat was suspended and onto the meat and rats and birds would feed outside on the rubbish tip and where pig head were cut up.

All waste, rotting meat, entrails, soiled bedding, was thrown on the open rubbish tip opposite the end of the exercise enclosure. For example on 29.11.96 the following was noted:- three adult pigs' heads, one headless donkey, a headless cow, various limbs, a whole calf; and a number of piglets all in various stages of decomposition Every now and again the tip would be set alight to try to burn it.

Clubb-Chipperfield

Tapir escape

The Clubb Chipperfield worker responsible for the two tapirs reported that in late 1996, one of the tapirs had broke down the door to his pen and escaped.

The animal ran into the countryside and bit the Clubb worker who eventually caught him. After this the tapir pen was secured with two large bolts. t

Cow makes a break for it

The cow being trained for a TV commercial would be led from the stall in the shed which she shared with the hippo, zebras and tapirs, to the Clubb Chipperfield training ring each day.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions

Hygiene

A pit, measuring about 3 by 3m and 4-5m deep was used to dump anything which could not go onto the straw heap, including dead animals such as the wallaby. The contents of the pit were periodically burnt.

There were rats on the site and on 5.11.97 one was discovered dying in the quarantine area.

3 Wallabys Escape

14.10.97: The dog pulled open the fence, which was tied against the door of the stall where the wallabys were, and released three wallabys. Staff chased them around the field to no avail and gave up. Later, in the afternoon, another attempt was made to capture them without success and they were left out overnight despite heavy rain.
15.10.97: Two of the wallabys were captured by using nets.
24.10.97: The last missing wallaby was reported to be close to the road and so the Field Officers and staff pursued it. It was chased back towards the farm but not recaptured.
1.11.97: A Field Officer asked Roger Cawley how the wallaby was going to be caught. He replied that it will be impossible to catch the animal and that the wallaby is free.
7.11.97: Roger told a Field Officer that he had had a visit from the police the previous night after they had had a report of a wallaby on the loose. Roger commented that the wallaby will eventually be knocked over by a car.
25.1.98: The wallaby and still not been recovered.

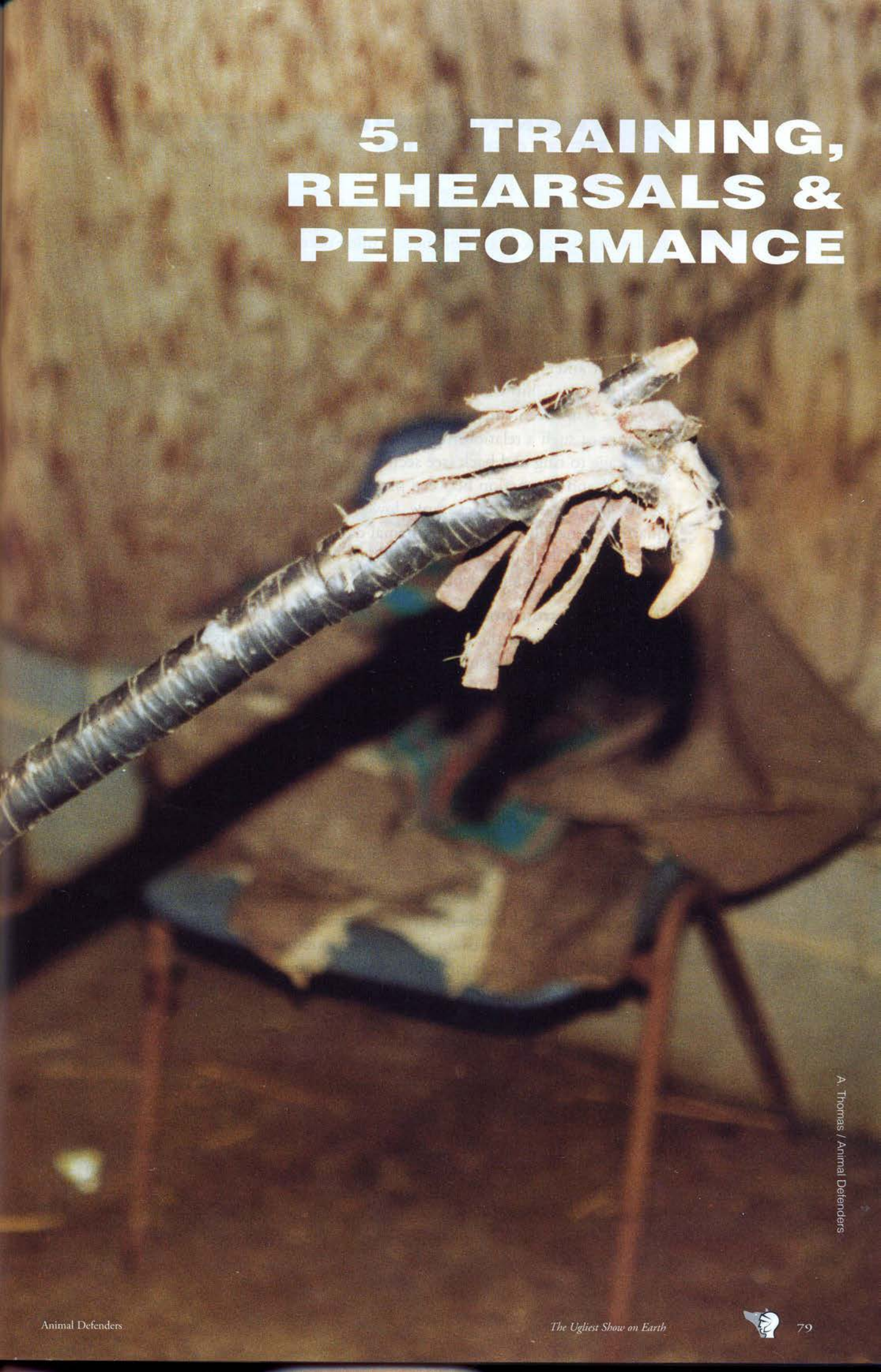
Chimpanzee Escape

On 18 January 1998 the chimpanzee, Teddy, escaped from his outdoor pen and onto the roof. He was eventually recaptured.

Elephant Escape

On 11.1.98, Flora escaped from her pen by undoing the latches on the door. After the escape, the Field Officers watched Flora play with the latches until they were undone. The next day, they checked the door of Flora's pen, and both the bottom and top latch were undone. As she was being watched, Flora undid the middle latch with her trunk.

5. TRAINING, REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCE



A. Thomas / Animal Defenders

5. TRAINING, REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCE

All of the examples of training practices and abuse mentioned in this section are backed up by videotaped evidence. Taping occurred both in the presence of the Field Officer, and when they were absent.

MYTH OF THE RELATIONSHIP

Animal "trainers" seen in the circus ring are often presented as having developed a loving relationship with their animals over many years, training them with "positive reinforcement, like guide dogs for the blind"[2]. But there is little evidence of such a relationship in the way the animals are housed and moved from cage to ring and back (see sections 3, 4, and 6). We found a distinct lack of affection and interaction between presenters and animals when not in the ring. With lions and tigers for example, low paid beastmen (£10+/day at winter quarters) generally do all of the menial day to day jobs with the animals (cleaning out, feeding, etc.), the presenter may only be in the ring with the animals for ten to twenty minutes a day whilst on tour.

If there is any truth in the circus claim that animals build a bond with their trainer then many of the animals are in for a shock, as it is common practice for the same animals to be supplied to different presenters each season.

For example a group of six lionesses was trained by Richard Chipperfield snr and supplied by Chipperfield Enterprises to Circus King in 1995 where they were presented by Paul Richards[4]. The following year the lionesses were presented by Dave Freeman on Chipperfield Classic Circus. In 1997, they were back at Chipperfield Enterprises for the early part of the year before going to Peter Jay's Hippodrome Circus in Great Yarmouth where they were presented by Joe Fossett.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd., rent their Asian elephant, Rhanee, to a variety of shows. In 1995 Rhanee was being presented by Suzanne Chipperfield on the Chipperfield Brothers Circus tour, and in 1996 and 1997 has been presented by Roger Santus on Santus Circus, returning at the end of the season to Mary Chipperfield's farm. On her return from the touring season, Rhanee was immediately taken into the training ring; during this the whip cracked her around the ring, whilst she was shouted at to move quickly, and told that she was "not with Santus now", which meant she had better perform faster. In fact, almost all of the animals with Santus Circus for the past two years have been supplied by Mary Chipperfield Promotions.

Mixed groups of animals are renowned for being difficult to train. The Clubb Chipperfield mixed group observed by a Field Officer in Vienna consists of 2 black bears, 1 wolf, 1 hyena, 1 liger, 3 leopards, 4 tigers, and 2 lionesses. In 1995, 1996 and early 1997 this was presented in Japan then Austria by David Lowrie and Tina Stiff.[5,6,7] However, during 1997 US animal trainer Pat White took over the presentation of the act.[8]



A. Ellis / Animal Defenders

Even mixed groups like this one, where there is an increased risk of animals attacking each other, are passed from one trainer to another.

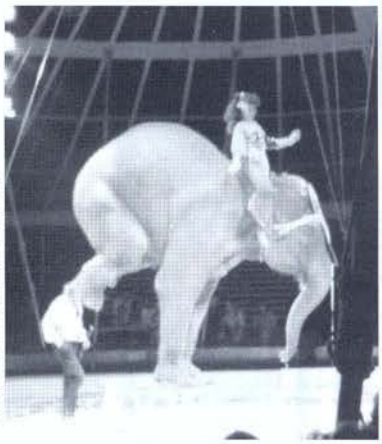
Circuses vary their programme by buying in new acts and new presenters each year.

REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCE

It is important to remember that the rehearsals seen during a touring season are not the real (original) training. Real training is done in the permanent quarters, behind closed doors. Once an animal or group of animals has been 'broken' they will probably spend the rest of their lives performing variants of the same routine. Thus after a while, this training becomes little more than reinforcement. When someone sees an animal act on tour, it is possible that the animals have been going through the routines for five ten or more years right down to the stage managed moments, for example the "opposite" trick, when an animal is supposedly wilful and refuses to obey a command, or the "pretend attack" on the trainer - all are rehearsed. This rather undermines the weak notion that animals in circuses find their routines stimulating.

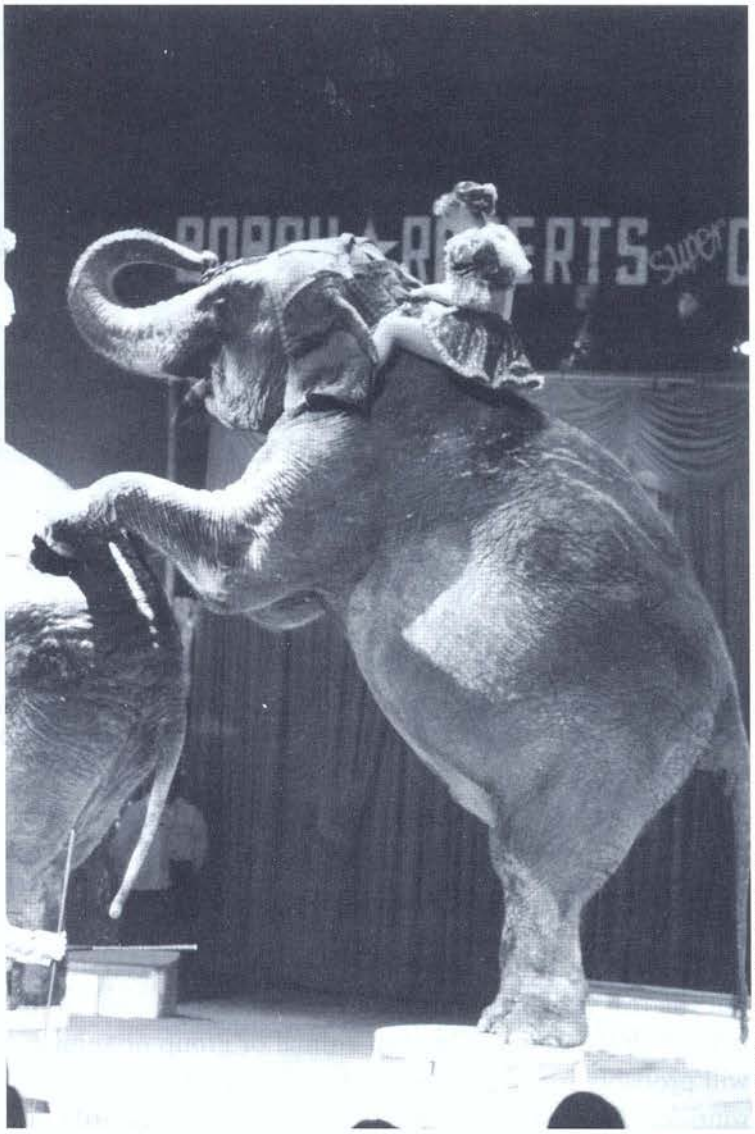
The Kiley-Worthington report of 1989[1], mentioned earlier in this report, found that 40% of the big cats had to be 'encouraged' into the ring to perform, by poking a broom handle into the wagon.

We found that there was much more to this than the report implied. In order to persuade the large cats to keep moving through the tunnel to the ring, the presenter and beastman, together with any other helpers, will position themselves along the tunnel. The beastman pokes any available implement into the wagon, and bangs on the bars of the wagon, shouting at the animals to "go on, go on". Any hesitation by the reluctant, lumbering cats is met with screaming, shouting and banging on the tunnel frame If they stop, they will be jabbed at or even beaten, with anything that is to hand. The same techniques are used to move the



A. Thomas / Animal Defenders

Circuses claim that acts are merely an extension of the animal's natural behaviour.



A. Thomas / Animal Defenders

cats back after the performance, around the beastwagon and so forth.

We found no instance of movement of big cats or animals like elephants in the circus without at least the threat of violence. Elephants are controlled with hooks, and if cats are uncooperative they will be either shouted at, scared by crashing on the bars, poked at or beaten.

