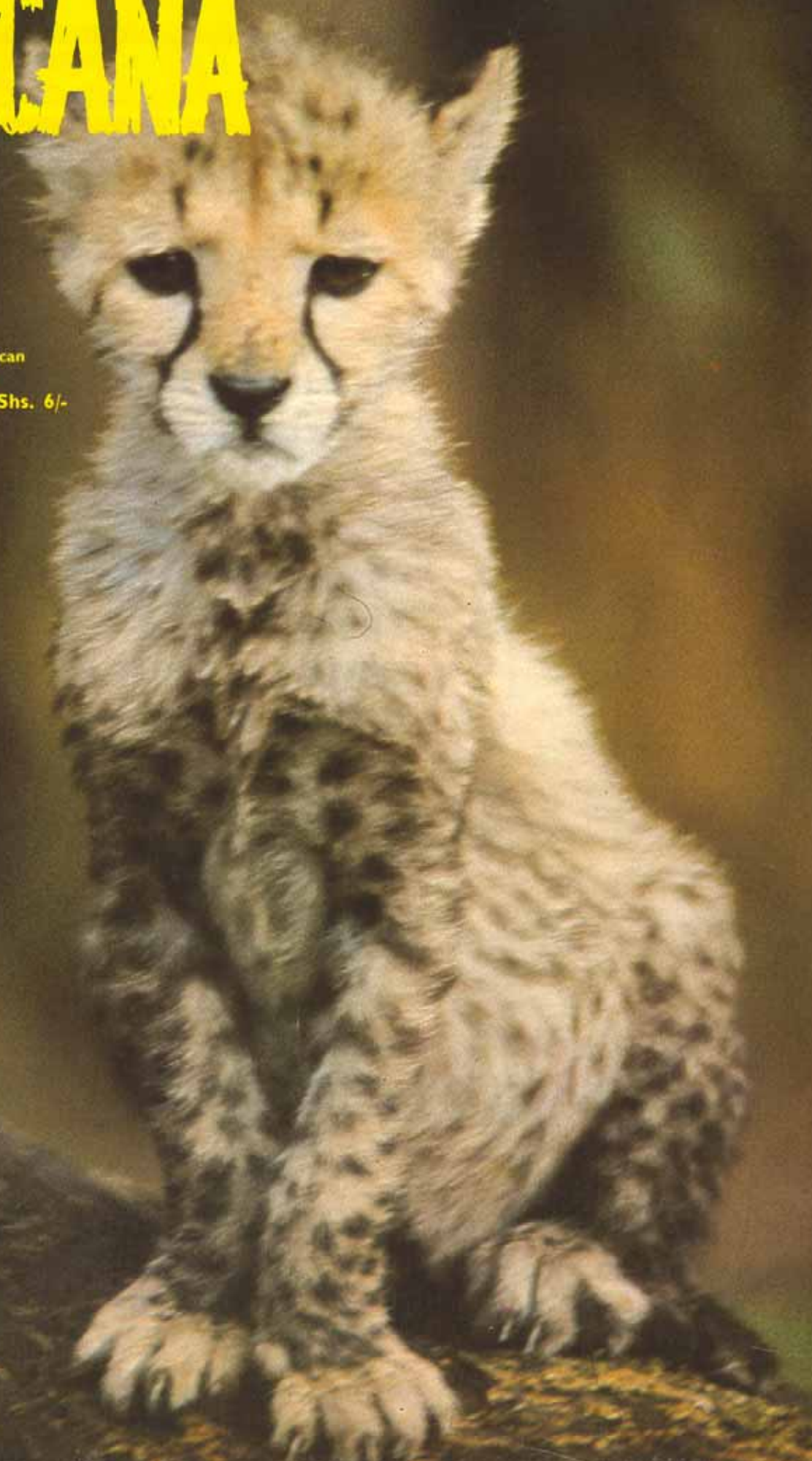
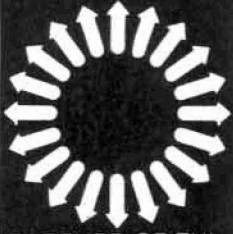


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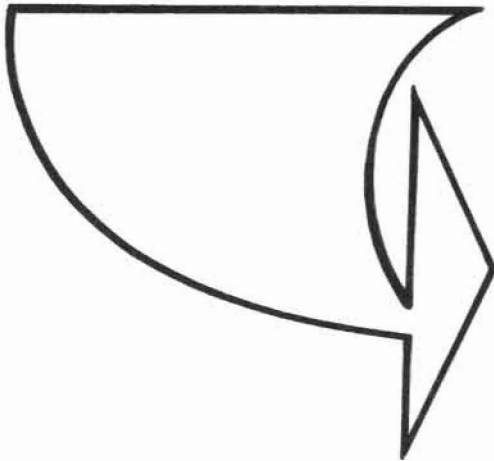


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EDITORIAL

A PARAGRAPH in a Kenyan newspaper lived for a day and died, like any other piece of insignificant news. It was a report of an incident in the north of the country where police seized two truck-loads of game skins worth Shs. 1.5 million (about U.S. \$183,000). It seems 8,647 animals had been wiped out either by poison or machine gun fire.

A correspondent reports a new and interesting field butchery technique around Tsavo (West) National Park. What happens is that poachers lay a trip wire in wooded areas which drops a large rock and poisoned spearhead onto the back of a passing elephant. This has the effect of driving the blade in nice and deeply, only the poachers are conserving poison, and the animal takes days to die—painfully.

Another writer is keeping an eye on an area where poachers and drought are effectively ruining the National Park which sets Nairobi apart from any city in the world. An armed party was found camped close to the borders; they said they were an anti-poaching patrol, but they were not in uniform and there were no vehicles. They were not sure how they would effect an arrest, assuming poachers would be obliging enough to walk into camp. Several wildebeest carcasses were not concealed, and were for food—they said.

Three reports, then, which indicate (i) the scale; (ii) the callousness; and (iii) the audacity of wildlife destruction in Kenya. Not that the situation is entirely different elsewhere in East Africa: what's going on in Uganda is anyone's guess; and Tanzania can't be too satisfied with a situation where a gang of 42 riflemen invades a National park, drives off the Ranger force, and slaughters at will.

In view of all this, there are pessimists among us who are writing off wildlife outside the parks within ten years.

Some are even saying "Why wait?" . . . why not a glorious free-for-all now, a sort of gluttonous Last Supper of the animals. That way the resource is at least shared out evenly as meat for the people.

Any yet, a few of us would argue the point in the manner of the three statuette monkeys, with a blind, deaf and silent faith that the animals will prosper, trees will sprout from charcoal stacks, and grass will grow at the feet of goats and hillside farmers.

We idiot idealists believe that this will all happen when the children come of age. They are part of a natural cyclic progress, you see, like rebirth after death, peace after war, and so on. They will be the men of the African Renaissance who will give the world the distinctive and priceless culture of natural environment.

Only perhaps the children need a little education and encouragement now. The subject of Civics, (including the notion of conservation as a civic responsibility) might be included in the schools' syllabus, perhaps in exchange for French or English history. Another perhaps is that international and local conservation organisations will either stop arrogantly "doing their own thing," or doing nothing at all and co-operate on a grand scheme for the conservation education of children.

There are many possible propositions for a co-ordinated conservation effort, but just one for the moment . . .

Better to spend money on developing the Wildlife Clubs for young people than on an overseas Ph.D. student who wants to prove that ostriches bury their heads in sand because they can't bear to look at the erosion.


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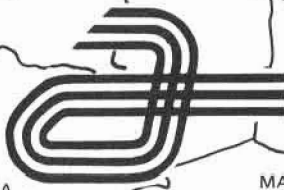
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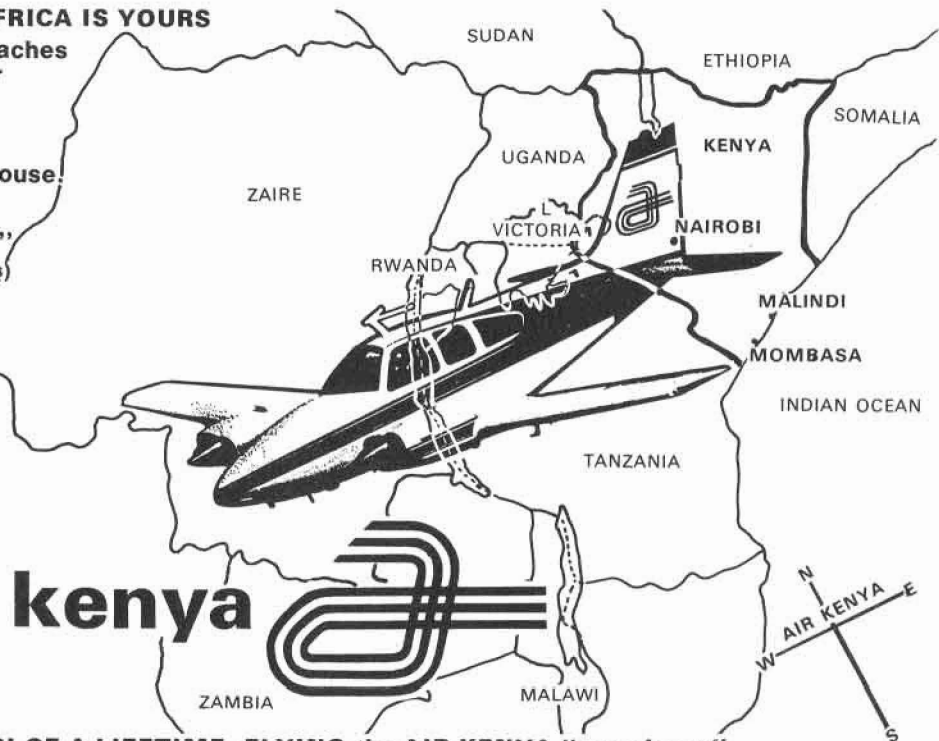
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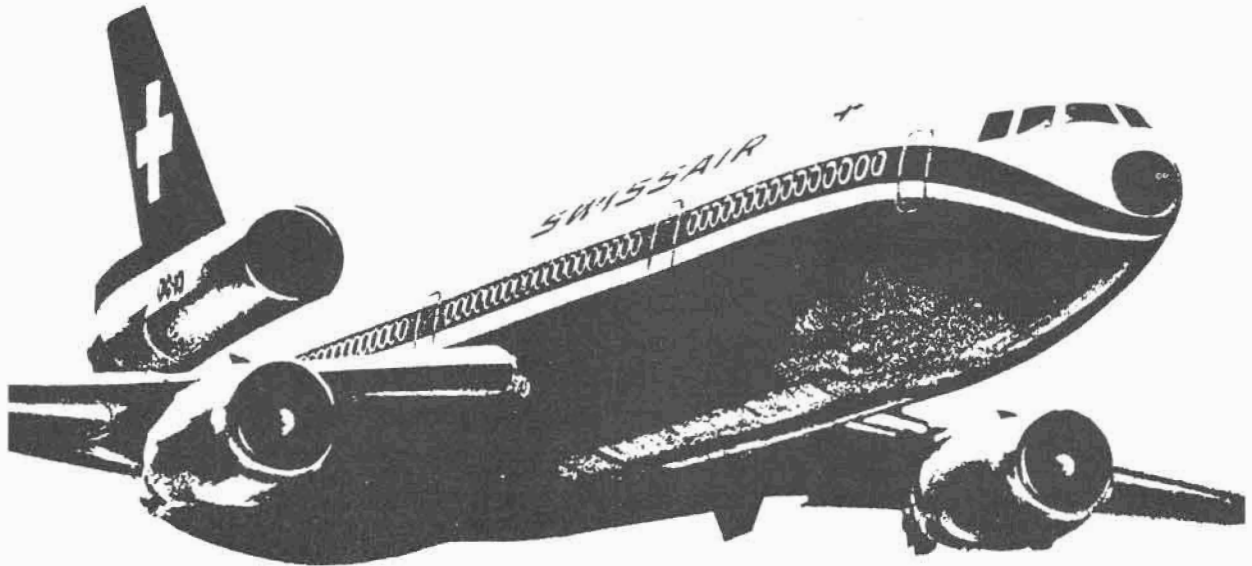
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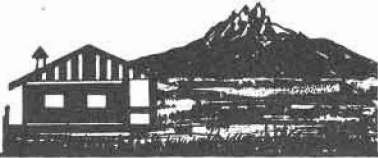
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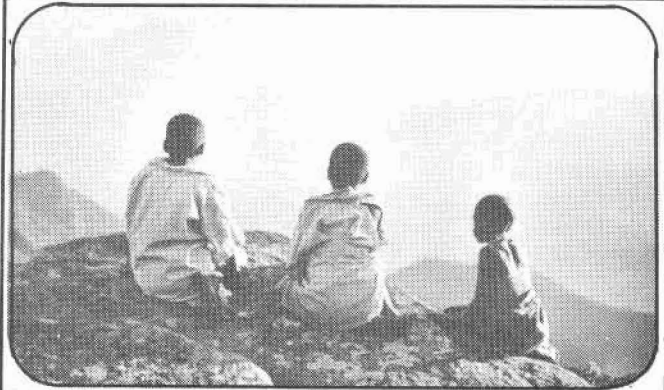
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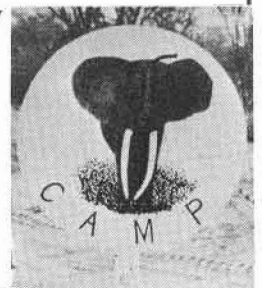
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TOOTH SOME STUDY

Sir—In *Africana* Vol. 5 No. 9, 1975 G. Slater asked two questions about the situation he saw, in which some lions (females & cubs) were at a buffalo calf kill. In 1971-72 I was collecting field data for my thesis (concerning social behaviour of lion in Nairobi NP) during 13 months—in fact a very short time, so I do not regard myself as an expert, but here are my answers to those questions: that broken canine does not handicap the female, if it heals all right, so she will not get fatal inflammation. She still has lots of teeth for a good grip (teeth of lion:

$$\frac{3 \ 1 \ 3 \ 1}{3 \ 1 \ 2 \ 1} = 30). \text{ At that time G.}$$

Slater saw her, the tooth was evidently very sore and for a while eating was painful, but I have seen even bad injuries of lions heal surprisingly fast, so I think, soon enough the female will be back to normal—though one tooth short.