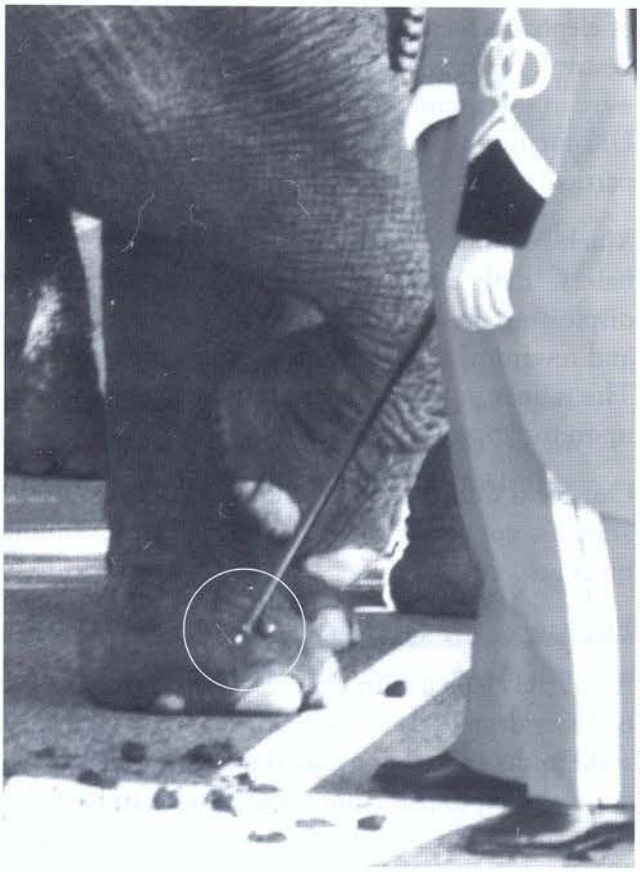
Any training can only be considered in the context of the type of abuse outlined in section 6, Physical, Psychological Effects & Abuse.

TRAINING METHODS

There has been much debate over the years about how circus animals are trained, in particular those animals which the law defines as "dangerous wild animals", e.g. lions, tigers, elephants, bears.

In the 1989 study[1], it is admitted that the training observed was a combination of praise ("positive reinforcement")and punishment ("negative reinforcement"), although apparently no cases of cruelty were observed. However, it was also

admitted that the trainers may have been restricted by the presence of the observer, and observations were short-term organised visits, rather than long-term studies of methods. Kiley-Worthington noted the use of physical restraints such as ropes in the initial training of hoofed species (persuading a horse to raise its leg, or bow), and that the use of the spiked elephant hook behind the ears of elephants was a painful stimuli. Use of verbal scolding was backed up by the whip if it did not achieve the required response. When the animal complied, the reward would be praise and verbal approval, and sometimes titbits.



A. Thomas / Animal Defenders

All of this correlates to our experience of training, except that we did find abuse in the form of regular verbal abuse, use of fists, whips, sticks, spades, tent poles, pitchforks, or any other implement that might be to hand, to apply anything from a mild smack or punch to a full-blown beating. The presenters, trainers, beastmen and grooms were not aware of the identify of our Field Officers, and not aware that they were being filmed.

There are no 'standards' for training, methods are jealousy guarded, and may be passed between trainers informally; we found that the methods used depend upon the personality of the trainer; some were certainly more aggressive towards their animals than others.

We would strongly disagree with Kiley-Worthington that animals cannot be trained by intimidation and cruelty. Even large and dangerous wild animals can be brought to a state of dependence upon their abuser by long-term conditioning. All of the animals we came across feared human beings. All of the animals experienced withdrawal of food for not performing well, and screaming, cursing, and intimidation for not moving fast enough. It is likely too that the severely deprived environments in which the animals were often housed further crushes any defiance. It is known that some human beings, who know they have a choice, will fearfully attempt to please the person who abuses, them and be grateful for any kindness.

Verbal abuse was the most common; we were struck by the similarity of the intense verbal abuse to the mental conditioning of people . For example, a group

of elephants were chased in and out of the ring at the Monte Carlo Circus Festival, the trainers screaming and harassing the animals all the way until they were in their tent and chained. The animals were not given time to think. At UK circuses during the period of the study, similar intimidation was seen, particularly with the big cats.

Much training is from a very young age, making it easier to establish mental habits. Early experience of a whip, club, or elephant hook builds fear of displeasing the trainer or animal keeper, and the praise and apparent affection and reward of food and titbits builds the necessary relationship of dependency. The trainer or animal keeper becomes the leader, to be feared and depended upon for approval, affection, food and freedom from punishment.

Our Field Officers were admonished for not asserting themselves with the animals, not giving them a "whack", not screaming at them enough to move quickly.

Elephants

All of the elephants in circuses we have observed have been controlled to greater or lesser degrees using elephant hooks. These are generally metal bars with a spike and a spiked hook on the end. Sometimes tassels or feathers are used to conceal the points. Another method is to have the point of a screw protruding from the handle of a walking stick. This may be concealed using insulating tape. Elephants have sensitive skin and so are constantly coerced into moving with small, unpleasant jabs.

Circus King: Three Asian elephants, all female. Two performing, one not. The elephants did not have practice sessions as such, but were owned by the circus proprietors, and knew their act well. They were brought to the ring with the use of treats such as pieces of bread, and elephant hooks. They received bread and sugar lumps after their act. This was the only occasion when a Field Officer observed an affectionate relationship between a trainer and their animals. When one of the elephants became sick, the trainer's interaction with all three animals was quite touching. When the elephants reached out their trunks they weren't simply smacked away as appeared the norm at other circuses observed Nevertheless, such affection did not compensate for the lack of facilities being provided; all three displayed the classic head bobbing and swaying movements.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions: Four African elephants, three females, one male. One Asian elephant, female. The abuse suffered by these animals in their winter quarters was indescribable, especially towards the male. Elephant hooks, whips and sticks were used to control the animals but the most severe punishment was administered via beatings with a metal bar. As part of their training, before they were allowed to eat or drink, these animals had to raise their trunks to the command: "Trunk up!". If they did not comply quickly, they would receive a slap, a punch, whipping, blow with the broom or pitchfork, or other beating, depending upon the whim of the trainer or animal keeper, or the perceived level of insubordination. At one point, the animals were being beaten in order to get them to defecate on command. These beatings were an extension of a similar command used prior to entry to the ring (see section 6, Physical, Psychological

Effects & Abuse).

Some minor training, for example leg lifting, was carried out in the elephant barn, accompanied by aggression whenever the animals did not get it right first time. Two elephants were taken into the training ring at Mary Chipperfield's farm during the study. Rhanee, whipped hard around the ring as described earlier, and later Flora, the young African elephant. With both Rhanee and Flora, the animals were bullied and whipped around the ring and we saw no evidence of the special, trusting, relationship which it is claimed is the norm for animal trainers.

Monte Carlo International Circus Festival: All the elephant keepers used elephant hooks - long plastic sticks, about three foot in length at one end of which was a metal cap and at the other a small sharp hook disguised with feathers.

Big Cats: lions, tigers

These animals were observed performing at Chipperfield's Classic Circus, Circus Harlequin, Circus King, and in winter quarters at Mary Chipperfield Promotions and Chipperfield Enterprises.

Going in an out of the ring/exercise caging, the cats were videotaped being poked, jabbed with broomsticks and tent poles, shouted at, and frightened by banging metal bars on the tunnel caging.

All animals observed had been performing their act for some time, so no training was seen. Two groups of cats being toured "in training" were noted, but ring work only extended to going into the ring and coming out again, in order to get used to the lights, audience, etc. No training to perform tricks was observed. The same method of intimidation to get them to move from their trailer down the tunnel and into the ring was observed.

At Chipperfield Enterprises, nineteen lions and tigers were kept in living/performing groups. All animals observed were well practiced in their acts, in that they had been doing them for some time. Although a new delivery of animals arrived, they were not trained during the period of study.

Although there was no set routine for each group, each day one or more groups would go into the training ring to rehearse their act. Reinforcement training employed meat, the whip, and voice command. Animals who "mucked about" and did not do their act properly did not get fed, which would make the more "keen" to do what was wanted of them the next day. This means that when their cage mates were fed, badly behaved animals could only stand and watch.

Intimidation to go in and out of cages and the training ring was the same as found on the travelling circuses; banging of iron bars against the metal cage tunnel and cages, shouting, jabbing with bars, hitting them with iron bars, throwing bars at them. The result was that by the time the animals were in the ring, they were already intimidated. However, at the same time, the person in the ring is their source of food and approval.

The practice of not feeding large cats before they were due to perform in the ring

was also observed at Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd., winter quarters.

The training/exercise routines are explained in section 4, Winter Quarters.

Horses, llamas, Camels

Most of these species were already trained into their acts. At Circus King, some new unhandled, llamas were being introduced handling and having people around them, in preparation for being trained in the ring. However, no actual training was observed during the period of study.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions: Most of the training seen was actually with experienced animals, although even with these, we would regard the use of the whip as excessive. Again, much of the aggression towards the animals was in moving them about and into the training ring. Training of previously unhandled llamas and guanacos involved teaching them to wear head collars and to be tied up, then to walk around the training ring. However, on one occasion, an animal lay on the ground, refusing to move; this animal was kicked, pulled by the tail, and dragged by the rope until it got up. The animals tended to lay down like this when they got into the ring, therefore this type of abuse happened on more than one occasion. Camels were hit as they went around the ring, horses were cracked around the ring, as were the elephants. In addition to being whipped, the camels were also struck with the butt end of the whip and with a plastic cane.

TEACHING THE TRAINERS & ANIMAL STAFF

The registration of animal trainers as it stands at present does nothing to set or maintain standards, ensure that the person is suitable and has suitable experience, or to ensure the well-being of the animals being trained.

We felt it was unacceptable that children of 8 to 11 years old would be allowed to present animals, and become involved in training. This may be a tradition of the circus, but is detrimental to the animals. Children do not have the experience or knowledge necessary to be aware of the effect they may be having on an animal, nor do they have the emotional maturity to deal with an animal if it is being unco-operative.

There has been some debate about the registration and training of animal trainers. At present, there are no formal animal training standards, no formal certification scheme, and no checks that an animal trainer is a suitable person. Anyone can set themselves up as an animal trainer. There is concern amongst animal trainers themselves[3], that a system of training, certification, and regulation is needed.

Now that accredited training schemes are available for zoo keepers, it is reasoned, there should be no reason that similar schemes could not be set up for animal trainers[3].

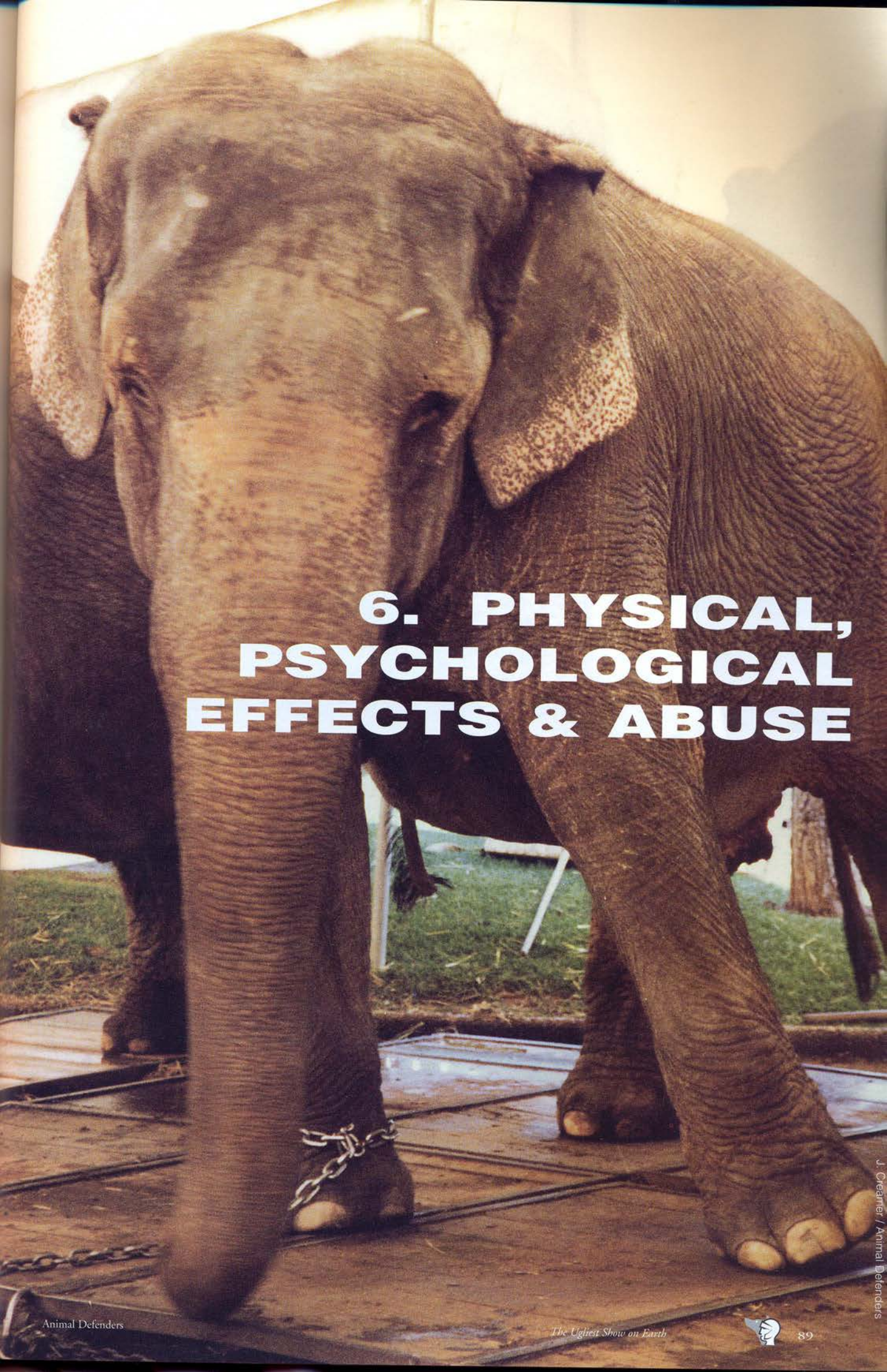
We would support any moves to restrict animal training licences to people who have achieved

- ❒ suitable qualifications from an accredited training scheme;
- ❒ passed an annual testing procedure (like a driving test), to

include both written and practical examinations which indicate awareness of the law, and the needs of animals;

- ❒ application for a licence sponsored by two suitably qualified independent experts from the Secretary of State for the Environment's list of zoo inspectors;
- ❒ licence specific to the animals to be trained or presented; to be attached to their 'passport' (see CITES section). This to describe the work, and state when and where the animals would be used (i.e., a job-by-job licence for the animal);
- ❒ a separate presenter's licence from a trainer's licence; (a licence to train or present animals should not be an automatic licence to keep animals, which should be dealt with separately);
- ❒ a licence would only be awarded if the performance or trick required of the animal met with agreed ethical criteria.

References:
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2. Lacey, M., Circus Harlequin, proprietor, speech at seminar, 'Circus Safety and the Welfare of Animals Used in Entertainment', Woburn Safari Park, 3.12.97.
3. Brown, R., animal trainer, speech at seminar, 'Circus Safety and the Welfare of Animals Used in Entertainment', Woburn Safari Park, 3.12.97.
4. *King Pole*, June 1995, p41.
5. *King Pole*, Clubb Chipperfield Advert, June 1995.
6. *King Pole*, Clubb Chipperfield Advert, June 1996.
7. *King Pole*, Clubb Chipperfield Advert, June 1997.
8. *World's Fair*, 8-14.8.97.



6. PHYSICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS & ABUSE

J. Creamer / Animal Defenders



6. PHYSICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS & ABUSE

6.1 ABNORMAL BEHAVIOURS AND DEPRIVATION

Captive animals suffering from the effects inadequate housing, husbandry, stress and frustration exhibit this through abnormal behaviour. There is a wide range of abnormal behaviour identified by animal keepers and behaviourists, ranging from very ingrained, pointless, repetitive movements and pacing (stereotypies), or displacement activity, to intermittent levels of pacing, head bobbing and weaving, which are developing into more ingrained behaviours.

Our study found disturbed behaviour in a wide range of species including elephants, horse, llamas, lions and tigers. As we have shown in sections 3 & 4 severe confinement is part and parcel of much circus life so it is not surprising that behaviours born out of frustration are commonplace - if it is impossible to do anything but bob from side to side then is probably what any creature will do. The behaviours ranged from the clearly disturbed to animals were just severely frustrated. These might be repeating the same steps simply because there was nowhere else to go.

As mentioned earlier, the last study of indications of stress and psychological damage in circus animals was in 1989, and this found that:-

- all species observed showed abnormal behaviour patterns, and that this abnormal behaviour could occupy a considerable proportion of the animal's time;
- circus elephants spent 60% of their time with a fore and a back leg shackled, and abnormal behaviours occupied 25% of their time;
- bears performed prolonged or undirected pacing for 30% of the time[1].

We also referred in the introduction to the need to update data on circus animals a decade later, and the need to look at the daily life of circus animals from an inside viewpoint, learning the attitudes of staff, and working practices.

We found elephants swaying and relentlessly rocking their heads, horses and other animals in stalls rocking and swinging their heads, tigers, lions, and other big cats repeatedly pacing their tiny cages. All of the animals observed in their stalls, or tied or chained up, were frustrated and bored and showed this with a desire to be free of the restraint. This was found in both travelling circuses, and winter quarters.

Our findings indicate that the situation appears to be worse than previously reported; for example one elephant was observed to be spending 96% of its time chained up, and between 70-90% of this time, the animal was performing repetitive swaying and bobbing movements.

It isn't so much a question of there being good or bad animal circuses. Circuses by their very nature cannot provide for their animals properly and should therefore not be allowed to keep them.



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

Analysis of stereotypic behaviour in a group of circus elephants

A video camera was used to monitor a group of four elephants (Rhanee, Tembo, Rosa and Opal) housed at Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd. The camera recorded the movements of the animals and the people entering the barn from 7.30am to 5.00pm each day Three days were chosen at random, out of a 30-day period, for this example. Stereotypies or repetitive behaviours were identified to greater or lesser degree in all of the elephants except one.

Description of stereotypic or other repetitive behaviour:-

Rhanee (27 year old Asian elephant)
A fast head bobbing movement followed by large swings and then a return to head bobbing. She would briefly stop to eat and drink, and then carry on. She will also stop to touch the the other elephants with her trunk or even wrap trunks with them. She performs these movements whether chained or unchained.

Tembo (12 year old African elephant)
Head bobbing with a very small movement, stopping for several minutes, less than an hour, when first unchained; then increases again.

The head bobs are often followed by a lifting of the trunk and raising the head. This has not been taken as part of the repetitive behaviour, although longer study of the tapes may prove that it is. Tembo stops the repetitive movements if there is a possibility of water or food on its way. When his chains are first removed in the morning, he stops his movements for 1hr 15mins before he starts them again. During this time, the elephants are fed. As the day moves on Tembo's pattern of movements increases gradually. From 3-4.30 the count is very much less, he wanders about the pen and seems a little more interested in Opal and Rosa, also he may know that food and water comes at the end of this period. The day ends



Slocker/White / Animal Defenders

27 minutes after he has been chained but during these minutes the elephants are fed, watered, and bedded down.

Rosa (14 year old African elephant)
Rosa has a very unusual behaviour in that she sways back and forth very slowly at around 7 seconds per cycle; 3.5 here, 3.5 back. This is hard to spot without the video fast forward. Rosa hates being chained. This accounts for the high initial count from 7.30 to 9.00. Then after she has been unchained, from 9-10.30 her stereotypies cease. There are only a few more instances throughout the day. She seems to recommence these movements when the beastman, Steve Gills, is very near to her whilst mucking out, and when he is chaining her. When he moves off, she slows down again. In the late afternoon, with food, water, and bedding being given, there is no increase in stereotypic behaviour until a short time after being chained for the night.

Opal (15 year old African elephant)
No abnormal behaviours noted.

Flora (10 year old African elephant)
The animals were joined by Flora in December. Flora exhibits swaying and head bobbing movements, but did not form part of this analysis of the movements of the animals in the barn because she was not always in view of the camera prior to publication of this report.

10.12.97
Time spent exhibiting stereotypical behaviour:

Rhanee	61%
Tembo	30%
Rosa	4%
Opal	0%

11.12.97
Time spent exhibiting stereotypical behaviour

Rhanee	73%

Flora's numerous wounds



18.11.97

Tembo	66%
Rosa	14%
Opal	1%

The elephants were being kept in a barn with no environmental enrichment and little space. At night they were shackled to the floor and then released in the morning. There was no exercise enclosure. Tembo, Rosa, and Opal did not leave the barn between October 1997 and January 1998. Rhanee left the barn once for one training session of 7 minutes shortly after her arrival in November. (Flora only left the barn for the training ring on four occasions, mostly in January).

All three displaying abnormal movements decreased the activity in the period shortly after their shackles were removed in the morning.





This was also feeding and watering time, therefore the animals' behaviour changed in anticipation of this activity.

Swaying, head swinging and bobbing were the most intense when the animals were chained up, (each night). However our study covers the daytime period as this was the better indicator of the depth to which the behaviours were ingrained.

It is worth noting that when Tembo was isolated in the small pen his abnormal behaviour was 66%. However, the day studied when he was in the larger pen with Rosa and Opal shows a marked decrease.

Rhanee was probably the most disturbed animal we saw during the entire study. Prior to returning to Mary Chipperfield Promotions, she had been on tour with Santus Circus. She was chained to the ground for almost the entire time (96%), and had a very high level of stereotypic rocking, swaying, and nodding, regardless of whether she was chained in her wagon, the stable tent, or chained in the field.

Additional case studies

Tiger, wolf, hyena, 2 bears - Austrian National Circus (Louis Knie)
A female tiger called Madras constantly paced, even when in the exercise cage; she also frothed at the mouth. The presenter described her as a nervous, stressful animal. The wolf, hyena, two black bears all paced.

Llama - Jay Miller's Circus
A llama was filmed performing a vigorous stereotypical pattern of behaviour in its pen after the performance. The animal would move its head from side to side and then arch it up and backwards in a routine that was repeated again and again. Interestingly although our observations of this animal were relatively short, a circus worker attempted to distract the llama, but without success.

Camel -Circus Harlequin
Clifford, a camel, was the most nervous of a group of five. When he stood still,

Trudy the baby chimpanzee



particularly in the ring waiting for rides, he had a nervous twitch and bobbed and swayed his head. He also lifted his legs, particularly the rear left, with the chain injury scars on it.

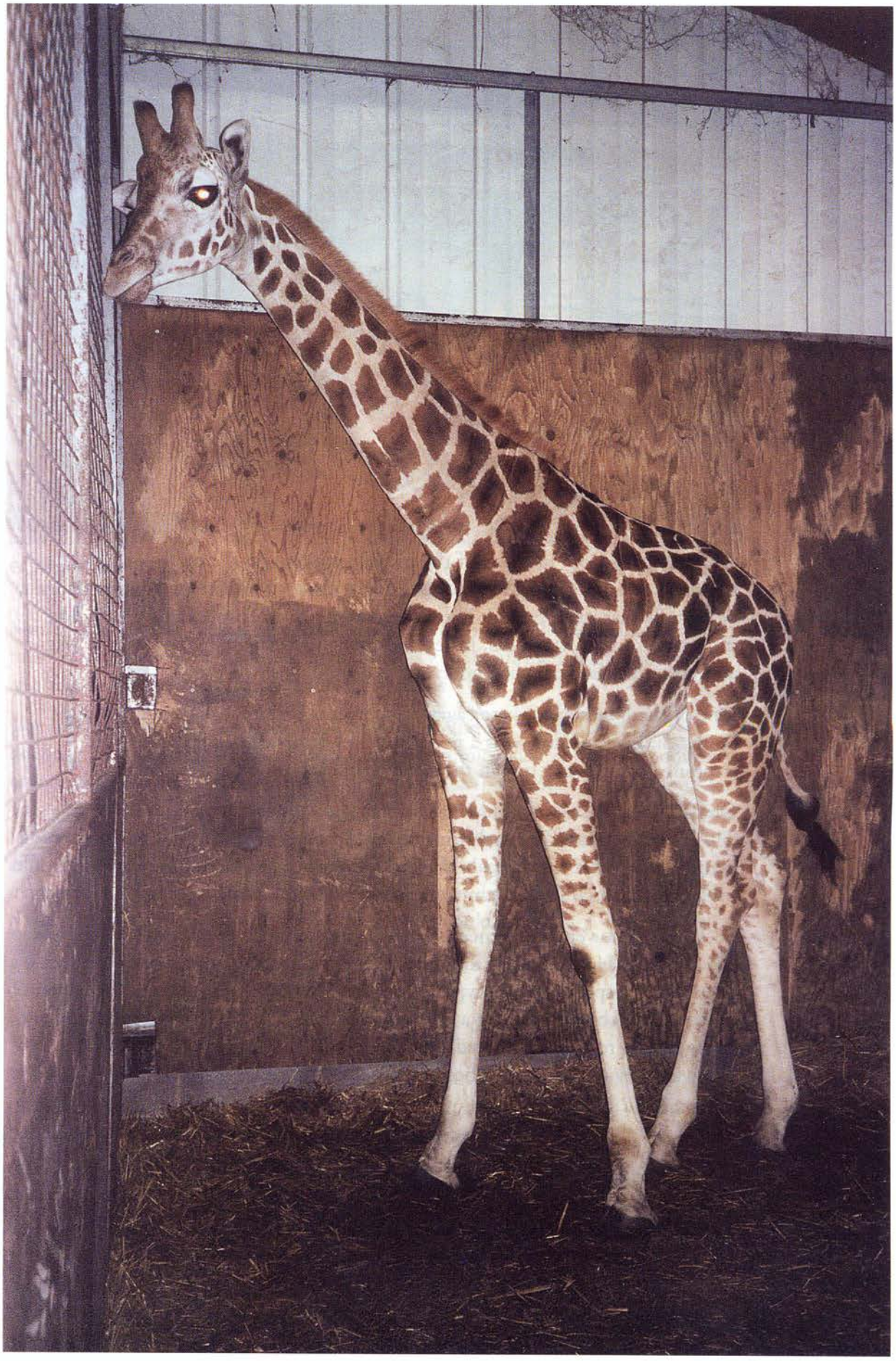
Three Elephants - Circus King
Three elephants, female Asian, Bridget, Nellie, and Titch. When chained and not eating, all of the elephants would bob their heads up and down. Titch's head bobbing was more extensive than the others. They did not leave the tent in bad weather, so remained chained. On these occasion there would be a marked increase in their swaying and bobbing behaviour. They also showed their frustration at being chained inside for the day by banging their chains on the ground.

Bear - Circus King
Fat Fred, the bear, paced his cage a great deal, despite having access to an very small enclosure, containing water, a tyre and a log.

Horse - Circus King
The only exercise that the horse Barnum would get was his walk to and from the ring and his time performing. He would often pace up and down his stall while swaying his head. He was filmed being led back from the ring to his pen, where he immediately slipped into his repetitive behaviour with his head moving from side to side. On 4.9.97: Barnum was filmed swaying his head from side to side while lifting up alternate legs.

Chimpanzee - Mary Chipperfield Promotions
Trudy, the baby chimpanzee was extremely insecure and would spend much of the day huddled against a plastic 'baby bouncer' ball, which is in her cage. Even when moving around the cage she would cling onto the ball.

Lioness - Chipperfield Enterprises
The lioness Maria was filmed for some time retracing the same steps again and





again, shifting from one side of the beastwagon and on the return always stepping up onto the cage front. Although Maria could not, at the time at least, be described as stereotypical, like other cats she could display automaton-like movements when frustrated, for example when wanting to get out of the wagon after the other lionesses had gone out.

One of the lionesses in these cages can be heard making a constant banging noise; on investigation, it is a pacing up and down against the cage side, stepping on the water tray in the same place each time.

Giraffe - Mary Chipperfield Promotions

The giraffe was kept in a stable inside the elephant shed. In four weeks from being placed there the animals' showed increasing signs of frustration. He would pace or walk in circles and throw his head back with a twisting motion.

18.11.97: The vet commented on captive wild animals displaying "stereotypic movement". He confirmed that he had commented the other day how Sheena, a tigress, was displaying stereotypic behaviour. He said that stereotypic behaviour is one of the problems of being a wild animal in captivity. He added that lions and tigers should roam for hundreds of acres and catch there own game and in captivity they cannot and so become bored.



An African bull: all alone and nowhere to go.

6.2 GENERAL SUFFERING: ENVIRONMENT/HUSBANDRY

Much suffering was caused by the situation in which the animals found themselves; inadequate facilities, herd animals kept from their social groupings, and all presented a mixture of behaviour patterns.

The kind of problems found through husbandry and circumstances are documented in sections 3 and 4, and include examples such as a circus booked onto a pitch with a hard concrete surface; none of the animals could go out onto grass. All of the animals showed signs of stress and frustration; ponies were fighting in their stalls, the camels and bull paced in circles, Rhanee pulled up the tent pole again and hit the concrete with it; she also became mischievous, managing to pick up rubbish from the tip near her standing area on several occasions. At a different circus, an African bull could not scratch his head whilst in his pen due to the size of his horns.

6.3 PHYSICAL ABUSE

When groups of animals are being made to perform manoeuvres on demand, managed by relatively untrained people, and when some of the animals have the potential to be dangerous, physical abuse is almost inevitable.

We found that physical abuse is a normal part of day-to-day life for circus animals, whether punches, whacks with sticks, whips or goads, or more severe beatings. The animals are controlled with deprivation and fear, alternating with praise and treats for getting it right. Fear can be induced with screaming and shouting combined with banging of cage bars, and threatening gestures. Deprivation is lack of food for for big cats, for example, if they do not perform

correctly. The animals are then more "keen" to do their tricks.