Then about the missing male; it is not rare at all that there are prides with only females, juveniles and cubs in them. During my study in NNP there were four prides consisting of females, juveniles and cubs only. In 1971 there were 3 adult males in the Park (forming one pride) and later on one of them left, so finally there were only two adult males, who associated with the females of every other pride and very probably fathered all the cubs in the Park. So at that buffalo kill there was not necessarily a male (or males) around; the pride could be like those mentioned above.

Heikki Makinen,
Minna Cantthinkatu 3 A 1,
00250 Helsinki 25,
Finland.

PAYING GAME?

Sir—How reassuring it must be for "Africana" readers to learn that: In Tanzania . . . the only ivory available to China (for payment of the Tanzania railway) is the produce of no more than 10,000 elephants annually shot on control".

Let us examine the Tanzania elephant control issue. Previous authorities such as Kinloch spoke of an annual control figure of about 3,000 elephants—so why the sudden jump to 10,000? The most likely answer is hard cash. The ivory produced by the extra 7,000 elephants can be valued at approximately U.S. \$5,000,000. Therefore one must conclude that

Tanzania quite possibly is in part paying for the railway in ivory. A ten year kill of 100,000 elephants equalling U.S. \$50 million should at least take care of a big chunk of the bill.

The above should not be construed as a criticism of the Tanzania government. Indeed, if Tanzania has an elephant population in excess of 200,000 and if poaching is not a major threat, the present control figure may represent a reasonable utilisation of valuable natural resource.

J. M. Cheffings,
Nairobi.

COMMON SIGHT

Sir—I noted the letter of Mr. Paul E. Vawter, Jr. in the January issue concerning sighting dik dik feeding in the upright position on hind legs

as do the gerenuk. I made a direct answer to Mr. Vawter and thought someone else might like to have my own information on the occurrence.

I first saw the dik dik browsing like the gerenuk while standing upright, in July 1973 when a few miles below Cottar's Camp, Tsavo East, on the east side of the Athi River. It held position for about a full minute and I obtained a very good photo. That evening back at camp I was told that people had heard of the dik dik feeding in this manner but it had rarely been seen. In January this year I was at Samburu and twice saw the same thing but was unable to get a picture. So out of four rather lengthy safaris I have seen the sight three times.

W. D. Owsley,
Oklahoma.

FOR WORK-HORSE, READ ZEBRA . . .

Sir—Zebra are for all practical purposes untamable but for those who don't mind going to the trouble, and, of course, having the time it can be a novel and worthwhile project.

Time, patience, and repetition are the prime ingredients. All the trainers agree that zebras, like donkeys dislike pain and punishment. They respond to kindness and when they lose their fear will do what their trainers want them to do.

We hope more people will become interested in the wild equinez both Asian and African. Their long term survival depends upon it. Although they are more expensive and harder to train than domestic horses they are colourful and make good exhibition animals, they are also more disease resistant. Zebras definitely look better in their natural surroundings and I hope that will never change, but they can wear a harness and put their shoulders to the collar—if the worse comes to the worse.

Dick Johns,
Tarpon Springs, Florida.

BUFFALO BAFFLER

Sir—I came upon this scene in the Mara Game Reserve recently, at one of the Talek River Campsites, not far from the Mara River. There were 125 drowned buffalo, all young. Not an adult among them, but the banks showed where the rest of the herd had passed. Some hundreds of vultures were sitting silently on the banks but apart from superficial damage the carcasses were undamaged. Merely swollen and stiff. Were the vultures waiting for hyenas to open the carcasses up? Yet the hyenas must have been aware of them, from the stench and the vultures. Perhaps they do not tackle carrion in water? There were two dead young above the banks which had been eaten, perhaps dragged from the stream, or taken as the herd passed (through they were on the side after the crossing). How many more may have been swept from the scene by the waters one does not know.

R. M. Tompkins
Nairobi.



WORLDWIDE PROTECTION NEEDED

Sir—I became a life member of the East African Wild Life Society principally to support the conservation of wildlife. Such an attitude is of course not restricted towards wildlife in East Africa but to anywhere on the globe.

I regret that apart from Africa there exist only a few spots where wildlife is protected on a global scale so that its continued thriving is assured.

After my remark on the missing tigers in South-East Asia I received a number of letters assuring me of the existence of tigers at several spots. I know that many magnificent and competent people strive to preserve wildlife in these countries as well—but is there any risk of not seeing lions or even a leopard on a longer safari in Africa?

That is the point—South-east Asia would also need global reserves comparable to the Serengeti in size. In principle it may not yet be too late to create them. The idea may seem crazy in overpopulated countries, but Africa has proved that it is possible and can even be lucrative.

South-east Asia, where wildlife is equally magnificent could then collect a comparable share of tourists, not only from America and Europe where distance is a certain handicap, but even from Japan and Australia.

Jan Sturk
Stockholm.



COMMON—BUT RARELY SEEN

Sir—Ever since my uncle gave me a camera, and I joined my school photographic club, I have been trying to make an album of our country's wildlife. I have got quite a large collection already. But there are some animals I just do not seem to find such as porcupine, ardwolf, ardvark, bongo and pangolin. I would really like to see these animals. Why I write its that my uncle took me to the Serena Lodge at Amboseli where the Manager has encouraged some Honey Badgers (Ratel) to visit the Lodge each evening. Like the other animals I would like to photograph they are quite common but very rarely seen. Enclosed is my picture.

Jonas M'dugu
Nairobi.



**TANZANIA PREPARES
FOR ITS VISITORS
WHO WANT TO CLIMB**

TO THE ROOF OF AFRICA

BY D. K. JONES

IT IS SO easy to just say that Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa that the reality of the statement is concealed.

STANDING on the rim of the crater in the first hour after dawn the sight astonishes the mind. A cloud sea rolls away to the east lapping over the jagged peak of Mawenzi, itself higher than Mont Blanc but reduced almost to insignificance by the extra 2,500 feet of Kibo.

To find another peak within 2,000 feet of Kilimanjaro's snowy summit would need a journey 4,000 miles to the Himalayas and there is probably no other mountain in the world which so totally dominates the landscape around it. Seen from the plains of Amboseli or across the beautiful Momella Lakes in the Arusha Park the glistening snow dome hangs so high among the clouds as to be almost unbelievable; its majestic vision commands attention and you look again and again, until finally accepting that this must indeed be one of the great sights of the world.

After the first ascent in 1887 the volume of visitors to the mountain has been steadily increasing until now several hundred a week tramp up the moorlands hopeful of reaching Africa's crown.

Surprisingly few are mountaineers for Kilimanjaro offers only a glacier or two to serious climbers who will find more to interest them on neighbouring Mawenzi, or on Mount Kenya. But as a mountain walk Kilimanjaro is supreme, offering spacious, isolated beauty to anyone with a good pair of legs.

By 1976 there will be an enormous improvement in the facilities offered to those who wish to walk up the mountain. The old established huts have been useful, but far from ideal. Future visitors will be able to use new huts with a much higher standard of comfort.

The usual way to climb Kilimanjaro takes five days for the round trip, four nights being spent on the mountain. The Norwegian Government have generously made funds available to the Tanzania National Parks and a chain of new huts are now nearing completion.

The whole of Kilimanjaro above the upper tree limit was gazetted as National Park in 1973. The Park includes six "corridors" of forest so that samples of the original montane forest belt will be preserved. Access to the Park is through the Marangu corridor where there is a new and excellent 5 km road to the Park entrance. Here are now staff houses and three large A framed timber buildings which will house the Park Headquarters, ticket office, shop (where it is hoped to hire out climbing equipment) and later on perhaps Youth

Turn to page 13



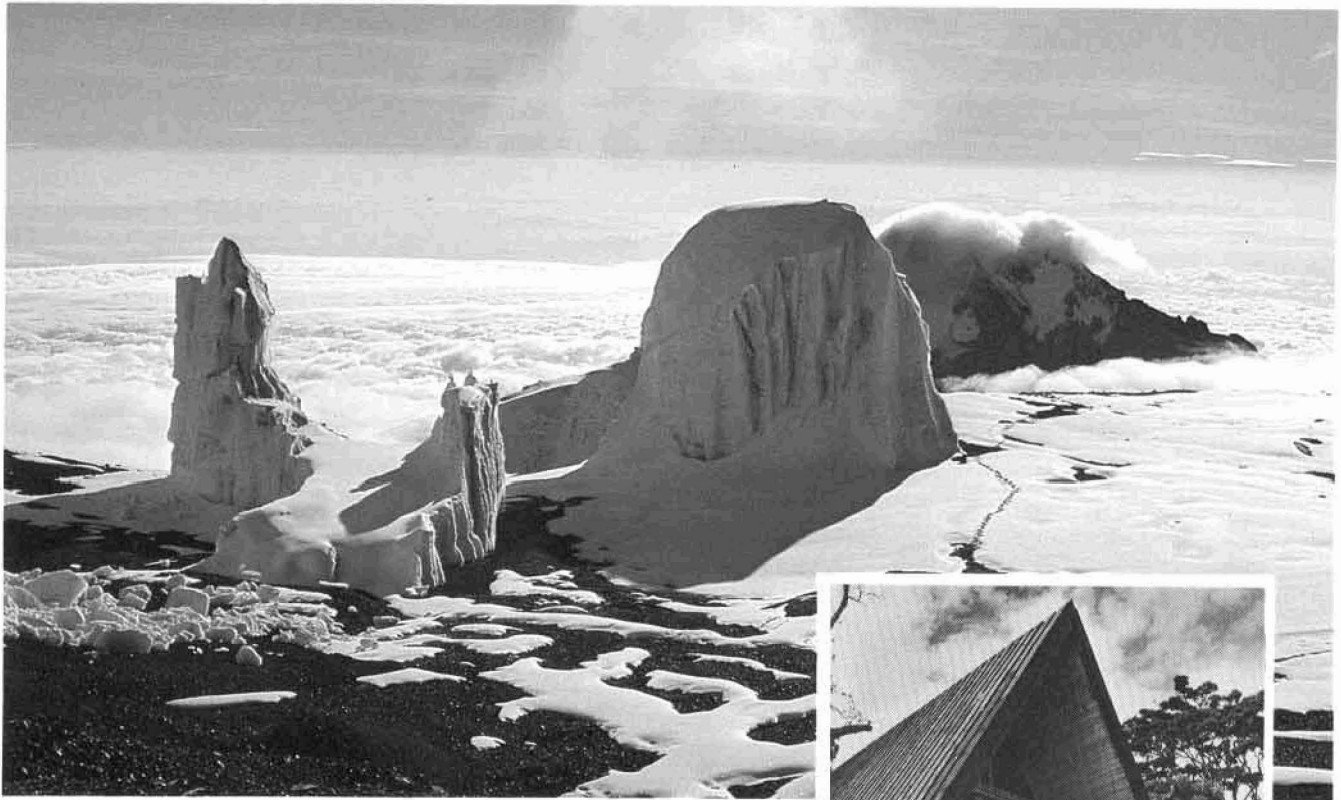
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From page 11

Hostel type accommodation. Set in the trees on the edge of the forest the uncluttered line of these new buildings makes an impressive entrance to the Mountain Park.

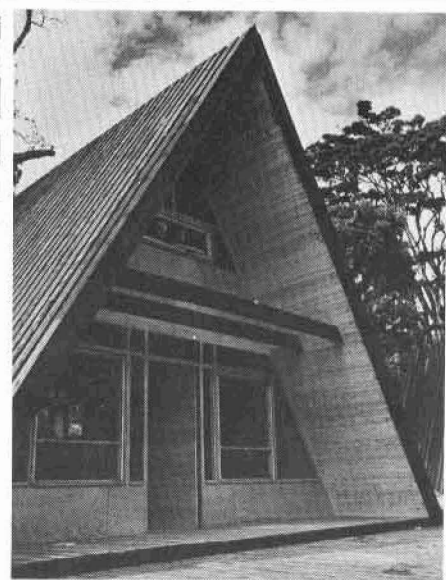
The new buildings at Mandara Hut are also completed and offer much more accommodation than the old hut. At a height of 1,750 metres, just at top edge of the forest, the new accommodation consists of a large A frame communal building with a series of outlying dormitory huts using the same basic shape. There are also toilet and shower facilities—a welcome change from the previous lack of these amenities. The new huts offer a total of 63 beds at Mandara—a big improvement for the steadily increasing numbers of visitors.

Later in 1976 similar buildings will be completed at Horombo Hut (3,720 metres) where there will be 90 beds in two communal buildings and 10 dormitory huts. These are scheduled to be completed in February and will be followed in June by five dormitory huts at Kibo which will offer 40 beds.

Training a group of Park Rangers for high altitude work is a first priority which will pose difficulties; many of the National Parks personnel are used to the very different climate of Serengeti and other low altitude parks. Indeed one problem must be that experience acquired in other Parks will be largely irrelevant on Kilimanjaro and there must be a very strong case for a team of Rangers who are trained specifically for the mountain and are not so freely transferable to other parks as is the normal practise.