Elephants

Elephants are constantly chained to the ground, whether on the road, or in winter quarters. They are chained when inside the stable tent, chained outside on grass, and chained in dark barns for the winter.
When travelling, they were chained between 72% and 96% of the day.
In winter quarters/training centres, they are chained all night, and on many occasions during the day as well. The elephants we observed during our study were kept indoors for the duration of the study.

Their feet can get infected, their joints become stiff and painful from lack of use. If a critical look at the condition of young circus elephants is taken, the lack of muscle tone from lack of movement is clear. To relieve the aching and stress of standing in one place for so long, chained elephants often rock back and forth.

Santus Circus

At Santus Circus, the Asian elephant, Rhanee, would throw dirt over herself after she had been cleaned for the show, and was consequently shouted at for it, and sometimes hit. When Rhanee is bored, a good deal of her time, she occupies herself with being naughty. Rhanee pulled apart some of the walling to the tent, so was hit with the walking stick.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions Farm

At Mary Chipperfield Promotions/Chipperfield Organisation farm were the worst cases of abuse we have ever come across.

As mentioned earlier, in section 4: Winter Quarters, during the period of this study there were three, and then five elephants in residence. Tembo, Rosa, and Opal, African elephants, Rhanee, Asian elephant, and Flora, African elephant. They animals did not go out of their pens inside the barn only later, were there a handful of training sessions.

These animals received constant "whacks" with brooms, shovels, whips, and sticks. They were shouted at, punched, beaten with an iron bull hook, and objects thrown at them. If the two females do not stand still for the treatment of the weeping 'cysts' on their legs, they are hit. On some occasions, Tembo's beatings were so severe that the iron bar had bent, then broke on his back. They are beaten for reaching out with their trunks, for eating before they have been ordered to, for knocking over their water bucket. In December, Gills beat Opal to the floor, screaming, whilst Rosa tried to protect her; in January 1998, he beat Flora, and her body was later seen to be covered in unexplained wounds. During these beatings, the animals tried to run away and protect themselves, turning their faces into the corner of the pen, cowering down their rear end, urinating and defecating. Although the worst offences appear to have happened when Gills was alone with the animals, he also beat, smacked, and punched the elephants in front of Charles Chipperfield, Mary Chipperfield Cawley, and Roger Cawley.

This is not just the responsibility of one person; we would submit that a culture has been developed at this establishment which allows this kind of abuse to take place. Gills saw both Mary Chipperfield Cawley and Roger Cawley hit and beat animals, and would have taken his lead from that.

These incidents were reported to Virginia Winter, assistant to Cawley and Chipperfield, and to Mary Chipperfield Cawley directly. No action was taken to protect these animals from the abuser. When Mary Chipperfield Cawley was asked about it, she defended the actions of the beastman.

This evidence is taken from a fixed camera in the Mary Chipperfield Promotions elephant barn for a thirty day period from November 1997 to January 1998. At the time of publication of this report, we are still analysing and indexing what has been recorded on the tapes, therefore our evidence in this respect is still incomplete.

A former elephant trainer said that *"Elephants bring out a fury in many men as no other creatures does: a range to dominate and to hurt."* She contends that elephants are not aggressive by nature: *"The way you create aggression in an elephant is through abusive training."*[2]. Another elephant keeper has harsh words for many so-called elephant trainers, she said that: *"The training of elephants attracts the absolute scum of the earth"*, concluding that circus elephants *"have no life. ... Every natural behaviour they have is thwarted.."* and *"circus elephants are totally, neurotically insane"*.

Big Cats

Large cats are also closely confined. In addition they are intimidated by screaming, cursing, iron bars banged on their cages, and on tunnels as they go through them; they are jabbed, poked and clubbed every day of their lives.

In each of the establishments studied, whether travelling circus or winter quarters, the practice for moving big cats was to shout at them, bang the bars of their cages, and prod them into moving. These methods were used to taking them into the practice rings for training, for moving them from one cage to another for feeding or for travelling, and for packing into crates for transport.

Chipperfields Classic Circus

The tigers were prodded severely to to into the ring; prodded out of the beastwagon, down the tunnel, and up to the gate to the ring. On two nights, a suitcase distracted one of the tigers as it left the ring, causing it to stop before going through the curtain. The animal was prodded through the curtain with a stick, and once through the curtain, a broom handle was used to keep the tiger moving.

Derha, a female tiger, was in season and became difficult in the ring, not doing what she was told. During a show she got off her pedestal and lay on the floor, refusing to move. She was poked with the stick to get her to move.

Austrian National Circus (Louis Knie)

A presenter reported that when the large cats come into season, they can become a problem. Sheena, the liger, became very difficult and would not go into the ring. Everything was tried to get the animal to go into the ring, including meat, and a water hose. Finally, a metal pole was used to "beat the sh** out of her".

Circus Harlequin

A lioness, Narla, was hit and jabbed in the mouth with a tent pole because she would not move along the beastwagon.

On a moving day, the tigers were being moved along the wagon so that the props could be fitted into it. The tigers were not used to having the props in with them, and were upset. They also had to be separated into their compartments to prevent fighting on the journey. The beastman found it difficult to separate them after he had put the props into the empty dens. The animals became very frightened and would not move. The beastman lost his temper and picked up a large tent pole, hitting and jabbing them with the spiked end. Eventually, after much shouting and beating, the terrified animals moved along the wagon.

Hippodrome Circus

The lionesses were shouted at to go along the tunnel, sticks were banged on the ground and on the bars of the cages to make them move.

Chipperfield Enterprises

All of the cats were hit with sticks, metal bars, and brooms to get them to move around. They were shouted at to go down the tunnels, bars banged on the tunnels and objects were thrown at the animals. The Field Officer was admonished for not asserting himself with the animals, and was told to "f***** hit them", to poke a male lion with an iron bar *"as hard as possible"*, and to : *"hit the bastard as hard as you can, poke him then!"*. The Field Officer was told that the animal was becoming obstinate and needed to be shown who was boss, because if he did not listen to the keepers, then he could become dangerous.

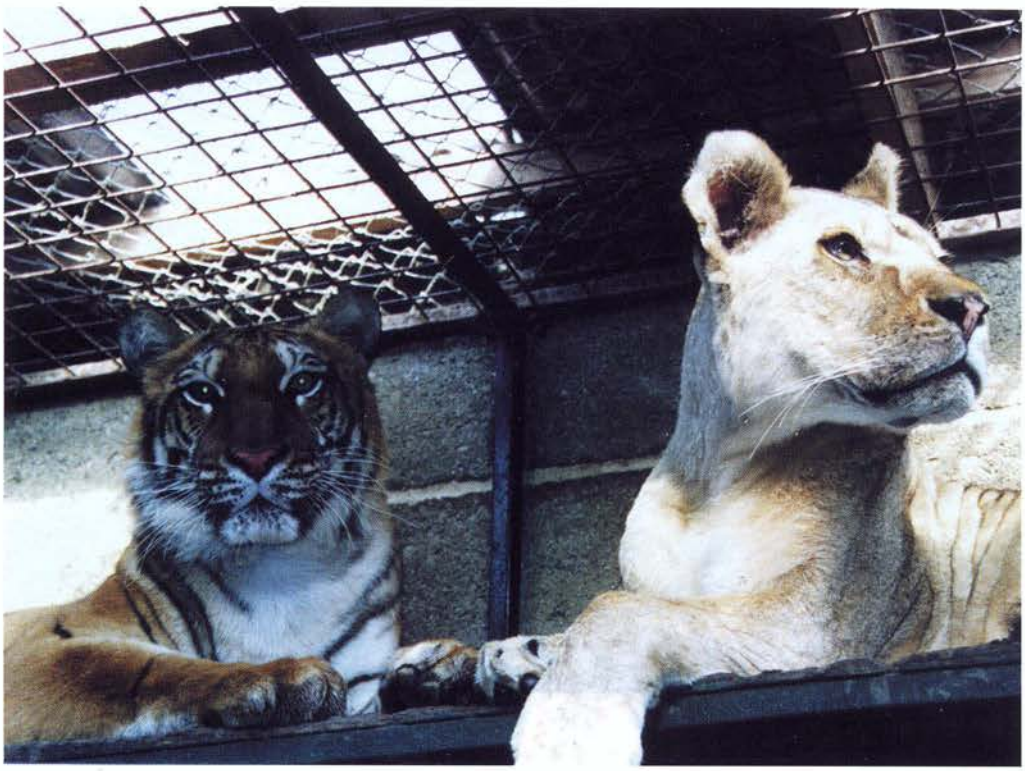
The exercise enclosure was badly designed, so some animals refused to come out. Stones were thrown at them to get them to move.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions

The beastman threw bars, wood, and anything else to hand at the tigers and lions, swearing and cursing at them. The animals were poked with brooms and metal bars, and sprayed with the water hose, soaking them. Mary Chipperfield was also seen to poke and swear at the cats.

During the loading of three lion cubs, Mary Chipperfield (MC) and Roger Cawley(RC) began poking sticks into the cage shouting, and screaming at the animals. RC rammed a stick into the box, but the lioness just bit the stick in fright. This caused the animal's mouth to bleed. Eventually, MC went to get a fire extinguisher, but as she did so the lioness moved to where she was wanted.

During a loading of tigers and a lion in January 1998 for a journey to Spain, a bar was used to move one of the two tigers out of the cage and into the first



section before the crate. One of the tigers began urinating in fear. The animals were first moved out of their cages in the tiger shed and into a small cage section, where they were then encouraged to go into the crates. All animals were prodded, but Clara was more obstinate and so was prodded far more severely than the other two. RC, CC, and JC used a plastic pole and large cane sticks, prodding Clara hard across the rear and side of the body shouting as they did so.

Chimpanzee, bear, chicken, hippo

Mary Chipperfield shouted at Trudy (18 month old chimpanzee), saying that she wasn't in the mood tonight and tried to push the chimp into the sleeping box; MC gave Trudy a kick in the back, but, although screaming, Trudy still wouldn't go into the box. She began hitting the chimp across the body. On the next occasion, the animal was kicked in the back and side of the body; grabbed by the arm and took it out of the cage, picked up a riding crop, and began beating the chimpanzee all over the body and again across the face, with the stick.

At Mary Chipperfield Promotions, Steven Gills was instructed to kill some chickens. Gills caught a chicken held it by the legs and smashed its head against a wall. It did not die straight away, so he repeated the head smashing, and then dropped it on the ground to die.

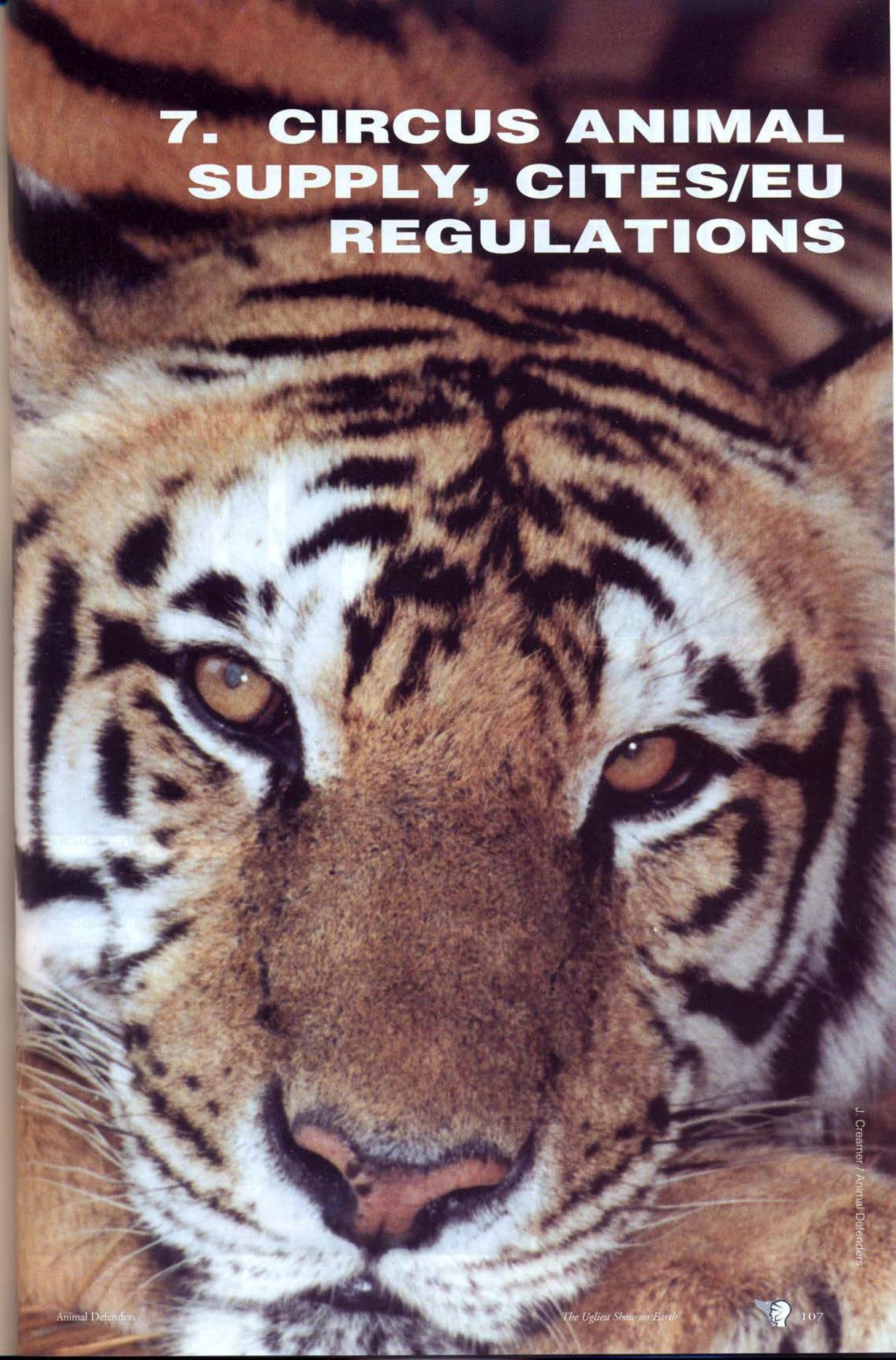
At the Massey Circus Festival in January 1988, a worker attempted to get a hippopotamus to move from its wagon. The animal was hit about the flanks and neck, and although crying out and mouthing in distress, did not move. The circus worker picked up a weapon, possibly a metal bar, and kept poking and hitting the hippo until it moved.