Although neither climbing accidents nor pulmonary oedema are as frequent on Kilimanjaro as they are on Mount Kenya it is still desirable to have a team of Rangers competent in rescue techniques and it is probably only a matter of time until the National Parks authorities have to deal with a serious accident on Mawenzi.

At present Guides and Porters are employed by the Marangu and Kibo Hotels and by the Y.M.C.A. in Arusha who issue their own cards to the Guides and Porters they employ. This will gradually be taken over by the Parks authorities who will probably be in complete control in



**Above: The roof of Africa and an early morning view from the summit.
Inset: One of the new timber lodges at the main entrance of Kilimanjaro National Park, Marangu.**

two years time. Certainly some form of control is necessary, not only for the sake of the tourists but also for the Porters themselves. Until recently it was not uncommon for a Porter to take his own 'porter' with him—often a young boy of 12 or 13 years—who was expected to carry firewood up to 5,000 metres without protective clothing. Fortunately these young lads are no longer allowed on the mountain and the minimum age for a Porter is now 19 years.

But however good the new huts and services it is the mountain itself which will continue to attract visitors. The long trek up the moorlands with their giant Groundsels, heaths, heathers and Lobelias interspersed with myriads of flowers; the high alpine desert on the saddle; and the summit snows contain three separate worlds, each with its own kind of beauty and sharing a sweeping spaciousness not found in more complex mountain ranges.

Sadly so many of those who reach Gillman's Point on the rim of the caldera descend without trying for Uhuru Peak or the Ash Pit in the centre of the crater. It is a good plan to have a long rest on Gillman's Point before going down

Turn to page 14



Above: Lush, dank greenery of the Marangu forests on Kilimanjaro's lower slopes (inset) contrasts dramatically against the crystal glitter of summit glaciers where, reminiscent of volcanic vapours, mist swirls among icy cliffs from its now silent crater.

Left: Inside the crater a barren wasteland of scree and black lava surround the ash pit where once violent forces spewed molten rock skyward to make Kilimanjaro the highest peak in Africa.

From page 13

since it is beyond here that the mountain offers its greatest rewards. Following the rim of the crater round to the true summit of the mountain the walker moves through a fairy tale world of huge ice cliffs dropping into green melt water where clouds boil upwards, emphasising the total difference of this mountain world. Here one is at an altitude of 3 miles above the plains—only the gods and astronauts have a better view of Africa.

A visit to the central Ash Pit is worthwhile. Turn right at Gillman's Point and descend onto the crater floor. Follow the long gradient up to the Inner or Reusch Crater past incredible cathedrals of towering ice, then down a sulphur scree to a final slog up the last slope to the edge of the Pit. This is 150 metres deep and the round tube of the mountain's throat is clearly seen. Three days of foot slog, through forest across Ngata and Seree and finally a scramble over ice, while the conquerors are rewarded by the incredible views from the roof of Africa.

SHIMBA'S ANTELOPE



-AT HOME ON THEIR NEW RANGE

BY R. SEKULIC & C. LAFARGE

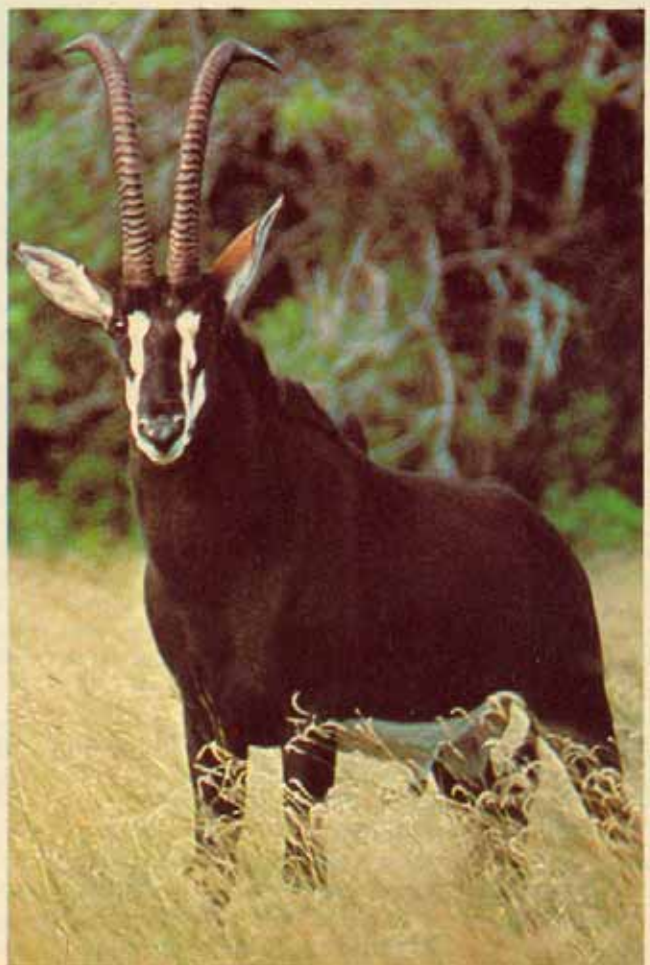
FOUR YEARS after the East African Wild Life Society translocated them to the Shimba Hills the roan and sable antelope have not only survived, but are breeding.

The eleven existing roan may be found in two herds. The larger one consists of a bull, four adult females, two two-year old females, a female calf and, until recently, a male calf which unfortunately disappeared several weeks ago.

They are generally to be found in the area around the Longo Mwangandi forest, and are often seen by visitors in the vicinity of the sable. A bull, an adult female, and a female calf make up the other group. However, this herd rarely ventures into open areas, possibly because of its small size, and is therefore seldom seen.

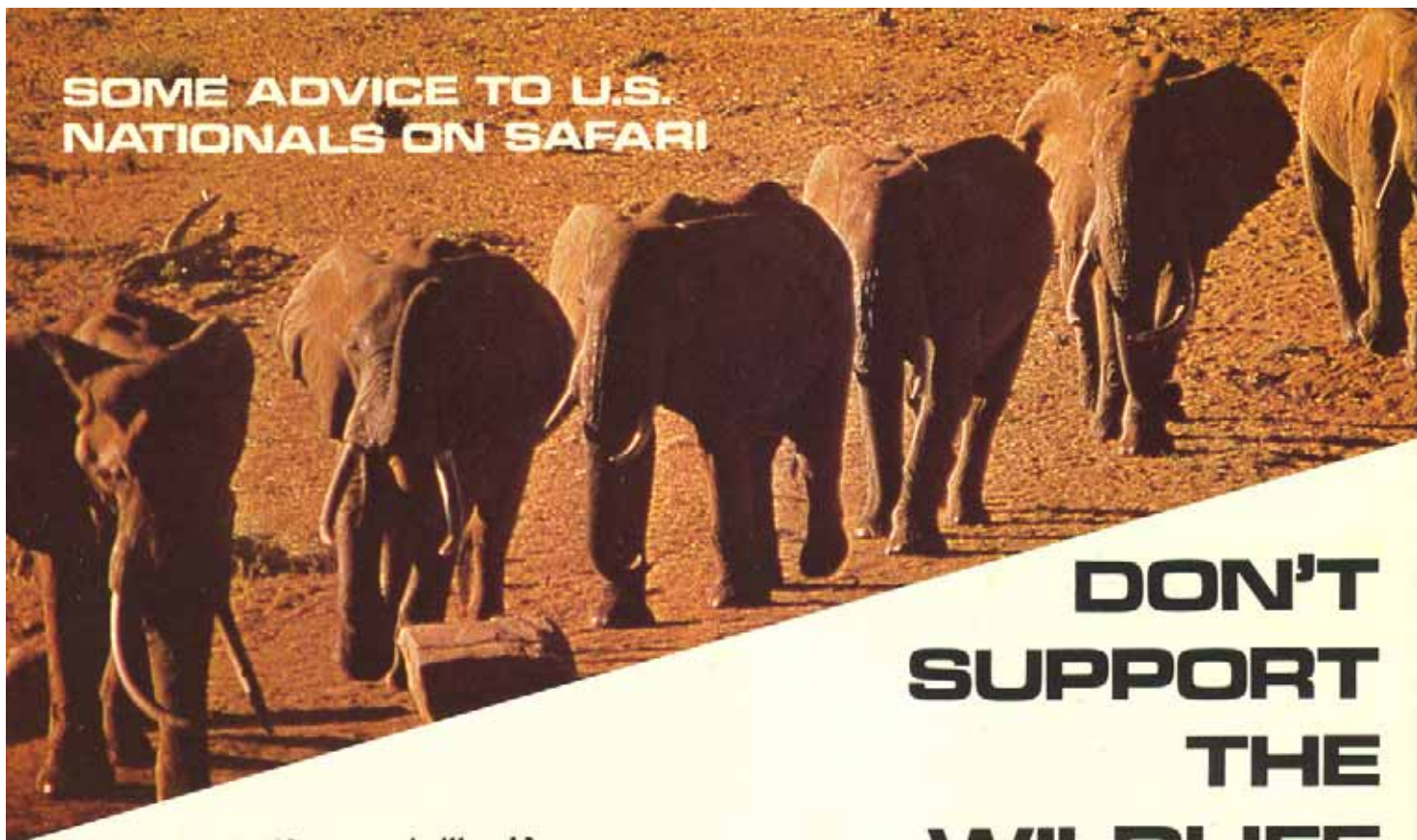
The small number of roan may seem discouraging, however, only one adult female has been lost since 1973. Although calf mortality is high, this should not be surprising. While lions are no longer present in the Shimba Hills, leopards and hyenas do occur, and leopards have been seen trying to catch sable calves. The indigenous sable have experienced a 100% increase in the past six years, despite approximately 60% calf mortality before the age of two. The roan mortality does not appear to be much higher.

The only cause for worry at present is the absence of a young male to take over. Otherwise the roan's future is hopeful—they have proven that they could survive in the Shimba Hills.



TOP: Roan in the vicinity of the Longo Mwangandi forest. ABOVE: A Sable bull.

SOME ADVICE TO U.S. NATIONALS ON SAFARI



DON'T SUPPORT THE WILDLIFE WAY OF DEATH

Is your wildlife souvenir illegal?

It may well be, according to United States Government legislation.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 became effective on December 28, 1973, but judging by the numbers of travellers' items confiscated and also convictions made under the Act, few American travellers are aware of what it implies.

AND AMERICANS by the thousands—tourists, hunters, commercial importers, and other travellers—last year learned about some important Federal laws the hard way. The tortoise shell jewellery they had bought abroad, or the hunting trophy or the crocodile wallet or the fur-covered compact they had acquired were confiscated at ports of entry when they arrived home.

Federal law makes it illegal to import into the United States any live or dead animal, its parts, or products made from it if it is one of more than 400 animals on the worldwide List of Endangered Species established by the Secretary of the Interior.

Since 1971, more than \$2 million worth of contraband wildlife has been seized by special agents of the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from thousands of Americans returning from abroad.

As part of its efforts to halt this illegal traffic and to acquaint Americans with Federal laws governing wildlife importations, the Service has published a booklet "Facts About Federal Wildlife Laws." It is available free on request from the Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Hunters find that they can obtain licenses to hunt certain animals. So they buy and they hunt, and on their return to the United States they find to their dismay that their purchase or trophy cannot be imported legally and must be confiscated.

A common argument by travellers, whose purchases of wildlife products are confiscated when they return to the United States, is that the crocodile, sea turtle, or leopard was dead long before they bought their shoes, jewellery, or fur coat. "I didn't kill the animal," they protest. "It was already dead." Yet, the fact is that every purchase of a product or curio made from an endangered animal maintains the commercial pressure on the surviving members of that species and indirectly leads to the deaths of many more at the hands of poachers and market hunters.

The fact that wildlife products are freely sold abroad, including items made from non-endangered wildlife, does not mean they can legally be brought into this country. For example, stuffed animals such as iguanas, armadillos, turtles, and birds are sold by street peddlers in many countries. But the traveller may not be aware that the conservation agency of a particular nation may actually restrict

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 prohibits the importation and exportation, and the sale, trade, or shipment in interstate and foreign commerce of endangered species, their parts, and products made from them. The Act also makes it illegal to harass, harm, capture, or kill any such species within The United States. Over 400 animals are on the Secretary of the Interior's List of Endangered Species.

Exceptions: Permits may be granted for scientific or propagational purposes, or for certain economic hardship situations involving newly listed species.

Penalties: Up to a \$20,000 fine and one-year imprisonment, as well as forfeiture of the endangered species and vehicles or equipment used in the violation.

Rewards: Individuals providing information leading to a finding of a civil or criminal violation can be awarded as much as \$2,500.

the sale or exportation of these products. Some countries have adopted export licensing systems to control or halt the commercial exploitation of their wildlife. In other nations, permits may be required to export hides, skins, or products made from locally endangered or protected wildlife.

These items are imported by three general groups: tourists, commercial importers, and criminal violators. Criminal violators have by far the greatest impact on the resource and use elaborate schemes to conceal their activities, including mislabeled shipping containers, forged export permits, bribery, and illicit financial transactions.

As the demand and commerce in protected wildlife has increased, special agents of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have intensified their investigations in this country and, in cooperation with foreign officials, in other countries. As a result, a number of significant violations have been uncovered and a staggering amount of restricted wildlife items has been confiscated. Over 1,000 investigations have been initiated as a result of illegal importations of endangered species.

More than half of the contraband seized by Federal agents comes from Africa. African animals, because of their beauty and value, are highly sought after for the wildlife products trade. However, it should also be noted that many animals sold as products in Africa are not native to that continent. Items made of kangaroo leather and tiger skin, for example, are also imported for manufacture or sale.

Endangered species products are not the only wildlife items illegally imported from Africa. The Act prohibits the importation of any wildlife—live, dead, or manufactured products—which were taken in violation of another country's

laws. This occurs quite often in Africa and South America. Animals or products which are prohibited to be exported from one country are frequently smuggled across the border to a neighboring country where their sale or export is not restricted.

As a result, we are now beginning to alert people to the plight of endangered species and the laws protecting them. If Americans stop buying these items, the market will shrink dramatically.

The aim is to relieve the pressures on wild animal populations by taking the profit out of killing endangered species around the world. Illegal traffic in wildlife products is bringing intolerable pressures on some animal species such as the cheetah, the hawksbill sea turtle, and the jaguar, among others.

There has been strong legislation enacted in recent years to protect the world's animal populations.

But most Americans are unaware of the many laws and regulations on this subject. Many well-meaning citizens travelling abroad innocently buy souvenirs which are legally purchased, but illegal to bring home.

Balanced use of the world's natural resources—whether they be oil, or coal, or wildlife—can create a better quality of life for humankind. We all recognize how energy resources affect our daily lives. What we may not fully appreciate is how wildlife, too, is a partner, though usually a silent one, in shaping our life style. For wildlife serves as an early-warning system for environmental defence. By ensuring the survival of wild creatures, we take a long step toward ensuring a livable world for ourselves.



WHAT YOU CAN'T IMPORT

Some of the most beautiful and interesting souvenirs that are for sale to travellers are made from the furs, hides, shells, feathers, teeth, and flesh of animals threatened with extinction. Although such souvenirs can be bought legally in many foreign countries, Federal law makes it illegal to import them into the United States which has pledged its support for the conservation of threatened and endangered animals worldwide.

Should you consider purchasing a wildlife product during your travels, first make sure that you can legally bring it home. And don't be fooled by the argument that the "animal is already dead so it makes no difference if you buy a product made from it." If you should purchase items made from protected animals, you, the consumer, would be adding to the demand for these products and supporting the market for which more animals will be killed.

Federal law prohibits the importation of the following: Whale shells, and "tortoise shell" jewellery made from the shells of endangered species.

Rugs, pelts, hunting trophies, and a wide variety of manufactured articles made from the skins and/or fur of several "spotted cats" such as cheetah, margay ocelot, leopard, tiger, and others. Manufactured articles include handbags, compacts, coats, wallets, and key cases.

Whale teeth decorated with carvings (scrimshaw) or made into figurines (netsuke), curios, pendants, or other jewellery.

Crocodile, alligator, and sea turtle, leather shoes, handbags, belts, wallets, luggage, and other products.



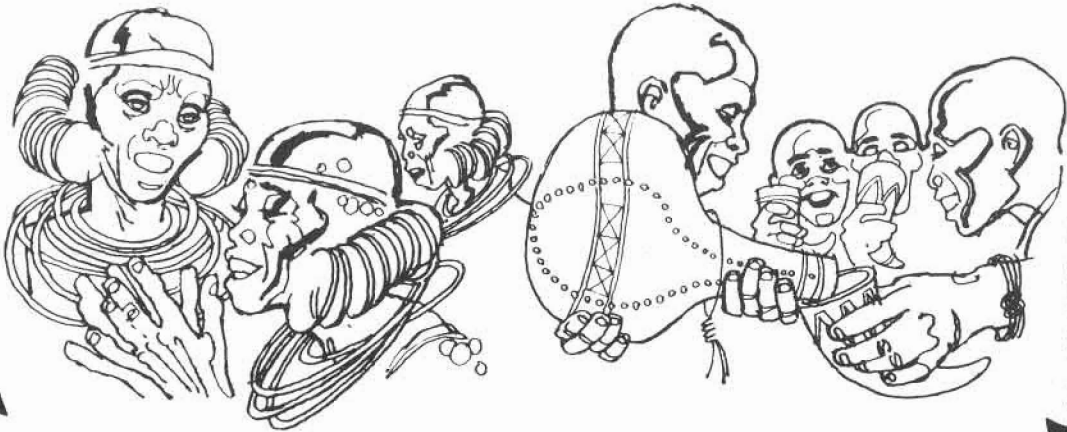
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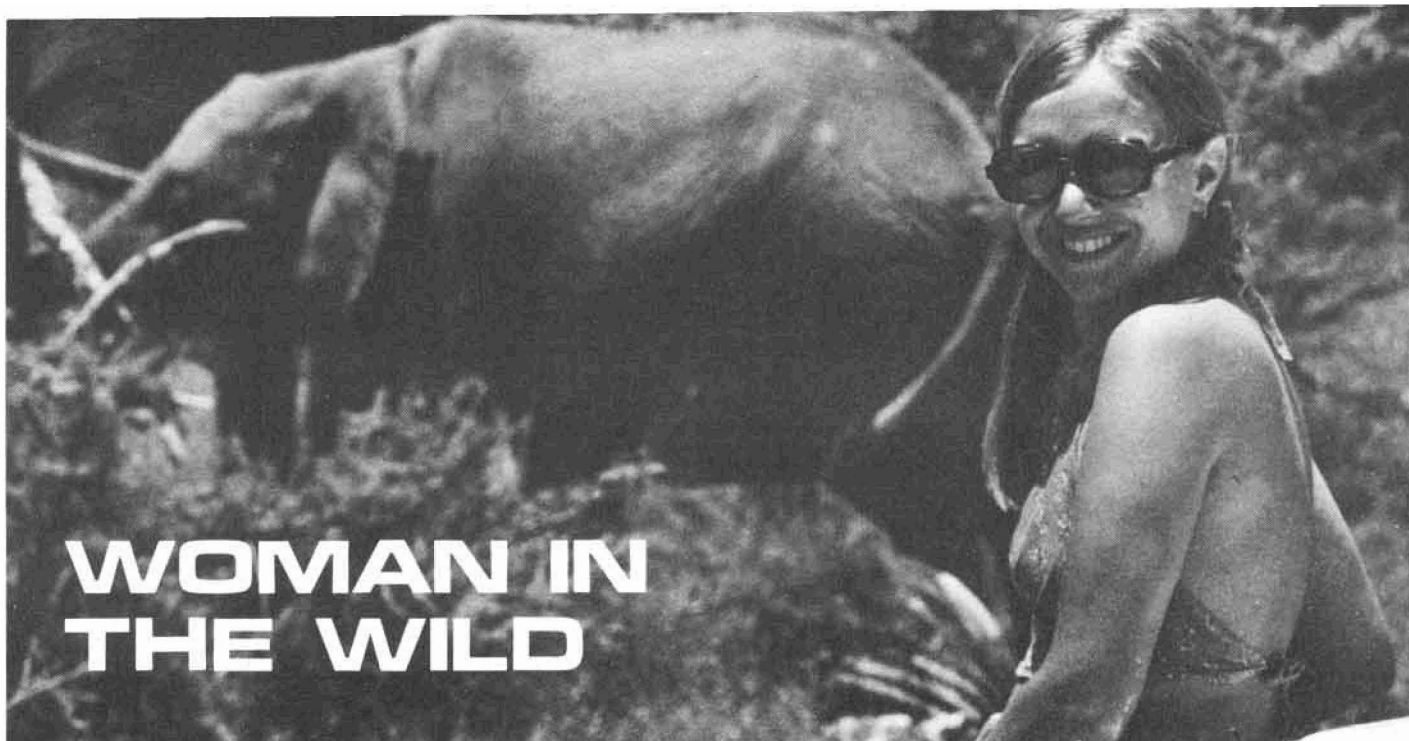


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WOMAN IN THE WILD

Picture: MARION KAPLAN

Portraits in the Wild by Cynthia Moss
published by Houghton Mifflin

A FASCINATION with elephants brought American-born Cynthia Moss to Africa eight years ago.

Elephants became the focus of her life, her vocation, her quest. She knows, individually, more than 400 elephants. And elephants were the catalyst for an enthralling new book, *Portraits in the Wild*, which skilfully summarises new scientific information on more than a dozen African animals as well as the elephants that beguile her so.

There are numerous handsomely produced books with spectacular colour photographs of East Africa's wildlife which tell little about the animals' ecology and behaviour. There have been many dry and closely scientific studies but these, often, are relegated to obscure technical journals. Cynthia Moss has deftly intertwined the two worlds in her own absorbing and impressive book.

Reporting scientific results in eminently digestible form as well as achieving total accuracy was a major challenge. "I enjoyed the research," comments Cynthia, "but the writing was agony. Every sentence has at least one fact in it."

"I fell in love with Africa immediately as so many people do," she says. During that visit Cynthia met Iain Douglas-Hamilton in the Lake Manyara National Park. He was already working on his now famous elephant study and offered Cynthia a job as research assistant. Cynthia worked for Douglas-Hamilton for nearly a year. During that time she learned to recognise most of the 450 elephants living at Manyara, the organisation of the many family units and the bonds between cow elephants and calves. She helped to produce a 'recognition file' of the old bulls—and, simultaneously, on the park's sixty-odd giraffe population.

Every chapter was approved by the scientist concerned with that particular animal study—giraffe, baboon, hyena, and all the others. Some chapters went to as many as six scientists, and the entire, completed manuscript was approved by two East African wildlife scientists.

She has worked for Sue and Tony Harthoorn, two veterinarians widely known for their wildlife work. While with them, she was asked to provide background research for a film about elephants. Her long and comprehensive

report provided the body of information for Cinema Center Films' "The African Elephant", memorably photographed by Simon Trevor.

Such close and prolonged study of elephant—and the knowledge of other animals she acquired for *Portraits in the Wild*—only confirm Cynthia in her conviction that thorough knowledge of any animal makes it much more interesting. In her book Cynthia was eager to convey that her studies concern animals being watched relatively undisturbed and accounts of how species relate to their environment and to each other.

Marion Kaplan

NEW RODENT REFERENCE

The Rodents of Uganda, M. J. Delany, MSc., DSc.
Published by the British Museum (Natural History)

BY VIRTUE of their abundance and adaptability the rodents comprise one of the most important groups of mammals in East Africa, though they are less widely known than the more spectacular large mammals. Few countries the size of Uganda have as rich and diverse a rodent fauna.

Dr. Delany's work is very largely based upon the collections of the British Museum (Natural History), and includes much hitherto unpublished information from this and other sources. It includes a comprehensive, critical but concise compilation of data on all 78 species of Uganda rodents, with keys for identification as well as data on distribution, ecology and reproduction. Plates, maps and drawings from authoritative sources much enhance the work.

Owing to its geographical location, Uganda includes an exceptional variety of species which have affinities with the fauna of both West and East Africa. This volume will therefore be useful for the identification of rodents not only in Uganda but also in adjacent territories. It is relevant to research workers and students of ecology, agriculture, medicine and veterinary science, and to amateur naturalists. It will also be a valuable reference source for taxonomists and zoogeographers.

Elaine Mwango

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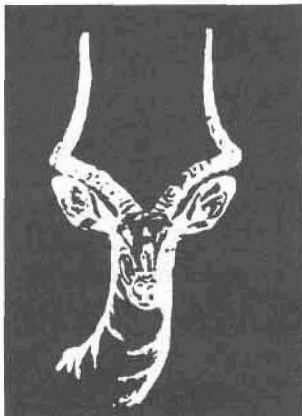
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THE SOCIETY'S NOTES

Compiled by
Ted Norris of
The East African
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PRIMARY FORESTLAND

DESTRUCTION NOW CRITICAL

By PETER L. BRITTON

THE PREVIOUSLY extensive coastal rain forests of Kenya and Tanzania have now been virtually destroyed by cultivators and developers. As a result of these depredations the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest in the Kilifi District of Kenya occupies a special place as East Africa's only surviving area of lowland forest of any appreciable size (360 sq. km, 140 sq. miles).

The importance of this area has been recognised for many years, and the Arabuko-Sokoke Crown Forest Reserve was gazetted sufficiently early so as to encompass much of the Cynometra-Manilkara forest as well as substantial areas of other forest types on sandy soils at lower elevations. As with other forests, its importance was probably gauged in terms of its contribution to the stability of its own and neighbouring environments, as well as representing one of Kenya's tangible and irreplaceable natural resources. In view of the relatively high degree of endemism exhibited by its flora and fauna many scientists and naturalists feel now that its continued survival is at least as important as that of other forests in Kenya, despite the evident rain catchment importance of the highland forests.

Alarm has been expressed at the destruction of this and other forests in

recent years, which continues unabated in many areas. Attention was specifically focused on this forest as a result of the Forestry Department replacing fine indigenous forest with plantations of exotic trees along the Mombasa-Malindi road during the past five years, especially in the vicinity of the newly created Mida Forest Station. More recently a narrow strip of indigenous forest has been left alongside the road; a policy which some concerned naturalists have interpreted as a purposeful effort to hide further plantations from public view.

A report on the status of endangered bird species, prepared by Leslie Brown and the members of the Bird Working Group of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Society, has demonstrated that the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and the isolated highland forests of the Ulugurus and Usambaras of Tanzania are the most important habitats in East Africa in terms of potential extinctions of bird species by habitat destruction. The Habitat Working Group has also given priority to this forest area and is anxious to know the extent of the replacement of indigenous forest by exotic trees. Thus the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest project arises directly from the concern and work of these groups, and is the first Society sponsored project

to do so. It has two aims: to assess the present distribution (and destruction) of the forest habitats themselves; and the quantitative estimation of the numbers and habitats of the four most threatened species of birds.

It is pleasing to be able to report that the forest reserve boundaries are respected by those villagers living nearby so that there has been no unauthorised clearing or burning (confirmed from the air). The Forestry Department continues to clear indigenous forest, but the total area involved is still very small, being only about three per cent of the forest reserve; mainly in the vicinity of the forest stations at Mida and Jilore with smaller areas at the Sokoke and Arabuko forest outposts. This planting programme may be accelerated at any time of course, so that there is no room for complacency, and it would be desirable for the Forestry Department to make its plans public. It would be far preferable to replace unproductive scrub habitats with exotic trees so as to increase the total area under forest, rather than replacing forest with inferior forest.