1. Kiley-Worthington, M., Animals in Circuses, 1989
2. Derby, P., The Lady and Her Tiger

7. CIRCUS ANIMAL SUPPLY, CITES/EU REGULATIONS



J. Creamer / Animal Defenders


Stocker/White / Animal Defenders






Stocker/White / Animal Defenders



7. CIRCUS ANIMAL SUPPLY, CITES/EU REGULATIONS

CITES/EU REGULATIONS

CITES (and EU regulations) prohibit commercial trade of wild-caught animals of certain listed species (Appendix I). Although EU regulations require extra documentation not required in CITES, the position for circuses is effectively the same. If animals of CITES-listed species are captive-bred, they are downgraded to Appendix II, and exemption certificates are issued instead of the usual documentation; furthermore, circuses benefit from a special CITES exemption.

The CITES exemption for circuses allows movement of circus animals without permits or certificates, provided certain details have already been registered with the Management Authority, and transportation arrangements are satisfactory. However, in practice, it has not proved possible to maintain checks on circus animals. This has resulted in strengthened recommendations from the CITES Conference 8, which is discussed later.

Technically, once animals are in the European Union, they do not need their exemption certificates to travel between EU countries. The British CITES Management Authority at the Department of the Environment (DoE) has, however, recommended that the certificate is kept with the animal.

There is a presumption within the language of CITES that transborder movement is about consignments of groups of animals. This leaves the loophole when a border official is presented with a personally owned CITES-listed animal which does not quite fit the documentation arrangements, or a circus moving a group of mixed species in a bewildering array of containers.

Circus Animal Supply

Circuses obtain their animals from a variety of sources; by breeding, buying and selling between themselves, from safari parks and zoos, and from international dealers. Animals are frequently purchased or disposed of while travelling abroad. Currently, there is no official system of identification for circus, or personally owned specimens of CITES-listed species.

Neither the Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925, nor the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 require that circus proprietors or animal trainers keep detailed records of births, deaths, sales and acquisitions, unlike organisations operating under the Zoo Licensing Act. Furthermore, when a zoo has made the decision to dispose of an animal, it has a responsibility to check the facilities to which the animal is being sent.

Photo (previous page): A tigress rescued by the Animal Defender's from the Akef Egyptian Circus
Opposite page (clockwise from the right): Young lion cubs at Chipperfield Enterprises; the badly lit indoor den in which they had to live; elephants in the barn at Mary Chipperfield's Farm, they once lived in the wild; Young chimpanzee, Teddy, at Mary Chipperfield's farm, what future does he have? Older chimpanzee at Mary Chipperfield's farm. One of the group Micky was 27 years old having been taken from the wild in Sierra Leone in 1969.

International Circus Animal Movements

	1996	1997
Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd/Chipperfield Organisation Ltd.		
3 Tigers	France[23]	France to UK
2 Lionesses	France[23]	France to UK
1 Giraffe (Sophie)	UK to France[1]	unknown
2 llamas	Eire[1]	Eire[2]
1 Guanaco	Eire[1]	Eire[2]
1 Camel	Eire[1]	Eire[2]
1 Horse/Pony	Eire[1]	Eire[2]
1 Zebroid	Eire[1]	Eire[2]
7 Horses/Ponies	UK[3]	Spain[4]
2 African Elephants	UK[1]	Sweden[4]
2 Zebras	UK[1]	Sweden[4]
1 Horse/pony	unknown	Sweden[4]
7 Tigers	France[1]	Belgium[4]
1 white tiger (Bianca)	France to UK to France[5]	Belgium[4]
Bianca returned to the UK to appear in film 101 Dalmations then returned to France[5]		
2 African Elephants	unknown	Belgium[4]
Camel	France[1]	Belgium[4]
Cattle	France[1]	Belgium[4]
1 Zebra	France[1]	Belgium[4]
llama	France[1]	Belgium[4]
1 Giraffe (Jipsy)	France[1]	Belgium[4]
Horse/pony	France[1]	Belgium[4]
'Exotic Animals'	unknown	Eire[4]
1 Horse (Star)	UK	Switzerland
6 Palomino horses from Switzerland were loaned to Mary Chipperfield by Fredy Knie Junior and Franco Knie in 1997 to appear at the Royal Pageant of the Horse, Windsor Great Park.[4] The horses were practiced at Mary Chipperfield's farm but returned to Switzerland when the event was rained off.[21,22]		
Chipperfield Enterprises Ltd		
12 Tigers	UK to France[6,7]	Monaco[8,9] to France to USA
10 Lions & Lionesses	USA[10]	Spain
7 Tigers	unknown	Germany[8]
Clubb-Chipperfield Ltd		
2 Black bears	Japan[11]	Austria
1 Wolf	Japan[11]	Austria
1 Hyena	Japan[11]	Austria
1 Liger	Japan[11]	Austria
3 Leopards	Japan[11]	Austria
4 Tigers	Japan[11]	Austria
2 Lionesses	Japan[11]	Austria
1 Lioness	UK	Austria
8 Lions	Austria[5]	Japan[12]
5 Polar Bears	Germany[11]	Germany to Spain[12, 13]
3 Himalayan Bears	Germany[11]	Germany to Spain[12, 13]
1 Grizzly Bear	Germany[11]	Germany to Spain[12, 13]
Zebras	UK	Japan[12]
Hippo	UK	Japan[12]
Giraffe	UK	Japan[12]
6 Leopards	Holland[11]	unknown
3 Black panthers	Holland[11]	unknown
2 Jaguars	Holland[11]	unknown
Sir Robert Fossett's Circus		
8 Horses/ponies	Denmark[14]	France[15,16] to Belgium[17,18]
1 Asian Elephant	Denmark[14]	Sweden[18]
Gandey's Circus		
2 Camels	Germany[19]	Germany[20]
2 Llamas	Germany[19]	Germany[20]
1 Horse/pony	Germany[19]	Germany[20]

Thus, origin and ownership of circus animals is very difficult for those outside of the close-knit circus community to establish.

The UK government does not keep central information on imports of dangerous wild animals, or exotic animals, into the UK. The UK contributes data to the European Commission's reports on imports into the EU under CITES.[1] Data is kept on file, but does not provide information on the circus trade. It is therefore very difficult to circus industry animal trading.



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

Monkeys in transit at Mary Chipperfield's farm.

Examples of animal supply movements were noted:

- Two young lion cubs and a slightly older cub were obtained by Chipperfield Enterprises from Mary Chipperfield. The older cub originated from Isle of Wight Zoo.
- Six wallabys, three monkeys, three muntjac deer were moved from Dublin Zoo to Isle of Wight Zoo and Wavely Wild Fowl Park, Suffolk via Mary Chipperfield Promotions/Chipperfield Organisation (see section 3).
- A Chipperfield Organisation transporter collected three rhinos from West Midlands Safari Park to and to deliver them to Blair Drummond Safari Park, Scotland. The rhinos were transported individually over the course of several days.[2]
  Similar shipments and sales of animals for safari parks, zoos, and circuses through the Chipperfield Organisation include giraffe, camels, elephants, chimpanzees, and others[3].

All of this indicates a busy trade in animals, circulating them through the circus world, safari parks, and zoos. This would indicate a need to control this trade and identify these animals in some way, if such a trade is not to damage properly organised species preservation captive breeding and reintroduction programmes.

Breeding

Most circus animals are captive-bred, although some species such as elephants, are mainly wild-caught. A study in 1989 found that of 36 Indian and African elephants in circuses travelling in the UK, 34 had been caught in the wild[4].

Five elephants were in residence at Mary Chipperfield Promotions/Chipperfield

Solomon and Maria at Richard Chipperfield snr's farm



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

Organisation Ltd., winter quarters during the study: Tembo, African male, from Zambia, apparently wild-caught; Opal, African female, from Zimbabwe, apparently wild-caught; Rosa, African female, from South Africa, apparently wild-caught; Flora, African female, apparently from a South African "cull", no further details; Rhanee, Asian, no further details. In 1996, a request was made to the Department of the Environment to import three African elephants from South Africa. A male elephant, "Luka" has been sold for breeding, but with retention of breeding rights[5].

Certainly, circuses always have a readily available supply of lion and tiger cubs for promotional work, film, and television. But what happens to these cubs when the glare of publicity has pointed elsewhere?

- Chipperfield Enterprises: Richard Chipperfield jnr. performing with group of twelve tigers, 2.8 years to 4 years old, reports having two further tiger cubs 37 months old in the UK.
- A male lion (Solomon) was supplied by Mary Chipperfield to Clubb Chipperfield who found they could not train him so moved him on to Chipperfield Enterprises. Richard Chipperfield snr decided he would not train Solomon, but would breed from him. Several lionesses were put with him. A lioness from the group which was put with Solomon was performing at the Hippodrome Circus in Great Yarmouth in August, whilst pregnant. Her cubs were due any day.
- 5 young male llamas were supplied to Circus King whilst on summer tour.
- Three lion cubs from Mary Chipperfield Promotions/Chipperfield Organisation to Chipperfield Enterprises.

- Chimpanzees: At MC Promotions/Chipperfield Organisation's farm, were found three adult and two young chimpanzees. The male, Micky (27 years old) was wild caught in Sierra Leone in 1969; Mandy (17 years) was born Longleat 1980 from wild-caught parents; Lucy (15) born Longleat 1982 from wild-caught parents, appears to be a half-sister to Mandy. Mandy and Lucy have both had 3-4 babies each since reaching maturity. The last baby to Lucy was in April 1996. Lucy also gave birth to a stillborn in July 1997. Mandy's last baby was in 1993. Trudy, 18 months old, and Teddy, 5 years old, were both born at the farm, and reportedly, had been rejected by their mothers. It was reported that Teddy had a sister, which had been exported to Mexico at about two years of age[6].
- Chipperfield Enterprises Ltd., Richard Chipperfield snr., was quoted last year claiming that he has bred 2,000 tigers in the past few years. Cats are indeed prolific breeders, but it is doubtful that the animals from this limited gene pool are truly helping conservation efforts[7].
- At the time of the study, arrangements were in hand for Tembo, the African bull elephant, to be sent by the Chipperfield Organisation to Colchester Zoo for breeding purposes[8].
- Two tiger cubs featured on the National Lottery programme, as part of promotion for new film "Fierce Creatures". In March 1997, two tiger cubs, believed to be the same animals, were displayed at Yarnton Garden Centre, Oxfordshire. Clubb Chipperfield/ Chipperfield Enterprises
- Circus Harlequin claim that in a two year period, their 'Esso Pricewatch' Bengal tigers, Colombo, Bengali, Mahra, Derha, Bombay, have produced 14 cubs, claiming to have sent them abroad to join breeding groups[9].
- Circus breeding 'policies' are none too particular about what is created; in 1997 MC Promotions supplied a 'zebroid' (zeehorse) a palomino horse X zebra, to Circus Berlin for their tour of Eire[12]. Clubb Chipperfield feature a liger, a lion X tiger, in their mixed exotic act which the Animal Defenders monitored at Circus Knie in Vienna in April, 1997.
- Two extremely young tiger cubs belonging to David Cawley (Chipperfield) were present at Circo Mundial in Spain in December 1997; They were handed to children to play with[10].

Animal Movement/Winter Quarters/Quarantine

Circuses and independent animal acts are constantly travelling, often abroad. Some animals stay abroad for years. Those that are captive-bred specimens of CITES-listed species should be registered with the CITES Management Authority at the DoE. However, without a secure system of identification, it is difficult to identify individual animals. It is also difficult to establish what kind of records (if any) are kept for them, or whether the relevant authorities do in fact carry out inspections of premises where they are kept in order to satisfy welfare provisions of CITES.

Suzanne Chipperfield and horses in Spain with Circo del Arte.



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We have seen that legislation relating to circuses and their winter quarters does not limit the number of animals which can be kept, nor the number to be kept on the premises registered for training. The Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 does not provide for such regulation; the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 would only provide for such regulation (if a circus winter quarters decided to apply for a licence), at the annual licence inspection.

The two circus winter quarters that are registered quarantine units we looked at are checked and licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food (MAFF). The poor standards of animal care and facilities - in one case, rats in the quarantine area, and in another case rats and mice in the meat room, are either not a factor, or have not been noticed, in checks under these regulations. One quarantine unit had no footdip between the quarantine facility and the rest of the premises. One animal, a giraffe, was brought from Germany and placed straight into a barn with horses and elephants in stalls next door; animals came and went from adjoining stalls, moving from fields to the barn and back. According to correspondence, this animal was considered to be in quarantine. If circus animals are "on the move" (i.e. passing through), it is considered that they do not require quarantine. This "passing through" appears to be decided to a great extent by the owner. We were present for MAFF inspections at both quarantine facilities, and take the view that it would be very difficult for a MAFF inspector to *independently* verify the status of any individual animal.

Transborder movements of animals identified during the study are listed in the table. Much of the data on animal movements from the study is based on findings at the Mary Chipperfield Promotions/Chipperfield Organisation winter quarters. Here, animals are trained into an act, and presenters are then trained to to out with the animals. These acts can then go abroad, travelling in several different countries before returning to the UK. Other work with non-performing animals includes recent transborder shipment arrangements/plans with various organisations - several elephant moves, lion cubs, horses, guanacos,



Seventeen lions during a stop over at Mary Chipperfield's farm en route from Eire to Spain

T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

giraffe, tapir, and others; plans in progress for moves of chimpanzees and gorillas.

Some of the animals supplied to various customers are animals are captive-bred specimens of CITES-listed species, and as such, owners can have an exemption certificate, rather than the import permit required if the animals were wild-caught. These mean that controls are less stringent.

With no international identification system, border control officials cannot be expected to know whether the animals they are looking at are the animals which left the previous country, whether they are actually captive- bred, or wild-caught.

This gives rise to concern about smuggling of endangered species, disease control, and, due to the downgrading of controls when an animal is captive-bred, welfare provisions.

Transborder Movements of Personally owned Animals/Circus Animals

Two main problems present themselves with CITES and circus animals: Firstly, circuses can easily describe all of their animals as captive-bred, which downgrades the animals to require less stringent controls and less documentation, and secondly, circuses are exempt from many provisions of CITES.

Control at borders is difficult with a convoy of circus vehicles stuffed with all manner of animals. Many border control officials are under-trained in animal identification, identification of correct documentation, and do not have the facilities to confiscate animals they suspect of being smuggled.

Furthermore, the border control problems we have identified with circus animals have also presented themselves for personally owned live animals (for example exotic pets, small private collections, falconers). This issue was raised at the CITES conference in Harare in 1997, and proposals have been put forward for further consideration by the parties.

Smuggling

Circuses are the ideal vehicle for moving animals around the globe. UK circuses travel to the Far East, the USA, Europe. Recent experience across Africa has shown that overloaded customs officials can find it almost impossible to deal with the kind of ragbag mixture of vehicles and animals presented to them at borders. They also know that they have nowhere to place animals if they do confiscate. Hence, a tendency to let circuses through without too many questions.