Selective cutting of saplings and small trees for the building industry continues throughout the forest reserve except in the small nature reserve between Mida and Jilore. The resulting lack of regeneration will have serious consequences in

the long term. The large scale cutting of *Brachylaena hutchinsti* (Muhuhu), greatly accelerated in recent years to cope with the demand for Akamba carvings, is also a serious problem.

The majority (220 sq. km) of the forest reserve is above the 60m contour on Magarini sand soils, which are extremely infertile dark red loamy sands. Rainfall is 60-100 cm per annum and supports evergreen dry forest (*Cynometra-Manilkara*) dominated by *Cynometra webberi*. There is a rainfall cline from south to north, with a sharp transition from rich forest over 15m in height to impoverished thicket, 4m or lower.

Below the 60m contour soils are whitish infertile sands. Areas with rainfall over 100 cm p.a. support lowland rain forest (*Sterculia-Chlorophora/Memecylon*). The small area (20 sq. km) remaining under this habitat is close to Mida Forest Station in the south-east and continues to be systematically destroyed. Areas receiving lower rain fall (60-100 cm p.a.) are occupied by lowland woodland (70 sq. km) and forest (50 sq. km). Open, park-like *Brachystegia spiciformis* woodland, with trees up to 18 m high, occupies loose, buff-white, medium to coarse sands; whereas more compact, grey-buff, and probably saline soils are dominated by *Isoberlinia (Julbernardia) magnistipulata*, forming low forest and thicket, mainly lower than 12 m.

Thus the Arabiko-Sokoke Forest comprises a number of distinct forest habitats, of a diversity seldom encountered in such a small area. It is desirable that a substantial part of the present forest reserve be afforded some permanent protected status, and that all types of habitat be included. It is also important to know which of these habitats is essential for the survival of each of the endangered bird species, for such forest birds are known to be notoriously unadaptable in response to habitat changes.

Throughout the forest reserve the bird communities are very specialized and not at all diverse. For example in four days of intensive activity in each habitat are recorded only (24 passerines) in *Cynometra-Manilkara* forest and 42 species (25 passerines) in *Isoberlinia* forest. The totals are remarkably consistent, as are capture rates per net hour, but the species composition is significantly different in the two habitats. Though comparatively few species are to be encountered in the Arabiko-Sokoke Forest, a number of them are very interesting, being local, specialized and little known. The four

most threatened species are the Sokoke Scops Owl *Otus ireneae*, Sokoke Pipit *Anthus sokokensis*, Clarke's Weaver *Ploceus golandi* and Amani Sunbird *Anthrepters pallidigaster*.

The Sokoke Scops Owl occurs in all but the most impoverished *Cynometra-Manilkara* forest but does not occur elsewhere. The total population within the forest reserve is 1300-1500 pairs. It has been possible to estimate the population of this hardly known species by plotting calling birds in a number of study areas; and by gathering data on calling birds, both positive and negative, in the forest generally. This has involved a great deal of exploratory work and mapping of forest tracks in daylight, as well as the gathering of data at night.

There has been little time to date to study the diurnal species adequately and I am not yet in a position to estimate populations of these species. Clarke's Weaver wanders a great deal, often in flocks, but I have failed to find it nesting and it remains a mystery. It is catholic in its choice of habitat. The Sokoke Pipit is an elusive species which occurs in all habitats apart from the most impoverished *Cynometra-Manilkara* forest and the most open *Brachystegia* woodland, both habitats being low rainfall areas in the north-west. I have not attempted to estimate its density and numbers. The Amani Sunbird is confined to *Brachystegia* woodland though it is probably absent from the most open type in the north-west. This should not prove a difficult species to census over the next year since it occurs in open, easily worked country.

SOCIETY APPRECIATION TO OUTGOING TRUSTEE

Professor D. S. Kettle, has tendered his resignation to act as a Trustee of the Society but still remains a Life Member.

We are extremely grateful to Prof. Kettle for all he has done for the Society over the long association he has had with it. The only reason he has made this decision is due to the fact that distance prevents him from carrying out his role effectively.

CHEETAH RESEARCH: PROGRESS REPORT

FIELDWORK is progressing well with the aid of a new Toyota Land Cruiser provided by the East African Wildlife Society.

The cheetah recognition file now contains data on 90 individuals, compared to 25 when we began a year ago. The known life histories of two cheetahs cover more than eight years, or four generations. And for several others, life history data cover six to seven years. The file is still growing steadily, indicating that far more cheetahs use the Seronera area than anyone had suspected.

Male cheetahs born and raised around the Seronera River area appear to disperse. All the females raised in six litters have been seen regularly since leaving their mother, but none of the males have been seen after attaining adulthood. However, there are other mature males which we do see regularly, which leads us to believe that males are not in general more secretive than females, and if those young males were in the area we would see them. In one litter two young males, who have not been seen near Seronera since 1971 when they separated from their mother, were sighted on the short grass plains at the Gol Kopjes (about 40 kilometres southeast of Seronera) this past rainy season.

In September a cheetah which we know as Malaika had three cubs at the Maasai Kopjes, along the Seronera River. She chose to have the cubs in an area of abundant gazelles. During their first two weeks of life the cubs were moved several times, covering an area of roughly one square kilometre. The mother was able to find sufficient prey for herself without leaving an area of about 10 square kilometres.

We are continually refining our criteria for estimating the age of wild cheetahs in the field. With the aid of photographs and written descriptions of known-age cheetahs, we will soon be able to fairly accurately estimate the ages of litters and even adults. This is an important step in studying the dynamics of the population.

Cheetah cub mortality appears to be about 65-70 percent, most of this occurring during the first three months of life. Entire litters tend to be lost; this is particularly true with inexperienced mothers. The main causes of cub mortality may be predation and exposure.

Data collected during the past year are now being analyzed. These include movements, spacing, marking, activities, survival in each age class, and probable causes of mortality.

A pack of eight wild dogs, the Seronera Pack, was observed at a den in July. There were three pups, about four weeks old, when we found them. Their den was in the grasslands, about 10 kilometres southeast of the Seronera River. Because conditions were dry and prey scarce, the dogs had to travel a round trip of about 20 to 30 kilometres each day to hunt. Some days the mother stayed with the pups at the den, but the returning dogs did not seem to feed her adequately. On other days she accompanied the pack, and left the pups alone in the den. Her milk seemed to be drying up, and the pups looked undernourished. Very suddenly the pack disappeared from the area altogether, and in September they were seen again, minus the pups, which had apparently died.

The Southeast Pack, in which we have two operating radio-collars, was relocated several times on the short grass plains within four miles of each side of Naabi Hill. The radio-collars are on each of two subgroups within the pack: One group consists of three mature males and four subadults from the former Genghis Pack, and the other group consists of three young adult females which emigrated from the Semetu Pack last year and joined these males.

The Olobaiye Pack, which had 12 pups born in December 1974, had only 9 pups left by the end of April, and 7 by the end of May. Also by May the breeding female and one of the adult males had disappeared.

From our limited data a pattern is emerging in which one or several young adult females, probably siblings, leave the pack of their birth and join a new pack of adult males. Sometimes the pack of males includes large pups, but in none of five instances was there an adult female in the pack at the time. Very soon one of these new females produces pups. Then within one or two years, the siblings of this female begin leaving the pack until only one breeding female remains.

We wish to discover the direct causes of female emigration from packs, and are especially interested in the fate of the females which leave. Also we hope to discover whether new pack members have a significant effect on the range of the pack.

George W. Frame
Lory Herbison Frame



The Society has made a Toyota land cruiser available for the use of Mr. and Mrs. Frame in their study of cheetah and wild dog in the Serengeti National Park.

Dr. Tumaini Mcharo, Director of the Serengeti Research Institute, is handing over the Keys to George Frame while Lory Herbison Frame looks on.

The antenna attached to the front of the vehicle is a 3-element "yagi antenna" for radio tracking hunting dogs and cheetah. George Frame informs us this vehicle has made a tremendous difference in their ability to accomplish fieldwork.

THE SOCIETY'S AIRCRAFT

THE FLYING hours for the last three months showed a fairly substantial increase over the first two quarters of the year—particularly during August and September when the monthly average was just over 75 hours. The total for the period was 188 hours 20 minutes.

The July total was much less than the other two months at under 40 hours, but this was mainly due to the aircraft being out of service for two weeks during the month undergoing its annual C of A renewal. As expected no problems arose at this renewal. Much of the flying in July was away from Tsavo—a final Turtle Survey was carried out with Dr. Jack Fraizer, mainly concentrating on the north coast although fuel supply arrangements fell through which prevented any flying north of Manda Island.

More flying was done with Simon Trevor in July in connection with his film on the Forests of East Africa. This time filming was carried out over the Mau, Kakamega, and North Nandi forests.

In August another Flamingo Survey was flown with Chris Tuite, this time the whole study area from the northern Tanzania Lakes to Lake Turkana was covered in one safari and occupied just over 40 flying hours. The rest of the

August flying was mainly of a routine nature for the T.R.P. with some assistance to the Park Warden, mostly anti-poaching.

More anti-poaching assistance was also given during the month, made more necessary by the fact that the Warden's aircraft was out of action from mid-month on a Check III. Two short trips were made to the Coast in September—one to Shimba Hills with Dr. Leuthold where opportunity was also taken to fly Miss Ranka Seculic on a sable count. The other coast flight was to Kilifi, where Mr. Peter Britton, who is doing a bird study in the area, was flown over the Sokoke Forest to get an up to date idea of the overall extent of the forest and recent changes which have taken place, all of which can be seen quickly and easily from the air.

The aircraft continued to perform satisfactorily during the quarter with no more than the odd minor snag. The Check III mentioned in the last report is now due in about 70 hours time—which can be expected to be in early, or mid-November. This check, which is required every three years, or 1,600 hours, whichever comes first is likely to take 3—4 weeks to complete. The last Check III, which included a fabric renewal (not needed this time) was completed in late June 1973.

SCHOOL CHILDREN CHALLENGE THE PEAKS



Local African and overseas school children participating in a venture course, rewarded after several arduous days of climbing, stand on Point Lenana, Mt. Kenya.

THE MAN WHO LOVES GIANTS

An Artist Among Elephants and Engines David Shepherd's Life Story

David Shepherd is regarded by many as being the world's leading wildlife artist. Paintings such as 'Wise Old Elephant' and 'Elephants at Amboseli' have made him internationally famous.

44 years of age could be said to be too young to write an autobiography, but not in David Shepherd's case, for he has packed more action into this period and experienced more exciting adventures than most people achieve in a lifetime.

He began his career as an aviation artist and since then has painted all over the world—from blast furnaces to 'Christ' for an army church, from royalty to tigers, from landscapes to painting for the services. His passion for wildlife has led him to raise large sums of money for conservation by the sale of his paintings. Every painting David does is sold before he starts it; all his one-man shows, whether in New York London or Johannesburg, have a queue of buyers who draw lots for the paintings.

For his hobby, David again thinks big. He owns a collection of mammoth steam locomotives in working order at Cramnore in Somerset, and naturally these are subjects for his paintbrush. The book not only relates David Shepherd's exciting life to date but also includes many of his paintings and sketches.

10 colour plates, 47 black & white plates, 32 sketches.
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Young Kenya school children, aged between ten and seventeen years, have taken part in a Mountain craft and Wildlife Venture. During the ten-day course the children learn bushcraft, survival and mountaineering techniques in a backwoodsman style that is fast becoming a forgotten knowledge.

The enterprise sets out to enable children to actually get to grips with the country. Not only they get out into the open, but learn and study some aspect in which they are particularly interested; in forest lore, wildlife conservation, insect and plants study, painting, canoeing and fishing.

The 'Venture' places the children in an environment of an outdoor classroom yet emphasises self-reliance of the outdoor. One of the maxims held by the instructor is healthy and vigorous exercise.

Vigorous exercise is actually unavoidable since the course takes the children to Point Lenana at 16,355ft., the third highest peak of Mt. Kenya. Although of an extremely high altitude, point Lenana presents no technical difficulties, but requires only stamina and considerable effort. To date the 'Venture' has run three courses, attended by fifty children of ages ranging between ten and seventeen years. The Banda School and St. Mary's School, Nairobi provided the majority of participants while some overseas children made up the remainder. Of those who scaled Point Lenana, more than half were under thirteen years, the youngest only ten years of age.

During one course the children were beleagued by bad weather, with snow and hail falling daily. Two inches of snow fell in the Liki North Valley at 13,100ft. a welcome sight to children, but a headache to the organisation. Due to these freak conditions, the group was delayed by two days.

The course towards the end of August had the advantage of good weather throughout, and all but three of the party made the peak early in the morning. The climb is arduous, for not only do the children walk long distances uphill, but they also carry their personal equipment in a rucksack. Eight to ten kilos is a heavy weight to bear for five hours! Porters carry the heavy food supplies and tentage from the mountain camp to

the advance camp by Shipton's Cave in Mackinders Valley. The site used is the original site chosen by Sir Halford MacKinder in his historic climb in 1893.

As mentioned the prime object of the 'Venture', is not to scale rocky mountains, but rather to initiate children into a discovery of the outdoor, of stalking and studying game, pressing wild flowers, identifying animal tracks and learning the sounds of an African night. In addition to the field study, the children are taught to camp, cook and fend for themselves in a backwoods style. In all available and unique educational experiment to augment the school curriculum and broaden the range of contact between both local and overseas children.

NEW SOCIETY

LIFE MEMBERS

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

We have great pleasure in welcoming the new life members to the Society:—

DONOR LIFE MEMBERS

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Mrs. E. S. Mason
Mrs. W. F. Campbell.

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E. Warren
Dr. W. R. West.

APOLOGY

THE EDITOR wishes to offer sincere apologies to Mrs. Hanka Kawecka-Lee to whom an article in the October issue of "Africana" was incorrectly ascribed. A similar apology is due to Mr. Wes Henry Jnr. who was not by-lined for the same article. This was entitled "Time Now to Consider Protecting the Parks from People", and it was illustrated by pictures provided by Mrs. Lee for an article entitled "Some Aspects of Human Pressures on Kenya's Wildlife." This article will appear in the March edition of the magazine.

TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS REPORT

Routine work on anti-poaching by Park Rangers was carried out as usual. This period witnessed heavy poaching.

Goats and a herd of cattle were caught grazing in Arusha Park. At the same time five dogs which had killed a Bushbuck were shot by Rangers inside the park.

Roads in Mikumi were damaged by rains during April, and due to shortage of funds they were not maintained very well. From this concept most of the patrols were done on foot.

In Mke Mgunba area the Rangers managed to recover twelve snares. They also removed tusks from two elephants found dead in Mgodia Juu and Mandeva respectively.

There was a problem with the Barbaigk tribe in Tarangire in that, they refused to settle in planned villages, and resorted to taking cover in the park. These people first established their settlement around Mkungunero area which is within the park. They were warned and given time to vacate the area by the Park Authority. In another incident four Barbaigk were caught grazing their cattle in the park. Having been sent to court they were found guilty and each was ordered to pay two hundred shillings fine.

In May a herd of nine cattle and forty two goats were caught while grazing in Arusha and the person concerned was sent to court. At the same time two Rangers were sent to court after beating one person who was grazing his cattle in the park. Each was fined four hundred and ten shillings.

The report from Ruaha said that poachers killed four Elephants and took their tusks near Jongomero. In Mkwabi area poachers killed a Giraffe and a Buffalo. From this worsening condition, more Rangers were reinforcing these areas.

There was no sign of poaching in Manyara during May but during the same period one person was caught cutting trees around Mwangongo in

Gombe National Park. He was fined a hundred shillings.

In Tarangire, one Barbaigk was caught grazing a herd of about 1,000 cattle at Chubi within the park. Furthermore, seven huts of the Barbaigk people were discovered round this area. There was an alarming amount of poaching in June especially in Mikumi.

Fishing has always been a problem in Kitavi. People residing around this park have had been told to refrain from this practice as it was threatening wildlife. Many people resorted to this activity because it was the other alternative of obtaining protein for themselves. Two people were caught and sent to court for prosecution.

Mikumi was badly hit by poaching during this period. It was a pity to note that many poachers used different types of traps including snares. Indeed people have had to be educated on this menace. For instance a giraffe was entangled with a snare around its neck in Mhukwa area. Pulling a heavy log, the giraffe's neck had a deep wound penetrating as far down as the vertebra. The animal was finished by a rifle shot.

In Mwenambande there was what could be called organized poaching. Small units got together to make larger ones. They believed that by getting into the park in big gangs, chances of being arrested were small. They could be right. Moreover poachers were using very dangerous weapons.

In Mikumi in another area called Mgodia it was reported that poaching was heavy. Rangers confronted about fifteen armed poachers. All of them escaped.

More poaching was reported in Kifupi. Animals of different species were killed and the meat sun dried. It was in this area where six traps were recovered and and forty-two poachers confronted. Only one person out of this gang was arrested.

MERRY XMAS

We wish all our members very happy New Year and to those American members, we also say a happy Bicentenary.

We would like to thank every one who have supported the Society either by membership or donations, please continue with your help. We will do our share here in East Africa.

May we remind members that subscriptions for 1976 are due on 1st January. Reminder notices have been sent out.

NEW FINDINGS AT BAT CONFERENCE

BAT-WATCHERS who believe that this bogey-tale mammal has something to teach the world would have been interested in a conference which took place recently at Nairobi's Safari Park Hotel.

It was the Fourth International Bat Research Conference, sponsored jointly by Kenyatta University College and the East African Academy, and it attracted researchers from Japan westward across the world to the United States.

The functioning of the bat's echolocate system is obviously one of the wonders of sound and the faculty came in for much extremely technical but absorbing discussion at this informative conference. Especially so because studies on bat sonar are now being aided by portable radar, purpose-developed in Britain and the USA.

Early in the four-day meeting, Dr. Patricia Elaine Brown, of UCLA, defined the four main types of sound emission detected during her study of the Pallid Bat, *Antrozous pallidus*. They were, she said, "directives, squabble notes, irritation buzzes and orientation pulses". The only sound emitted by newborn of the species, she found, was an "isolation call" which changes in quality until, by the 20th day of life, the Pallid Bat's complaint on loneliness resembles the adult "directive" call. At birth, young bats which Dr. Brown studied showed no "behavioral or neuro-physiological responses" to sound; but, she reported, at 24 days the sensitivity and frequency range of this fast-maturing mammal resembled that of the adult.

It was on RF binaural reception, pinnae and ear movements that Russian scientists I.A. Gorlinsky and A.I. Konstantinov had concentrated their studies. At Leningrad University, they had used high-speed filming to watch the synchronisation of ear movements as the mammal detected ultrasound. It appeared to them that RF is able to analyse inter-aurally any differences in constant-frequency sound.

Professor Konstantinov, working with two other Russian scientists, described how they had recorded location signals when RF bats were flying or rolling. The emitted signal was individual—almost as characteristic as the human voice, they seemed to be saying—and, they said, before a fight started, a middle constant-frequency of between 80 and 82.2 kHz was usual.



Ornithologist Mr. John Williams pictured at the conference.



The Society's Gift Shop and Art Gallery in the Nairobi Hilton.



There's a wealth of choice items on sale in the Society's Gift Shop and Art Gallery.

Everything from jewellery for the most sophisticated taste to the popular key rings, ties and decals; carvings, batiks and artifacts; prints paintings and sculptures by leading national and international artists; wildlife books, journals and magazines; Christmas cards, calendars and diaries are offered at reasonable prices.

Original paintings and reproductions by David Shepherd, Guy Coheleach, Ralph Thompson, Talbot Kelly, Iris Darnton, Joy Adamson, Rena Fennessy, and Bob Kuhn and others.

Annual Subscriptions

Corporate;	K Shs 1,000/-	US\$ 143.00	£ 60
Supporting;	K Shs 200/-	US\$ 29.00	£ 12.20
Contributing;	K Shs 100/-	US\$ 15.00	£ 6.10
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Life Membership Fees

Donor;	K. Shs 2,000/-	US\$ 285.00	£ 121.25
Regular;	K. Shs 500/-	US\$ 72.00	£ 30.30

(Membership year begins on Jan. 1st. & ends Dec. 31st.)

As a member of the Society, you will receive a year's subscription to *AFRICANA*, the quarterly wildlife magazine of East Africa. And for those who are interested in gifts of every description which have an East African wildlife theme, a 32 page colour brochure is available for only \$ 1.00. They are also on sale from our gift shop and gallery in the Nairobi Hilton Hotel.



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WORLD WILDLIFE FUND—KENYA

Notes compiled by Ellis Monks

EIGHTY-TWO AIRLINES SUPPORT W.W.F CONSERVATION RESOLUTION

THROUGHOUT the world a campaign has been launched by the World Wildlife Fund to save the tropical rain forests. Many countries are participating where no rain forests exist and the likelihood of the donors even seeing a rain forest is remote.

Here in Kenya a film has been made by Simon Trevor "Africa—Forest or Desert" on the rain forests of East Africa depicting their value and the extent to which they are being plundered. The film will shortly be available for viewing.

Time is fast running out as more and more of our forestland is being destroyed either for charcoal or for agricultural development. While there is no wish to prohibit the making of charcoal or indeed its export, it is essential that as with ivory and other game trophies the production should be properly controlled and managed. The indiscriminate cutting down of trees as with the indiscriminate slaughter of animals will surely spell disaster for Kenya. Fast growing wattle plantations planted specifically for charcoal can provide a lucrative business in both wattle and charcoal.

The World Wildlife Fund Conservation Resolution calling on airlines to support nature conservation has met with favourable response and the number of participating airlines now numbers 82 and includes East African Airways.

The original resolution called upon airlines to abjure the promotion of hunting of endangered species and to accept a commitment for the conservation of nature. The board also requested airlines to agree not to transport wildlife or wildlife products as freight in contravention of national bans or the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered species which came into force on July 1st last. Kenya has not as yet ratified the convention although agreeing to its establishment.

It was announced on the 24th October that the recipients of the WWF Gold Medal for 1975 were Mr. Michel Anna, Director of National Parks and Wildlife Reserves in Chad, in recognition of his lifelong dedication to the fauna of Africa and his contribution to the establishment of a network of parks in the Republic of Chad.

Members of Honour of the Fund were named: Dr. Enrique Beltran of Mexico, in recognition of his life work for the promotion of biological sciences and conservation in Latin America. Dr. Rocco Knobel of South Africa, in recognition of his devoted services to conservation as Director of the National Parks of South Africa for 25 years.

Sir Landsborough Thomas of the U.K. for his outstanding contributions to ornithology and the study of bird migration.

Three leading conservationists who died earlier in the year were added to the **International Conservation Roll of Honour**.

Professor Jean G. Baer of Switzerland, during the course of his distinguished career was acting President of WWF during its formation in 1961/2, Rt. Hon. Lord Hurcomb of United Kingdom, and Sir Julian Huxley also from U.K.

Michael Murphy, a 22-year old draughtsman from Hertfordshire England set out on a sponsored bicycle ride around the world on August 21st. His route will take him through forty-one countries before returning to U.K. in August 1977. Michael is asking for sponsorship at the rate of one shilling per thousand miles covered—he hopes to cover 37,578 miles, anyone sponsoring the complete journey would donate S£1.88 to the World Wildlife Fund.

His route brings him to Tanzania on the 16th March 1977 and Kenya on the 28th March 1977.

Sponsorship donations should be sent to:—

World Wildlife Fund	World Wildlife Fund, Kenya
29 Greville St	Box 40075
London	Nairobi
EC1N 8AX	

TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO WILDLIFE

FIRST prize winner of WCK's 1975 Annual Essay Competition was Hussein Adan Isack, a student at Kangaru Secondary School near Embu. The essay topic was "How Tribal Customs Have Helped to Conserve Wild Animals and Habitats in My Area".

Neither Hussein, pictured below receiving his prize, nor other entrants, implied that people in the past consciously went out of their way to conserve wildlife; but rather that many of their customs indirectly spared many species and habitats from destruction.

Tribal warfare, for example, figured in conservation, according to this paragraph from Hussein's winning essay:—"From time immemorial, there have been tribal wars and clashes between many African tribes, including the Boran. Such wars were waged to raid and take home the enemy's cattle. In the olden days, and in fact sometimes today, bringing home other tribes' cattle after a raid is considered a big achievement for any young man. Every young man yearns for such achievement to gain tribal distinction. A good example is the Boran and Samburu tribes. The boundary between these two passes half-way between Isiolo and Merti towns. Each tribe has retreated from the border by as much as eighty kilometres. As a result, there is a stretch of shrubland over 160 kilometres wide, devoid of human settlement, separating the two tribes. Travelling from Isiolo to Merti, it is common to see herds of elephants, giraffes, lion, zebra, oryx, impala, and many other kinds of mammals and birds. The animals in this vast land live safely, increasing in population from year to year. This has resulted in the establishment of Shamba-Merti Game Reserve in this area in 1974."





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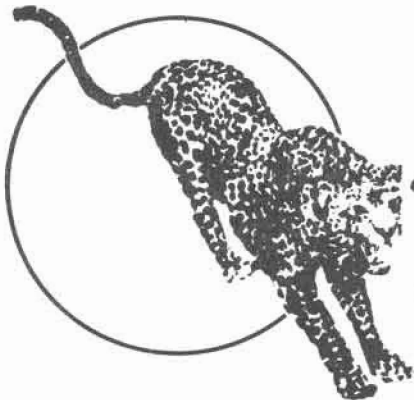
The restaurant is under the personal direction of master chef Marino Lavarini, whose repertoire of Italian and international dishes made him famous among tourists at Lavarini's - his former restaurant.

Make Marino's your rendezvous for good food and wine - because Marino makes every meal a special occasion.

*Let's meet at
MARINO'S!*



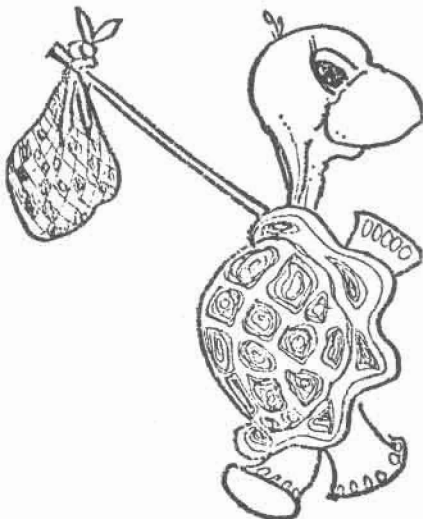
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Photo: C. P. SPINAGE

INSIDE THE MILK RUN

by CHRIS MARSHALL

MANY visitors to East Africa take the classic game park safari which runs from Nairobi to Masai Mara, Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Lake Manyara, Arusha, Amboseli and back to Nairobi, and is familiarly known in the local travel trade as the "milk-run". Here Chris Marshall describes a variation of the route which took him well off the normal tourist track.