In 1996, the Animal Defenders were called to relocate a group of circus animals which had been abandoned in Mozambique. The lions, tigers, python, dogs and horses had toured Africa for the past six years with the Akef Egyptian Circus, which had been repeatedly challenged over incorrect, missing, and apparently forged CITES documents. As the circus toured the continent, it collected chimpanzees, African grey parrots, elephants, and many other animals along the way - including, according to one permit, a tiger "wild caught" in Africa! All of these animals disappeared.

When the owner, Akef, got into financial trouble in Mozambique he fled to Egypt. The Animal Defenders were able to work with the Mozambique CITES authority to confiscate the animals and move them to new, secure homes in South Africa.

However, Europe is served little better. A study of cases of wild animal smuggling by circuses in (continental) European countries has identified cases of incorrect and inadequate documentation being used for circus animals, passing through border controls without challenge.
The report identified several problems:

- Most circus animals are captive-bred; circuses can can use fake documents, or no documents at all, or use the same documents for successive animals.
- CITES implementing legislation not passed in some countries, so not enforceable.
- Inability of customs officials to identify species, or correct CITES documents. Incorrect use of *ATA Carnet* documents..
- Failure of countries to implement CITES resolution 8.16. Previously, no formal identification system had been required for captive-bred animals, but this requires permanent marking, and needs to be implemented.
- Customs officials need to inspect and confiscate[11].

In order to deal with the problem of circus animals the CITES conference in 1992 passed resolution 8.16, which advised CITES countries to issue separate captive-bred exemption certificates for each animal, with more rigorous checks; more vigilance for evidence of exports, re-exports, and imports; welfare checks for transporters; improved documentation linked to individual animals; permanent marking and identification of circus animals.

The report on European animal smuggling recommended that all circus animals should be checked at borders, and documents verified; monitoring of circus movements and animal acquisitions within national boundaries; record circus

transactions in annual reports; standardised training of enforcement officers, particularly customs officials; establishment of reception centres for confiscated animals; owners required to register animals in country of residence[11].

This study of circus operations in *continental* Europe (no UK circuses were included) would indicate that many of the problems identified are similar to those we have identified in UK circuses operating both at home, and abroad.

Recommendations

We support the recommendations made above, which should be applied to circuses throughout Europe. Furthermore, we have suggested the following practical solutions to fulfil the needs identified:-

Animal Passports:

A detailed, life-long animal passport, showing:

- when the animal's home country joined CITES
- where & when animal was born
- the animal's parentage, birth details, number, etc.
- date of issue and date of expiry of passport
- microchip number (electronic reading off passport should correlate with microchip on animal)
- passports could incorporate details of various certificates which should be with the animal at all times (pocketed in passport)
- and through stamping at borders, the passport would help to keep track of the animal's movements.

Owner pays fee for passport when purchasing animal.
Animals without passports automatically confiscated.

This suggestion was warmly received by CITES delegates at the recent conference in Harare in June 1997, when we put it forward as a joint suggestion to the governments from the Species Survival Network and the International Falconry Association. We also believe that the basis of these proposals could be utilised to make a start on record-keeping of exotic animals in the UK - it is important that circus animals which happen to be captive-bred specimens of CITES-listed species do not suffer downgrading in welfare protection terms. In view of the lively trade in animals between various types of organisation, bringing animals used in circuses and similar fields under greater control would also seem prudent if captive breeding programmes are to be preserved.

Equipment:

The Animal Defenders, and we are certain many other animal welfare/ conservation groups, would be enthusiastic about assisting governments in setting up a microchipping scheme.

Education & Training:

A joint initiative between governments, animal welfare and conservation groups, and others, could bring a comprehensive package together. The voluntary sector can draw upon the good will of experts to assist in the making of a cost-effective production, together with an operating manual, featuring standardised passports, identification of CITES documents, official stamps, etc. This could enhance and



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expand upon current information packages.

Transit Centres: The need for transit centres where confiscated animals can be processed and passed on to new homes suggests possibilities for a partnership between animal welfare organisations and other non-governmental organisations, governments, and perhaps even business. Again, many organisations such as ours would be enthusiastic about assisting in such projects.

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2. *King Pole*, March 1997, p28.
3. *World's Fair*, 25-31.7.97.
4. *King Pole*, Mary Chipperfield Promotions advert, June 1997, p25.
5. *King Pole*, June 1996, p33.
6. *King Pole*, June 1996, p35-36.
7. *World's Fair* 24.4.97.
8. *World's Fair*, 24-30.1.97.
9. *World's Fair*, 14-20.2.97.
10. *King Pole*, September 1996.
11. *King Pole*, Clubb-Chipperfeild Advert, June 1996.
12. *King Pole*, Clubb-Chipperfeild Advert, June 1997.
13. *World's Fair*, 6-12.6.97.
14. *World's Fair*, 18.10.96.
15. *World's Fair*, 13 January - 6 February 1997.
16. *King Pole*, March 1997, p24.
17. *World's Fair* 31 October - 6 November 1997.
18. *World's Fair*, 17-23.10.97.
19. *King Pole*, June 1996, p29.
20. *World's Fair*, 7-14.11.97.
21. *World's Fair*, 4-10.7.97.
22. *World's Fair*, 25-30.10.97.
23. *World's Fair*, 3.9.96



8. RELEVANT UK LEGISLATION

8. RELEVANT UK LEGISLATION

OVERVIEW

Legislation on transport of animals is discussed in section 3, Travelling. CITES and EU regulations and trade in endangered species is discussed in section 7, Circus Animal Supply.

Although circus animals are exempt from both the Zoo Licensing Act and the Dangerous Wild Animals Act, discussion of the provisions in these two pieces of legislation is relevant to this review of the law relating to circus animals.

THE PERFORMING ANIMALS (REGULATION) ACT 1925

The Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 (PAR), and Performing Animals Rules, do not lay down standards of animal welfare, public safety, or disease control, and it is not an annual licensing system. It is purely an unconditional registration formality.

PAR requires that those who exhibit or train performing animals must be registered with the local authority in the county where they reside, or if no fixed place of residence in Great Britain, a local authority of their choice. It is administered by the Home Office and local authorities.

In theory, the registration of the trainer should allow inspection for potential cruelty to animals under the 1911 Protection of Animals Act, or safety standards in public places. In practice, the registration names the trainer at a correspondence address, but lists of animals they main train are relatively meaningless.

Registration

The certificates of registration under the Act are not licences, do not need to be renewed, and therefore no conditions can be attached to them.

A lifetime certificate is issued. The trainer can re-register if they choose, but is not obliged to do so unless numbers and species of animals have changed; they may also have moved away from the local authority's area many years since initial registration. Furthermore, registrations of 40 and 50 years old remain on current records. We were informed by Northamptonshire County Council that out of date registrations were of no consequence; trainers would simply be re-registered to regularise the situation.

Almost a decade ago, a Chief Veterinary Officer for a major city said that *"Unfortunately, this registration does not have to be renewed annually, and so a person once registered may be subject to little supervision.*
"....The time is ripe to increase the supervision (and the standards required) so that performing animals, whether inside or outside circuses, receive the same degree of supervision and protection as animals in zoos. The time is also ripe to require annual licences.[1]



Accommodation for lions and tigers circus style.

T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

A local authority is not empowered to refuse a registration certificate, or to impose conditions. If there is a conviction for cruelty or other offences under other legislation, only the court can prohibit the trainer from registration, or impose conditions on the certificate, by court order.

Survey of Registrations

We requested registrations of animal trainers linked to circus winter quarters from local authorities. Most were helpful, a minority obstructive. Local authorities are obliged to send copies of certificates to the Home Office, but many do not, therefore although the Home Office were extremely helpful, their records were incomplete.

We received details of 110 registrations (some defunct) of trainers linked to winter quarters, and those who have no regular links with one particular facility. There were a further 42 animal trainers working in circuses in the UK during the period of the study for whom registrations could not be located.

In theory, since the registration of a trainer lists the animals they will be training, it should be possible to check whether they provide facilities for the animals, or whether they are registered for animals which are actually trained and owned by someone else. Of 110 registrations:-

- 13 list their 'training' address as "None", despite being located at a winter quarters. Some of these were known to be working at the winter quarters, others were not.
- 14 listed their training address as "None", with no details of a winter quarters address.
- 2 gave a winter quarters as their address, but put "None" for training address; they were known to be working elsewhere.
- 1 was registered with the same animals at two addresses
- 3 trainers, all registered for the same animals at one circus, had listed one training address, but all of their animals were hired, and spent the winter at their owner's winter quarters in another part of the country.
- 9 were foreign visiting performers

Two Clubb Chipperfield tapirs.



T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

- Many trainers/presenters were registered for the same groups of animals
- With three registrations we found discrepancies between the register provided by the local authority and the certificate of registration

Details on registrations were generally vague, with descriptions of performances including "comedy act" for monkeys and sometimes no description is given at all. It is a matter of great concern that there are no clear parameters set out as to what a presenter or trainer might make their animals do.

One presenter was presenting a macaw that did not appear to be on her registration. At Clubb Chipperfield, we could find no registrations that covered the tapirs or cow which were filmed on the site in 1997. The cow was seen to be training for a TV commercial.

Inspections

(a) Winter quarters: The PAR provides for local authority officials (or police) to enter training premises and inspect whether all the animals present are registered, or whether there are performing animals there for which there is no registration. "*Thames Valley Police have stated that: "The powers available to the police under the* [PAR] *do not specifically allow Officers to visit for the purpose of checking animals' welfare or security. It is more intended to enable Officers to check that what animals are registered as being on a particular premises with the Local Authority are in fact there and that any number registered might be located*"[2].

However, without proper identification of animals, the picture can become very confused:-

- the registration does not list what animals are in residence at training or winter quarters, or where they might be, any more than having an HGV licence means one owns a lorry. Although the latter does



A tiger looks out of a container at Chipperfield Enterprises.

T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

at least signify a qualification.

- all of the animals listed on the certificate may not be in residence or may not be with the trainer if travelling (or even exist, since trainers register the maximum amount of animals they might *want* to train);
- when a trainer is allowed to write "none" in the "training address" box on their certificate, there is no record of the location of the animals or whether, in fact, the facilities being provided are suitable for them;
- several trainers can be registered at an address for the same groups of animals. Three trainers registered to train twelve tigers might all be working with the same twelve tigers, or there might be 36 tigers present;
- if animals are also doing film or TV work, or working abroad, the certificate or licence cannot be verified;
- there is no restriction on the number of winter quarters at which a trainer may keep the animals;
- enormous numbers of animals registered with trainers in locations which could not provide a fraction of the space needed if, as the registration allowed, the trainer decided to keep all of the animals there at any one time:-
  - * At one site, which houses two training facilities, it is difficult to ascertain from the registrations what numbers of animals might be on the premises. Added together, the number of animals for which they have permission are in excess of 4,500, including crocodiles, rhinos, elephants, lions, tigers, venomous snakes, and many other species.
  - * Another has a potential of over 1,000 animals, including 64 elephants;

* Another has the potential to hold a herd of 113 ponies, 38 bears, and 32 elephants.

Although it is not envisaged that attempts would be made to realise these potentials, since the facilities are not large enough, nevertheless, there should be a limit on numbers quoted on registrations.

The problem that has not been addressed in the legislation is that a registration to train or present animals should, logically, be separate from a licence to keep them. The PAR as it stands is geared, albeit very loosely, to the former, but almost by accident it permits a presenter to actually keep the animals regardless of their facilities.

Allowing trainers to register with a local authority many miles away from where they are keeping their animals when not travelling makes administration extremely difficult. Of 110 registrations, we found that 29 were with the City of London/Corporation of London, despite that the trainers were located in Oxfordshire, Hampshire, Lincolnshire, and elsewhere. As one city's veterinary officer has noted: *"..If a trainer wants to vary his certificate, he applies to the Authority which originally issued it, although the Authority may be at the other end of the country and therefore unable to exercise any real control over the proposed new performance or the conditions in which the animal is kept"*[3].

A survey of local authorities with winter quarters within their jurisdiction found that just half of the establishments had been inspected in the last two years[4].

(b) Travelling Inspections: A local authority official might try to conduct an inspection of a registration certificate when the animals enter their area as part of a travelling show, but registered trainers and circuses are under no obligation to notify a local authority that they are entering its boundaries, consequently, such inspections are very sporadic[3].

It can also be difficult for a local authority official to trace the record of a certificate in order to confirm the details, or any variations, since some local authorities which might have issued certificates in the past may have disappeared in local government reorganisation[3].

Circuses also regularly travel with exotic 'pet' animals, and non-performing animals which form part of their 'zoo' after the show. Again, it would be difficult to verify records for these animals.

Inspectors

Whereas under the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 the Secretary of State is able to select inspectors from a list of suitably qualified vets, animal behaviourists and other experts, the PAR does not allow for such arrangements. Neither is assistance given to local authority officials wishing to inspect by provision of guidelines, as in the case of zoos.

The departments administering the registrations are not necessarily the best qualified to judge whether the conditions in which the animals are kept are appropriate for the species. We found that many of the registration services were provided by the local Trading Standards Department, others were from the clerk



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Asian elephant Rhanee on tour with Santus Circus, chained to the ground and able to shuffle a few paces in each direction.

of the local Registration Authority, or council, or the regulatory services department, or the county solicitor. Some were being administered by the environmental health officer. The ones using London were from the Senior Animal Health Inspector.

"Another difficulty encountered with the enforcement of legislation concerned with performing animals is the fact that many of the animals encountered are exotic, and Local Authority inspectors who see such animals perhaps only once or twice in a lifetime are not best qualified to judge the conditions in which they are kept, or to know whether the animals are a danger to the public"[3].

When is a circus not a circus?

Some animals used in circuses are also used for advertising, films, TV, and publicity work. This work can be described as both performing and non-performing, in that some is simply photographic, not requiring tricks. Such work requires a licence under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (DWA). We were advised of two Dangerous Wild Animals Act registrations for the organisations either running circuses, or providing circus acts, during 1995-1997.

Animals of species which would normally require a licence under the DWA are exempt if they are with a circus (DWA s.5). However, if removed from the circus, they must be licensed under the DWA.

There is case law on this point: An owner of a lioness led the animal in a procession in a high street to an enclosure, where she was used for photographs with members of the public. The Divisional Court decided that the High Street could not be described as a circus as that word was commonly understood, and therefore the animal was not in a circus when in the high street or in the enclosure. Therefore, the animal was not exempt under S.5 of the Dangerous Wild Animals Act. In the view of the court an offence had been committed because no DWA licence had been obtained.