I must admit that at Engaruka I thought we had perhaps been a little too unconventional. All we had wanted to do was look at the ruined stone village on the nearby hillside, but a zealous local official was not convinced of our bona fides. Surely there was some sinister motive behind our wish to drive on from there to Ol Doiyo Lengai. Besides, why did our passports contain no Tanzanian entry stamps? The idea of the trip had germinated as a way of seeing if it was possible to join up several "dead-end" journeys I had made in the past—down to the Loita Hills; to the intermittently active volcano Ol Doiyo Lengai, and an abortive attempt to reach Loliondo via the Serengeti Plain from Olduvai Gorge—exploring new country en route.

The first stage of the journey held no surprises, as we travelled from Nairobi on the familiar route down the Rift Valley escarpment, past Suswa and on up to Narok—though

there was more than usual excitement and activity there, as a Masai "Ennoto" initiation ceremony had taken place nearby only a day or so before. But, at Ewaso Nyiro, we left "milk-run", which goes on to Masai Mara Game Reserve, and turned through gazelle-dotted plains towards the Loita Hills. Rising a gentle 2,000 feet or so from the surrounding countryside, the hills have no spectacular peaks, but the whole area, virtually uninhabited, has a beautifully peaceful atmosphere, especially when the hill slopes are green after rain. After the little settlement of Moriyo the road deteriorated noticeably, and between there and Loliondo was little more than a rough track, often overgrown, and clearly little used, despite having once been the major route between Kenya and Tanzania in the area.

Climbing up Olosha Hill we passed the faded border signs announcing our arrival in Tanzania, admired the extensive views over to Lake Natron and beyond, and were soon winding down to Loliondo. Almost an oasis in the dry season, this isolated little town can be completely cut off from the rest of the country during the rains. The surrounding carefully irrigated plots showed the need for self-sufficiency, while the cattle carcasses near the water trough were a grim reminder of the barrenness of the land around.

After a cursory search of our vehicle, the local police,

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surprised to have visitors but clearly glad of a break from routine, wished us well but regretted (as we were to later) that they were not authorised to stamp our papers, and we continued out on to the fringes of the Serengeti Plains. As it was the dry season there was not a great deal of game in the area, but we saw enough hyenas, jackals and gazelle to remind us we were near one of the world's great game parks, and, camping that night under a rocky 'kopje', wondered how many tourists had ever set foot there before.

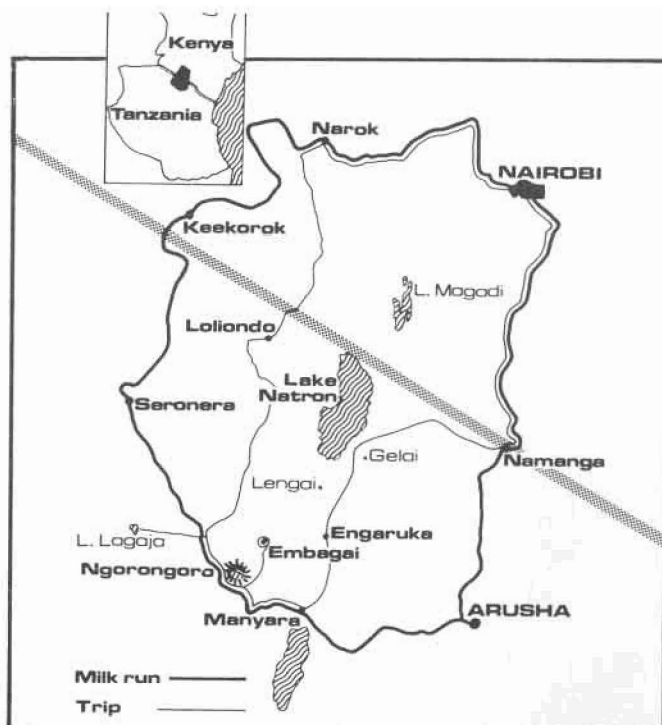
The track wound on over the plains, sometimes branching, often hidden in the knee-high grass, but we knew we must eventually meet the Serengeti-Ngorongoro road somewhere as long as we kept heading south. After 50 miles or so of this 'dead-reckoning' we emerged on the main route again near lake Lagaja. Although we saw none of the wild dogs for which the area is famous, a detour to the lake proved well worthwhile.

From here we travelled on past Olduvai Gorge up the steep track to the rim of Ngorongoro Crater. A change in regulations since my last visit meant we could not take our own Land-rover into the crater, and we ran into some petty officialdom when we tried to share the hire of one. So we decided instead to see if we could reach Embagai Crater at the north-east end of the Crater Highlands massif. And were delighted to find that a well-maintained road led not only to the crater rim, but also right round it (and had clearly been in existence for several years, despite reports we had heard of its being unfinished or under construction). The normal route starts by crossing Ngorongoro Crater floor and climbing up the Munge track, but we had to join it by taking the rather rough Lemula track round Ngorongoro's east rim, not being allowed into the crater. (We were perhaps not allowed elsewhere, but after one disappointment thought it simpler not to ask!) From the forest round the crater the road soon passes on to the bleak, cold and windy plateau which is home for many hundreds of Masai and last-resort grazing land for thousands more. There are no thorn-bushes here, and the cattle 'bomas' constructed of split wood look like Wild West stockades, quite different from their lower-altitude equivalents.

The road skirts Olmoti Crater and the huge saucerlike Embulbul Depression, overshadowed by the 12,000 ft. peak of Loomalsion, before starting to zig-zag up to the rim of Embagai. We admired the Masais' hardiness as we found 'bomas' still apparently in use at nearly 10,000 ft., but, at the rim—disappointment at first, as mist and cloud completely obscured the interior of the crater. But as we waited in the biting wind there was a lull, revealing the crater lake 3,000 ft. below, emerald with algae and sparkling in the sun—compensation enough for our brief discomfort. And encouragement to continue round the rim—just as well for the driver of the broken down Land-Rover we found stranded further on, and worthwhile for us too, as we had magnificent views of the countryside round for nearly 300 degrees, and especially of Ol Doinyo Lengai just a few miles away and Lake Natron beyond.

Several thousand feet below us to the east lay Engaruka, our next objective, and on the rim we encountered herds of cattle from there, apparently brought daily in search of pasturage in the crater itself. Resisting the temptation to explore a rumoured but improbable track down the crater side to Engaruka (wisely, it seemed, when we later saw from below the steepness of the slopes), we continued our circuit of the rim and retraced our route to Ngorongoro, stopping on the way at Nainokonoka to watch an auction of Masai cattle. Then to a lower and warmer altitude at Lake Manyara, the campsite featuring its regular nocturnal visitation by elephants and later by rather aggressive baboons wishing to share our breakfast.

The signpost nearby at Mto wa Mbu invites visitors to



'Engaruka—ruins-33 miles' and gives no hint of complications once there. Two dusty hours later we signed the visitors book in the local Chief's office, engaged a knowledgeable student as guide, and went off to look at the extensive and mysterious stone ruins of a large village which stretch up the hillside along the Engaruka river. Most appear to be the stone foundation walls of small houses, but this is a style of building otherwise unknown in East Africa; it is not known who the builders were, but they may have been related to the Mbulu tribe who live not far away. On our return we found the chief in a far from amicable mood. Did we look suspicious, three young men in an old Land-Rover; did we unwittingly break some regulation; or was it simply an 'off day'? We shall never know, for as soon as he discovered we had no entry stamps for Tanzania in our passports, no explanation was listened to—we should simply wait for the return of an army unit which was on exercises nearby. Luckily we had already met them and been cleared, if clearance was indeed necessary, to travel in the area. Maybe it was our persistence in pointing out the probable displeasure of the army captain at our detention on his return, a re-evaluation of our explanations or simply boredom with our presence, but something eventually persuaded this local dignitary to allow us to leave three hours later.

With only a day left for our return to Nairobi, we had to decide whether to travel back via the rocky shores of Lake Natron to Magadi—a hard trip by any standards—or try the unknown, to us, route east from Gelai to Longido and Namanga.

The unknown won, and soon the sun glistening on the tin roofs of the small settlement of Gelai Meru-goi reassured us that we should shortly be back on a proper track. The German missionary doctor on her regular monthly visit there was as surprised to see us as we were to see her, accepted our small remaining stocks of fresh fruit and vegetables with unrestrained delight, and confirmed that the track was passable back to the main road. Four bumpy hours later we were checking back into Kenya through the Namanga border post, outwardly not much different from any other 'milk-run' safari group, but, inside, feeling just a little superior.

Note; for obvious reasons, anyone thinking of repeating this trip would do well to detour to Seronera in the Serengeti Park to obtain Tanzania passport stamps.

THE TRAPPING GAME

BY JOHN McDOUGALL

THE GIRAFFES stopped browsing and turned inquisitively to watch the approaching vehicle. As the old Chevy pick-up laboured and lurched nearer, the herd became uneasy and began slowly to move away, as was intended, toward open country. Through binoculars a veterinarian had examined the herd and already selected the target animal. Now one giraffe realised it had unknowingly been separated from the rest and as the truck approached to within its flight distance, about 50 metres, it started running.

"GO, GO, GO," came the shout.

Pandemonium broke loose.

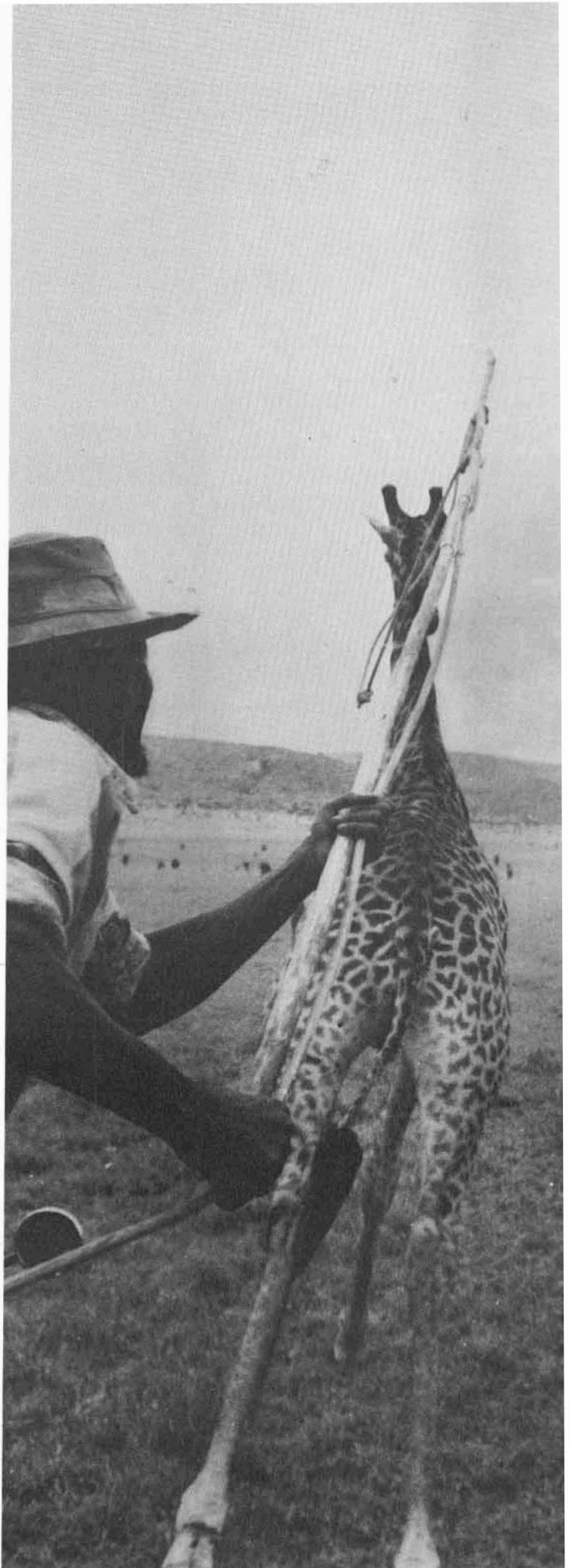
With its motor whining in protest, the truck accelerated careering crazily as it jolted over rocks, lurched through small bushes and bounced into and out of holes. In full flight, about 50-60 kph, the ungainly beast wheeled and swerved to escape its pursuers. But the driver was skilful and the distance closed rapidly. As the gap narrowed to less than two metres one of the trappers in the truck neatly dropped a noose over its head and neck. The vehicle slowed and stopped while the giraffe pranced captive at the rope's end. Men leaped out and within moments the animal was held, toppled gently to the ground, its eyes covered (to reduce visually induced stress) and its legs secured. The entire exercise had taken less than two minutes, and in another twenty it would be comfortably walking around in a shady boma.

Another wild animal had been captured.

For what reasons are wild animals subjected to conditions of captivity?

A leopard is needed by a zoologist in order that he may attach a radiotelemetric collar, while another scientist wants to use similar equipment to monitor elephant movements; some students require to study giraffe, and a group of veterinarians are following a study on some fistulated wildebeest, to examine their feeding habits. An international organisation wants to examine buffalo to determine if they carry this or that disease, parasite or infestation, while the Game Department is instructed to remove some rhino which are destroying crops in a settlement areas or eliminate

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Abercrombie & Kent Safaris

THE EXPERTS ON AFRICA

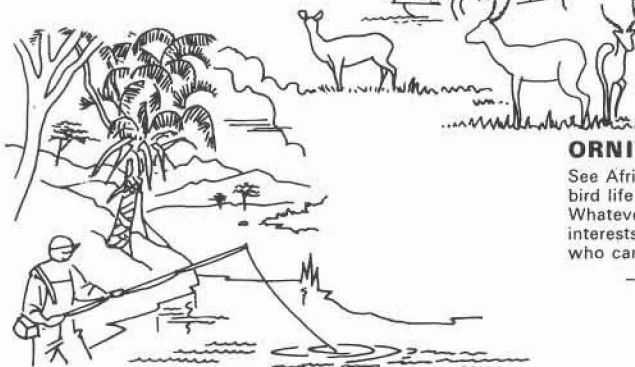


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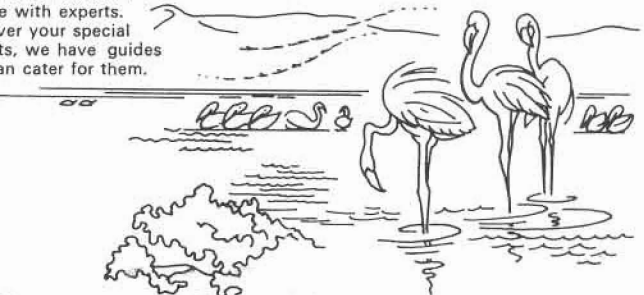
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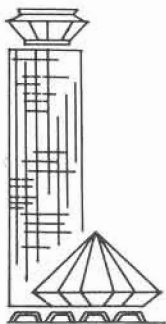
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a mauling lion; then a wildlife conservation body needs to translocate the last of a threatened species of antelope to the sanctuary of a National Park, while an overseas Safaripark has placed an order for bongo and other specimens of wildlife—a different way, incidentally, of making the game pay.