The keeper of a dangerous wild animal in a zoological garden or circus either should have a DWA licence, or was in breach of the licensing provisions if he

removed the animal from the confines of the zoo or circus to a place which by no stretch of the imagination could be described as a zoo or circus. The judge said: *"...by any stretch of the imagination could* [the premises] *be a circus within the meaning of the definition... "circus" as that word is commonly understood, namely, the aggregation of vans and cages in which wild animals may be kept and a big top into which they may well be introduced for the purpose of performing..."*[5].

This calls into question whether a circus winter quarters is actually a circus as that word is commonly understood. If it is not, it should fall under the control of the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976; the welfare and inspection provisions of that Act would then apply.

It is argued here that the common understanding of the word circus is a travelling circus, under a tent. Although a winter quarters is part of the business of a circus, the working and animal routines, facilities and business carried out, are not as conventionally understood by the word circus. The intention of the coverage under the DWA and PAR is circumvented by a winter quarters.

The Department of the Environment have issued an opinion on this case: *"..On similar reasoning* [to the judge's statement] *we would be surprised if winter quarters of a circus could normally be described as a circus as commonly understood. Consequently it may well be that the 1976 Act will apply."*[6].

Drawing circus winter quarters under the Zoo Licensing Act would resolve many of these problems. This would facilitate proper inspection, standards of care and welfare, and record-keeping on breeding, deaths, and acquisitions.

Conclusion

When the Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 was passed, science and animal study simply did not recognise the psychological aspect of life for other species. Discoveries about the intelligence of other species include cultural practices, forms of language and communication, use of tools, preparation of food, etc., have all be established since this Act was passed. Likewise, the psychological suffering caused by environmental deprivation and restriction of behavioural needs has also now been recognised.

All of these considerations have been recognised for animals in zoos, and need to be taken into account in any legislation on the use of performing animals. There is no logical reason to treat the needs of a specimen of a species differently because it happens to be kept for a different purpose.

Furthermore, the PAR does not reflect an understanding of the performing animal industry, especially with respect to circuses.

It is badly constructed for the task, in that it

- registers the trainers without registration of the animals,. therefore the lists of animals are meaningless in that they do not afford any control;
- does not allow for annual licensing so that conditions may be attached to licences;

- it does not require trainers to say where the animals are kept when not in use, or allow for minimum standards of husbandry, housing, transport, and welfare;
- it does not control breeding or require proper record-keeping; it does not provide for scheduled inspections by qualified teams of inspectors, nor keep track of what happens to the animals.

Circuses may do more with their animals than just present them, within the remit of the PAR. They may breed and supply (see section 7). Chipperfield Enterprises decided to use a male lion for breeding purposes only, yet this establishment is not registered under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act, nor it is registered as a zoo. The PAR, as a registration system, does not provide for this situation.

Circuses also traverse the globe collecting new animals and leaving others behind. Thus, there is a need for the animals to be licensed, registered and microchipped.

We have outlined proposals for a system of record-keeping for circus animals under Chapter 7, 'Circus Animal Supply, Movements, and CITES'.

THE ZOO LICENSING ACT 1981

The Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (ZLA) regulates the operation of zoos by licence. It requires regular inspections, and provides for minimum standards of care and welfare of animals in zoos, safari parks, small menageries and aquaria.

The ZLA aims to ensure that where animals are kept in caged surroundings they are provided with adequate space and equipment for their needs. The Act is administered by the Department of the Environment and local authorities[7].

Circuses are exempt from the Zoo Licensing Act.

The main benefit of the Zoo Licensing Act to is in the arrangements for inspections by qualified, interested, and experienced persons, and that the Secretary of State is empowered to issue updated 'Standards of Modern Zoo Practice' in order to maintain and improve standards. There have been two publications of standards; the first set in 1984 when the Act came into operation, and an updated version in 1988.

Although circuses are exempted, the Zoo Licensing Act is pertinent to this discussion, since the physical difference between a circus winter quarters and a licensed zoo (apart from standards) is that winter quarters are not normally open to the public.

Licensing

Under the ZLA, a zoo is defined as an establishment where wild (as defined by the Act, or exotic) animals are kept for exhibition to the public. In its exemption of circuses, the Act defines a circus as a place where animals are kept or introduced wholly or mainly for the purpose of performing tricks or manoeuvres at that place.

An application for a zoo licence from a local authority involves provision of two months notice to the local authority, a public notice displayed on site, and detailed information on the application outlining the situation of the proposed zoo; kinds and numbers of animals; arrangements for accommodation, maintenance, and well-being of animals; approximate number of staff, and other administrative arrangements to do with public and vehicular access. This information is available to the public so that the local community is fully consulted.

All of these issues are just as important for a circus winter quarters, but do not apply because of the creation of the special "circus"category. The same species are involved - from crocodiles, to big cats, to exotic birds. Public, animal health, and safety issues, hygiene, dumping of waste, breeding of animals, animal welfare and animal transport considerations are all just as important with a circus winter quarters. Yet anyone can set up a circus winter quarters, without the legal safeguards provided by the ZLA.

For a zoo licence application, the local authority takes into consideration representations from the local police, fire officer, zoo governing bodies, the local community, and others. With the circus exemption, it follows that there is no legal requirement for such consultation for a circus winter quarters.

Before a local authority makes its decision, it considers the reports of a team of zoo inspectors and can refuse permission if the proposed zoo might affect health and safety, or if standards of accommodation, staffing, or management are not adequate for the proper care and well-being of the animals. Planning rules aside, none of this protection applies if the collection of animals carries the "circus" label.

The local authority can also refuse the application if the applicant, directors, or employees has been convicted of ill treatment of animals. The contrast here is that a local authority cannot refuse a PAR registration, only a court order can remove a trainer from the register. Employees of trainers who may be assisting with training or feeding and cleaning out the animals, are not mentioned in the PAR; there is no provision for action over convictions for cruelty.

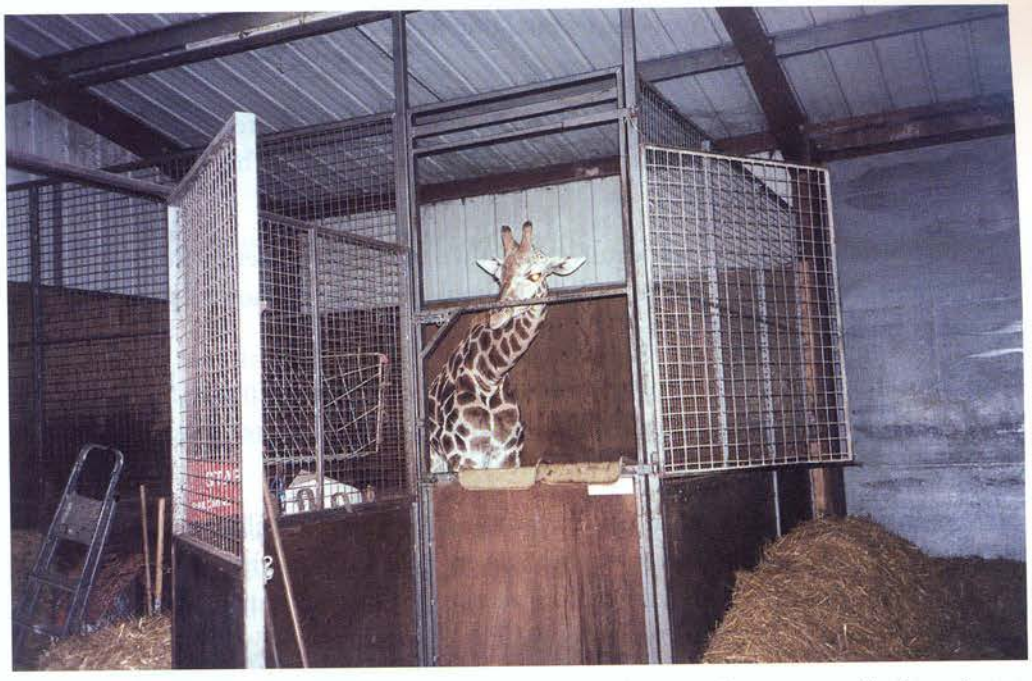
There are two types of zoo licence. An original, or first, licence is valid for four years. Thereafter, renewal (and "fresh") licences are valid for six years. ("Fresh" licences require re-application with all the detail again, as for a new licence).

Both types of licence are subject to any conditions that the local authority thinks fit (consistent with the Act); as well as precautions against escape, records of numbers of different animals, acquisitions, births, deaths and causes of death, disposals or escapes, health. The Secretary of State can also direct the local authority to attach conditions.

Taking into consideration the high level of animal movement between circuses, safari parks, and zoos, it is surprising that there is not more control.

Power to Alter or Revoke Licences

A local authority and the Secretary of State are empowered to alter a licence at



A giraffe at Mary Chipperfield's farm.

Stocker/White / Animal Defenders

any time. Licences can be varied, cancelled, or have conditions attached, or be changed by a combination of all three methods. Reason for revocation of a licence would be non-compliance with an inspectors' report, disorderly management, breach of licence conditions, conviction of staff for ill-treatment of animals.

Conditions to Licences: A mechanism for continuous improvement

The Act empowers the local authority to attach such conditions to the licence as it thinks necessary, and this has resulted in many local authorities attaching the Secretary of State's 'Standards of Zoo Practice' to licences in an attempt to enforce standards of animal welfare.

In response, the Secretary of State has now provided local authorities with a set of standard conditions which they can attach to licences[8].

Whilst the ZLA is less than perfect, it at least contains a mechanism by which it can be improved and the highest standards can be strived for. For the same animals in circuses, standards are not even set.

Inspections and Standards

Under the Act, the Secretary of State maintains an official list of wildlife zoo vets and others with animal welfare interest and experience, which forms the basis of a pool of qualified inspectors from which local authorities can draw suitable persons to conduct their inspections.

The Act provides for three different types of inspection: periodical, special, and informal. For an original licence, periodical inspections are carried out in years one and four. For a renewed or fresh, in years three and six.

Periodical Inspection is by a panel of three persons appointed by the local authority, including one vet and usually an environmental health officer[8] two

persons from the Secretary of State's List, one from the veterinary part of the list and one from the second part.

The zoo can object to an inspector, and can provide three representatives to accompany the inspection panel; the panel may also require the vet employed by the zoo to be in attendance.

The inspection extends to all features directly or indirectly relevant to the health, welfare and safety of the public and the animals, and production of all animal records - births, deaths, acquisitions, etc.

The inspectors' report then forms the basis of any improvements to the operation of the zoo and the welfare of the animals, with particular reference to recommendations in the Secretary of State's Standards.

Special Inspections are carried out if warranted by a periodical inspection report, or a report from bodies concerned with zoo management or animal welfare, or as a result of findings from an informal inspection, or other circumstances which the local authority considers warrants such an inspection.

Informal Inspections are carried out once in a calendar year when no other type of inspection is scheduled. A single inspector is appointed by the local authority, being a person appearing to the authority to be competent for the purpose.

The Secretary of State is empowered to vary or dispense with inspections for small zoos and menageries.

Application of the above to winter quarters would sweep away a huge amount of misery and cruelty, and benefit controls over breeding and trade in endangered species.

Other Provisions

Other provisions under the ZLA and within the Secretary of State's Standards include transportation of animals, responsibility for checking facilities provided by establishments receiving or purchasing animals.

Failing to comply with conditions imposed upon licences, obstructing inspectors, and operating without a licences are all offences, incurring penalties and/or fines.

Legal Protection for Circus Animals under the ZLA, When Travelling

The Secretary of State's Standards concentrate upon arrangements for animals in permanent structures, therefore the issue becomes complicated for animals travelling and housed in temporary structures. Nevertheless, there appears to be the opportunity for the Secretary of State using the flexibility built into the ZLA to institute a set of standards for animals while travelling.

There are several different types of structure used for travelling circus animals which would need to be taken into consideration. It is not suggested that the current structures are acceptable, but their function needs to be taken into consideration: Large cats - beastwagons and exercise enclosures; horses and exotic domestics - stable tents and fields; elephants - electric fence enclosures.

Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice

It is useful to look at the Secretary of State's Standards, and how they would relate to the conditions found in our investigation of travelling circuses and winter quarters.

The main features of the Standards provide for:-

- Routine observation of the animals
- Accommodation - space, exercise, and grouping
  space and furniture sufficient; exercise enclosures, attention to management of relationships within the animal group, e.g. conflict avoidance.
- Accommodation - comfort and well-being
  temperature, ventilation, lighting, newborns; shelter for both inclement weather and excessive sunshine:
- Equipment within enclosures
  in accordance with the needs of the species; bedding, branchwork, burrows, nesting boxes, pools, etc.
- Prevention of stress or harm
  maintenance of enclosures/barriers, checking and rectifying defects.
  vegetation capable of harming animals to be kept out of reach;
  plant, equipment, etc., out of animals' reach;
  rubbish to be cleared away;
  physical contact with animals, animal safety, etc.

We consider that none of the circuses reported upon in sections 3 and 4 would be able to meet all of these criteria, and many would fail all of them.

- Food and Drink
  Veterinary advice to be obtained and followed on nutrition;
  controls over hygiene of animal water and food preparation;
  placing of water troughs to ensure all animals drink.

Many animals did not have permanent access to water, and at Chipperfield Enterprises and Mary Chipperfield Promotions, lion and tiger water troughs froze over during the night.

The three, then four, then five elephants in the Mary Chipperfield Promotions barn only had the bucket of water given to them, and if the bucket was knocked over, or all water was gone, they went without water until they were given more. They had no water during the night.

The standard of hygiene in the animal meat room at Chipperfield Enterprises was deplorable; rats and mice ran over the hanging carcasses.

- Sanitation and Control of Disease
  proper standards of hygiene, both staff and animals; drainage, type of cleaning agents.

Disposal of soiled animal bedding is inevitably going to present certain problems

when circuses are travelling on the road. However Chipperfield Enterprises is a permanent facility. Disposal of waste was very poor. A large tip made up of rotting carcasses, soiled bedding was visited by many scavengers; it was set alight at intervals. The meat room was both inappropriate as a facility for preparing food (which was therefore done outside in the yard), and for staff to work. At Mary Chipperfield Promotions, the tip of animal waste and carcasses was in a pit in the ground, and waste was set alight inside this.

- Animal Care and Veterinary Aspects
  routine checks by vet; parasite prevention; hygiene in quarters where new additions to the collection are kept.

The case of Narla, the injured lioness at Circus Harlequin was the worst case of denial of veterinary attention found, but there were several animals at Mary Chipperfield Promotions which gave cause for concern.

- Post-Mortem Facilities; Enclosures;
- Enclosure Barriers, specified by type of species;
  escape prevention
  Also:
  Stand-Off Barriers (prevent public contact); Perimeter Boundaries; Warning Signs on each enclosure; exits; animal removal; Animal Transport; Stock Records; Disposal of stock (zoo to be responsible for checking recipient has suitable facilities); Animal Transportation and Movement - suitable equipment, provision for well-being of animals.

We did not find any post mortem facilities at any of the winter quarters. A post mortem of a camel at Mary Chipperfield Promotions was undertaken in the field.

Containment of animals is extremely low, and secondary fencing almost unheard of. Animals would be kept in inappropriate facilities (for example, Flora, the young elephant at Mary Chipperfield Promotions was kept in a stable, from which she walked out several times, as she knew how to undo the bolts.

We observed, or were given first-hand accounts of escapes of: a chimpanzee, several lions, two tapirs, two wallabys, an elephant, and various camels, llamas, and goats.

One wallaby escaped and was never recaptured, despite a visit by the local police to say that they had been advised that it was wandering around.

THE DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS ACT 1976

The Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (DWA) is designed to regulate the keeping of certain kinds of dangerous wild animals through a licensing system which includes provision of prevention against escape, safety of animals, and welfare.

It is administered by the Department of Environment and local authorities, and registers exotic animals and their owners. The definition of a "dangerous wild





T. Stocker / Animal Defenders

Whole pig carcasses were hacked up on the ground outside the Chipperfield Enterprises' meat room. The meat was then hung ready to be fed to the lions.

animal" is those species listed on the schedule attached to the Act, and the Secretary of State is empowered to make changes to the schedule by statutory instrument.

Although the emphasis of the DWA is on protection of the public, there are some provisions for the well-being of the animals covered by the Act. The provisions display some limited recognition of the need for a proper environment for exotic captive animals.

However, unlike the Zoo Licensing Act, this Act is very limited in its scope for affording proper control over the keeping of exotic animals, or indeed, ensuring the highest standards of animal care and welfare.

Circuses are exempt from the Dangerous Wild Animals Act.

Licences

DWA licences are annual, and issued by the local authority based upon an application detailing the species to be kept, number of animals of each species, situation of premises, and details of a suitable applicant.

The local authority appoints a veterinary surgeon or practitioner to inspect the premises and produce a detailed report. The licence is issued if the local authority is satisfied about the suitability of the applicant, and issues of safety and public nuisance. The authority must also consider whether the animal accommodation is secure, of suitable construction, provides adequate exercise, size, temperature, lighting, ventilation, drainage, cleanliness, numbers of animals, adequate and suitable food, drink, bedding material, animal(s) will be visited at suitable intervals, and that they will be protected in case of fire/emergencies, as well as precautions taken against spread of disease.

Conditions which can be attached to a licence include restriction to named keeper, the premises on the licence, movement of the animal(s), transport conditions, permission to move animals, notifying other local authorities of animal movement, insurance, and restrictions on number of species and number of animals of each species, and any other conditions the local authority considers to be appropriate. Importantly, a local authority can impose upon a licence include any conditions that, in the opinion of the authority, secure the welfare objectives of the Act.

There are also arrangements for varying or revoking licences (with some exceptions) appeals, and offences.The local authority can also vary or revoke licences, or conditions of licences with some exceptions.

Inspections

There is only one initial inspection under the DWA. The local authority-appointed veterinary surgeon or practitioner undertakes an inspection and produces a report for the local authority in order for them to make the licensing decision. Thereafter, no further inspections of the conditions or welfare of the animal are provided for within the terms of the Act.

Offences and Power to Seize Animals

If a dangerous wild animal as specified in the Schedule to the Act is kept without a licence, or if licence conditions are breached, the local authority in whose area the animal is for the time being may seize it, and may dispose of it.

Licensees convicted of offences under other animal protection legislation may have their licence cancelled and be disqualified from keeping animals under the Act.

Whilst no DWA licence is required for a circus animal whilst they are kept in a circus, once an animal leaves exempted premises its keeper must obtain a DWA licence. Refer to the discussion of the case law[5] in the section on the PAR under the heading 'When is a Circus not a Circus', earlier this section.

Another view is given of the outcome of the Hemming vs Jones case by a London veterinary surgeon: *"...if a scheduled animal is to be taken out of the circus premises for the purpose of exercise, the animal must be licensed under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act. This in turn means that its quarters must be subjected to an inspection to determine, among other things, whether those quarters allow for adequate exercise. Since the inadequacy of circus travelling quarters is usually the very reason for wishing to exercise the animals outside the circus, a licence cannot be granted in such a case."*[9].

Criticism of the DWA was summed up:

"The Dangerous Wild Animals Act was obviously a timely piece of legislation. Without it there would have been an escalation in the keeping of animals universally regarded as dangerous. The potential market for surplus large cat cubs from safari parks would have added to these problems. However, the legislation is poorly drafted. The provision for husbandry standards are eccentric, while the requirement for unlimited insurance has been held by the Royal Commission to be unsatisfactory. The obligation to renew licences annual, resulting in the need for full annual inspections (each year's licence being treated as totally separate from the previous one) has been criticised both administratively and for the financial effect on keepers. ....since there is no right of entry to unlicensed premises, enforcement of the Act against those who totally ignore is is most difficult"[9].

<u>Case studies from the investigation:</u>
Two of the winter quarters investigated held DWA licences, Clubb Chipperfield and Mary Chipperfield Promotions.

Clubb Chipperfield, suppliers of animals for films, television, advertising, and circus acts, shares Chipperfield Farm with Chipperfield Enterprises, suppliers of circus cat acts and owners of Chipperfields' Circus. The two organisations are quite separate businesses, occupying two sides of the site which are separated by a wide public footpath. According to the Environmental Services Department of the local authority, Clubb Chipperfield have a licence under the DWA, but that Chipperfield Enterprises on the opposite side of the site does not[10].

However, on several occasions dating back to 1993, Clubb Chipperfield animals have been filmed on Chipperfield Enterprises land. Clubb Chipperfield also rent buildings on the Chipperfield Enterprises side of the site. During the study at Chipperfield Farm during 1996 and 1997, three Field Officers observed and videotaped examples of animals being moved across the site, the Clubb Chipperfield animals permanently occupying rented buildings on Chipperfield Enterprises land. The Clubb Chipperfield facilities on the Chipperfield Enterprises land housed tapirs, zebras, hippos, a cow, a turkey, rabbits and numerous primates.

Mary Chipperfield Promotions also holds a DWA licence[11] to cover use of certain animals for film and television work, as well as for racing camels.

The DWA licences do not appear to have prevented escapes from both establishments of a variety of animals (see section 4, Winter Quarters, 'escapes').

THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS ACTS 1911 TO 1964

The Protection of Animals Acts 1911 to 1964 (and subsequent amendments) (PAA) legislate against acts of physical cruelty to domestic or captive animals such as to beat, starve, terrify, ill-treat, poison, or neglect an animal, or being the owner, to permit such treatment by failure to exercise reasonable care and supervision to protect an animal.

They also provide for prosecution for causing causing unnecessary suffering by failure to provide veterinary care, or food and water, or by an inappropriate method of transportation.

However, for the most part, this body of legislation cannot protect circus animals against physical abuse, because such cruelty has to be witnessed and reported to the police. Beatings are not carried out in public, and if a beating were reported, it is likely that either the circus or the worker concerned would have moved on before any action could be taken.

The PAA is not designed to protect against the kind of suffering which most circus animals have to endure, caused by deprivation (see sections 3 and 4).

The Act does not specify standards of care (feeding, husbandry, cage sizes), and does not include suffering caused by stress, confinement, frustration, and the restriction of behavioural needs and movement that leads to abnormal behaviour and repetitive movements known as stereotypic, or displacement, types of behaviour.

Repetitive and pointless movements recorded in circus animals during this investigation include weaving and bobbing the head, pacing facing a wall with forelegs making the same pattern at each turn, and swaying.

When the basis of the legislation, the Protection of Animals Act 1911 was passed animal study and knowledge of the needs of other species did not recognise psychological cruelty to other species, nor the problems caused by bare, blank cages causing environmental and behavioural deprivation.

When a circus animal has become mentally disturbed because of isolation and subjugation, there is a legal vacuum.

A conviction under the PAA would, however, lose a circus animal trainer their Performing Animals (Regulation) Act certificate, and any Dangerous Wild Animals Act licence.

LEGAL SUMMARY

Other legislation related to this issue has been covered in other sections of the report, including the European dimension, CITES, the Wildlife & Countryside and Abandonment of Animals Acts.

The Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925 does not lay down standards of care and welfare for animals travelling with menageries or circuses, or when in their permanent winter quarters. The PAR registers the trainer, and not the animal.

The Protection of Animals Act 1911 does not encompass the main areas of suffering in circus animals; prosecutions are unlikely because of the nature of circuses.

Circuses are exempt from the Zoo Licensing Act 1981, which regulates standards of animal welfare in zoos and safari parks for the same species of animals as found in circuses.

Circuses are exempt from the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976, which issues annual licences keepers of specified animals, allowing checks on facilities and care. This is, however, less comprehensive than the Zoo Licensing Act.

Circuses have been successful in obtaining exemptions from a wide range of legislation, including international conventions such as the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the Zoo Licensing, and Dangerous Wild Animals Acts.

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9. CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Why Animal Circus?

The animal circus today only serves as a grim reminder of what was once considered to be acceptable entertainment. In the past, acceptable forms of public entertainment included hanging, bear and bull baiting, and cockfighting. The circus represents an era when little was understood about the needs of other species, but today, we know better.

The Effects on The Animals

Circus animals are confined to small spaces, chained, and restricted in every area of their lives. They are unable to express their normal behavioural repertoire, and as a result, become bored, frustrated, and display abnormal, stereotypic behaviours. In this study severe confinement was not restricted to any particular species but was found across the board, with a few rare exceptions such as pet dogs.

With the best will in the world, circuses cannot provide the facilities needed for the health and mental well-being of their animals.

Abuse

Abuse is part of daily life for circus animals, whether it be a smack, a punch, a whipping, club, or full blown beating. When the abuse is not physical, it is verbal and just as intimidating in its aggressive tone as if the animal could understand every word being screamed in its face.

With all of this in mind, circuses with animals should be banned.

Legislation

The circus business has been successful in obtaining exemptions from most other important animal legislation such as the Zoo Licensing and Dangerous Wild Animals Acts, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The latter has made attempts to redress the balance since its 8th conference in Japan.

Winter (Permanent) Quarters

In the absence of a ban, much suffering could be prevented by drawing circus animals under the Zoo Licensing Act 1981.

The suggestions made for special regulations under the Zoo Licensing Act would bring the permanent (or winter) quarters under regulation, protect endangered species breeding programmes, and assist in dealing with circus trade in endangered species.

The guidelines, regulations, and structure already in place within the ZLA could be used to bring about an immediate improvement in the welfare of animals in circuses.

The ZLA would bring into play regular visits by zoo vets and other experts in the field; compulsory record keeping of breeding, births, deaths, health and disease.

Travelling and static circuses and menageries

In the first instance, we would recommend a ban on the use of animals in travelling shows of this type.

However, there is the opportunity within the Zoo Licensing Act to draw up specialist, enforceable, regulations which will eliminate the worst aspects of travelling circus life. At the very least, the large exotic animals could be eliminated from travelling menageries.

Individual animal passports or logbooks with microchip identification would be a key factor, as well as an inspection log book for the circus manager whilst the show is on tour.

Domestic species would also have to be incorporated in an identification system, requiring annual licensing, and standards of care including feeding, veterinary attention, space and exercise, environmental enrichment, breeding controls, etc., should all be incorporated.

These standards would also apply to imported or visiting domestic animal acts.

Circus Animal Supply: Identification (microchipping) and registration of all exotic animals

Circuses traverse the globe and have been found to be useful transporters of smuggled wildlife. They also breed and supply CITES-listed animals, selling to zoos, safari parks, and other circuses.

Controls need to be implemented on all aspects of circus animal supply which impinge upon the regulations to control the trade in endangered species, and preserve captive breeding and reintroduction programmes.

Introduction of an international passport for circus animals, as outlined in our Circus Animal Supply section, is recommended. This would be kept with the animal throughout its life, recording change of ownership, birth, parentage. Such a document can be extremely useful both at home and abroad.

Training and Animal Management

Even if exotic animals were to be banned from travelling menageries, the use of such animals in various performances and publicity work is likely to continue. It is vital therefore, that this industry be effectively regulated.

There are no requirements for animal trainers to have any formal qualifications in animal care or training. There is no registration of stable managers, beastmen, or others who play a major daily role in the animals' lives, and these people are low-paid and untrained.

Anyone can set themselves up as an animal trainer. The registration of animal trainers as it stands at present does nothing to set or maintain standards, ensure

that the person is suitable and has suitable experience, or to ensure the well-being of the animals being trained. A system of training, certification, and regulation is needed.

We would support any moves to restrict animal training licences to people who have achieved:

- suitable qualifications from an accredited training scheme;
- passed an annual testing procedure (like a driving test), to include both written and practical examinations which indicate awareness of the law, and the needs of animals;
- licence specific to the animals to be trained or presented; to be attached to their 'passport'. This to describe the work, and state when and where the animals would be used (i.e., a job-by-job licence for the animal);
- a licence would only be awarded if the performance or trick required of the animal met with agreed ethical criteria.
- a separate presenter's licence from a trainer's licence;
- a licence to train or present animals should not be an automatic licence to keep animals, which should be dealt with separately. Such licence to be based upon the same welfare criteria as a zoo licence;
- application for licences sponsored by two suitably qualified independent experts from the Secretary of State for the Environment's list of zoo inspectors (a special list can be created on the second section of the current list, bringing together experience in animal facilities and animal training).



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Rosa and Opal

In 1992, a young African elephant called Tembo left the wild of Zambia and travelled to the United Kingdom.
In 1992, a young African elephant called Rosa left the wild of South Africa and travelled to the United Kingdom.
Also in 1992, a young female African elephant called Opal left the wild of Zimbabwe and travelled to the United Kingdom.
Approximately ten years ago, a baby elephant's mother was killed in a cull, and the baby sent to the United Kingdom and named Flora.

During 1997, Tembo, Rosa, Opal, and Flora were beaten mercilessly in a barn in Hampshire. In one beating, Tembo was hit until the iron bar broke. When he tried to drink, he was hit with a shovel. Rosa stretched out her trunk to take a drink of water, and was punished with four blows with a shovel, on the trunk, ear, and face. Opal was hit on the rear and told to eat her food. The elephants shared a couple of buckets of water, and left without at night. They were beaten to make them defecate.
Flora was beaten for refusing to move.

Micky was born into a wild paradise in Sierra Leone. He was taken in 1969 and travelled to the United Kingdom. Mickey is a 27 year old chimpanzee who lives in a dingy farm shed with an outdoor enclosure containing minimal furniture.



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ISBN: 0 905225 12 0