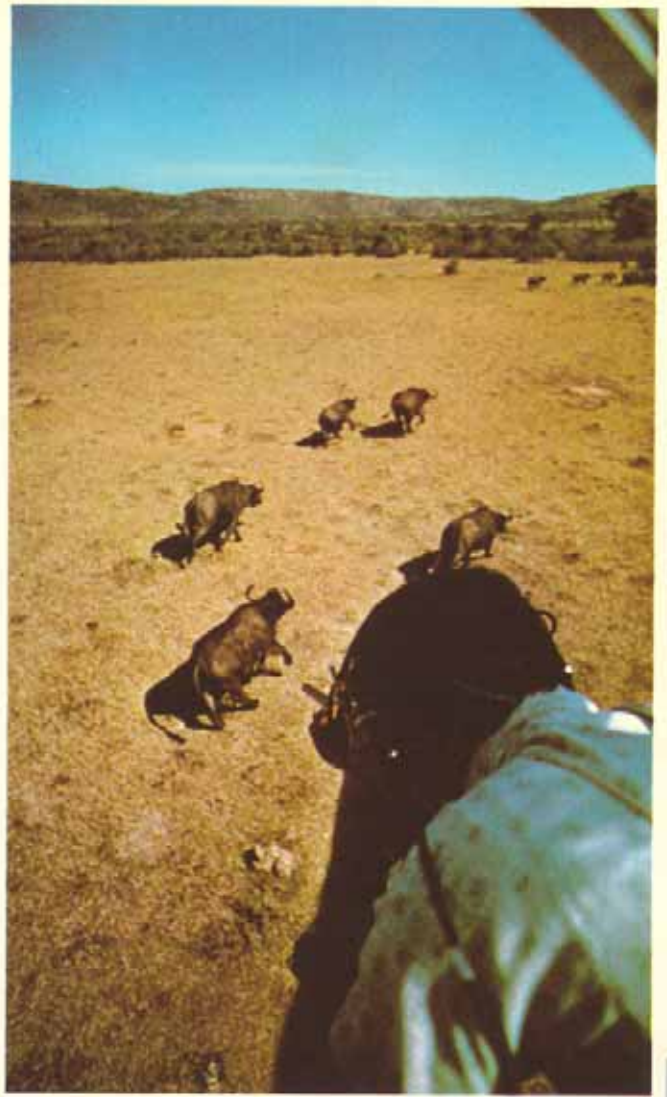
There are many valid reasons why game animals are required to be taken from the wild, and the methods of taking them have developed into a highly specialised business—there being possibly no more than a handful of professional organisations engaged full-time with the industry. It is an industry and a global one. From a small camp, perhaps comprising a cluster of tents, a few vehicles and some holding pens deep in the African bush, the animals captured could finish as many thousands of miles away as, say, Canada, America, Czechoslovakia or Japan and the foreign revenue derived could run to thousands of dollars.

But the business is not all glamour, milk and money.

Capture techniques are as diverse, and dangerous, as the range of wild animals to be caught, and they are highly specialised. Many factors determine the method employed—in particular the habitat in which the animal is found. But whatever the system, in Kenya particularly, it will be strictly controlled by Government. Further a special Capture Committee, under the aegis of the Game Department, is convened once a month to consider

Turn to page 26

At right, a helicopter-borne marksman aims his drug laden stun-gun at fleeing buffalo while below, a capture team closes with its quarry. Inset picture shows the captured giraffe being rolled onto a palette for transportation.





Top: A trapped leopard snarls impotent wrath (picture P. Hamilton) while a comatose rhino is prepared for transportation. Immediately above, a trussed giraffe en route for its holding pen. Below is shown the adaptability of bongos to conditions of captivity.



applications for capture permits. And if, for example, the animal is destined for a foreign zoo park which does not meet the requirements which the Committee consider to be acceptable, then the request is rejected.

Roping or lassoing game is possibly the most common procedure and particularly so with giraffe. However, the catching team must be highly skilled and practised. If an animal is chased for an excessively long period, and a mere three minutes is considered to be getting excessive, the animal can suffer severe stress or exhaustion and could easily die, either then or later. Thus if the beast is not secured within that time the chase is usually abandoned. Netting plains game was once employed in a similar way but now, apart from catching small primates, has been discarded by most trappers.

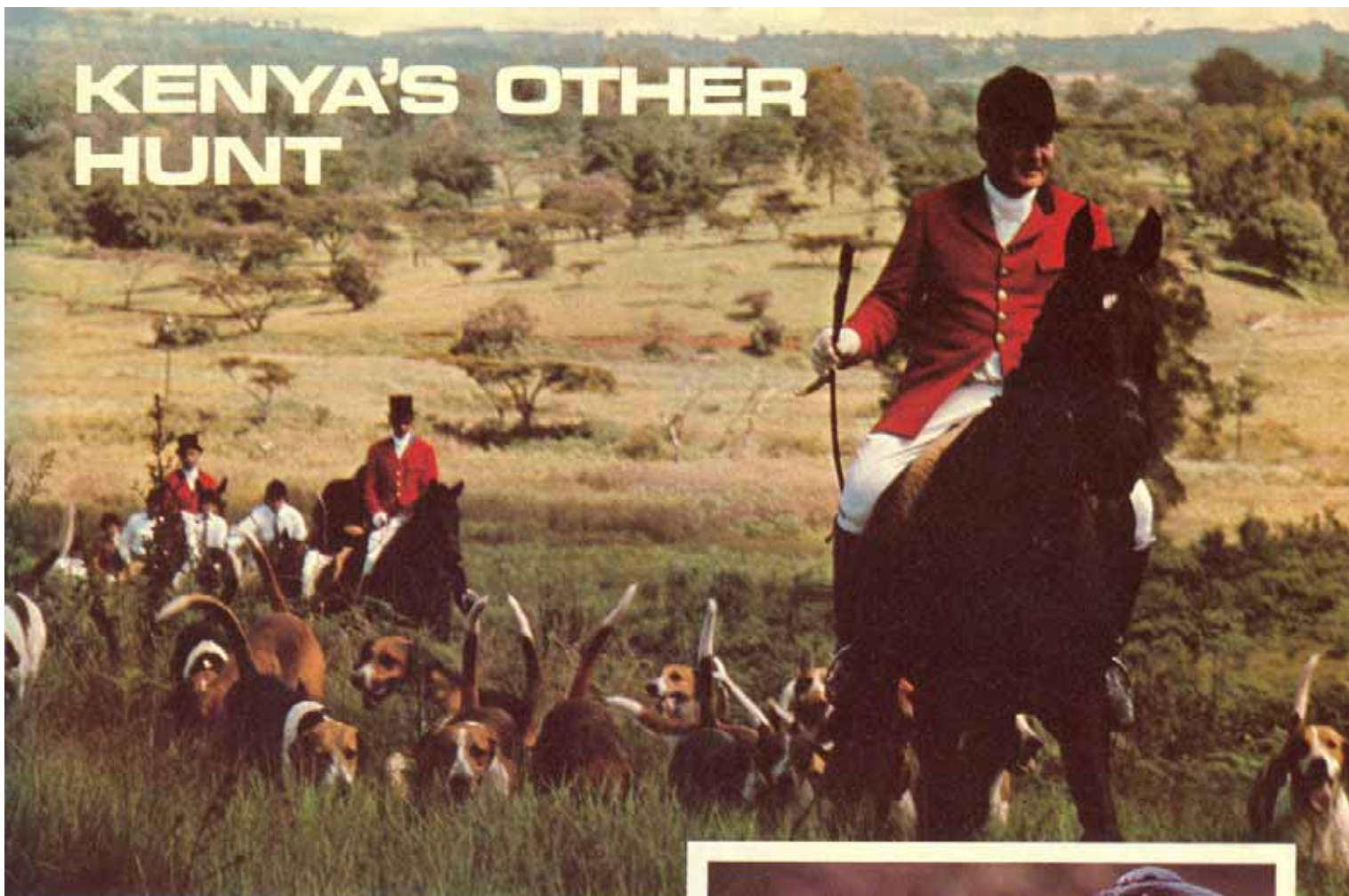
The corralling method has been used to great effect, particularly when rounding up small herds of plains game. The group is slowly, and unknowingly, driven toward a camouflaged boma, or stockade, which has large 'wings' to channel and guide the herd into the boma. At the point where the animals realise that they are being herded they may try to change direction, then it is usual to drive them into the funnel with vehicles, horses or, in one case, a helicopter, (it is worth noting however, before the stampeding animals are in the boma, the gate at the other end should be closed—to prevent them from running straight through—an embarrassing omission which once brought a carefully planned exercise to a fruitless conclusion . . .).

In the case of deep forest dwelling antelope, such as bongo, traps placed across their habitual trails seems to be the only successfully applied technique. Not that it offers any guarantee of success. As the bongo passes through the overgrown and camouflaged (usually with long grass) open-ended trap it triggers a mechanism which drops the front and rear trap doors and hopefully, when the trapper checks, there is a bongo inside. Of course it could be something else entirely. In this particular game you pay your money but, regrettably, cannot take your pick, as a film company found to its chagrin. After almost finishing a film about bongo trapping they found that the entire production schedule was substantially delayed since they couldn't catch a suitable bongo!

Compared to bongo, leopard and lion are relatively easy to secure since they can be induced into baited box traps, wherein they can be tranquillised by various means.

The most 'glamorous' method of catching large mammals, however, is by drug darting. And many learned treatise have been written about it. It is a technique which requires both knowledgeable and skilled usage. Animals have died from drugs administered by inexperienced personnel. An overdose, resulting from, say, an inaccurate weight estimate, can be fatal. An inadequate measure, leaving a semi-torpid creature, which can neither be found nor look after itself, is just as bad. Drugged animals are prone to low respiration and overheating, they may suffer convulsions, they can choke and even suffocate. Thus today's highly sophisticated immobilisation drugs should be used with great caution. But in the right hands, and fortunately in Kenya there are many highly qualified people in the field, they are an effective tool. Drugs introduced into game animals from a rifle-propelled dart, fired from either a motor vehicle or helicopter, have become so successful as to be a matter of routine.

KENYA'S OTHER HUNT



BY MARION KAPLAN

THE COUNTRYSIDE is green and lush. A mist hovers in the trees. The sound of a horn floats over the rolling hills. And there, like a Whistler print, is the Hunt: hounds, pink-coated Master, whipper-in and gentlemen, ladies in black coats and bowlers, bouncing children on fat ponies.

It could be a scene in rural England—but this is Kenya: independent and entirely African since the British pulled down their flag in 1963. It would be understandable if such a curious relic of the British presence were to be abhorrent to the Kenyans, and especially to the African farmers across whose land the Hunt sometimes rides. But tolerance prevails and the Limuru Hunt continues to meet each Sunday in a season lasting from April to November. The meets are held by invitation at different homes outside Nairobi; and it is not unusual for a Kenyan Minister to offer hospitality.

African participation, on the whole, is minimal. Though horseracing attracts a large following and there are Africans who own race horses, with a single major exception rarely do Africans ride to hounds.

That exception is Mr. Ndegwa Kuniara who, for five seasons, has carried the whip, assisting the Master who is also a huntsman. Employed full time by the Limuru Hunt, he started as a kennelman. Showing an aptitude for horseriding, he was soon taken into the Hunt proper.

The day Ndegwa Kuniara was called upon to deputise for the Master and to lead the hunt barely caused a stir. It was, however, a landmark in hunting history: the first time an African has led a Hunt.

The Limuru Hunt is the last surviving Hunt in the land since the passing of the upcountry Molo Hunt a few years

Continued on next page



Top: The Hunt spreads out across the rolling green fields of "Darkest Africa". Above: The scarlet coat is called "pink" in hunting terms. The Master of the hunt blows a "view-halloo" on his hunting horn.



ago. Once there were some half dozen packs of hounds in Kenya but, as the number of European farmers diminished, so did the hunts.

The route differs from week to week but, in every case, it is as fixed as a point-to-point. The Limuru Hunt is a drag hunt—that is, foxhounds are trained to follow a line of scent laid by runners or horsemen. The scent is a mess of guinea pig or antelope droppings mixed with castor oil and carried in a paint tin.

To give the trailmaker ample time to lay the line, the Hunt pauses at several points along the route. In lieu of a kill, the hounds are rewarded at the end of a morning's run with hunks of raw meat.

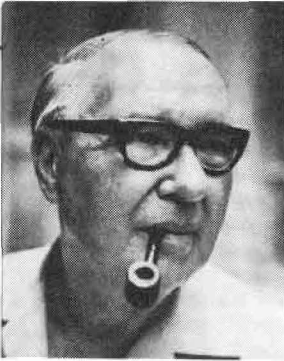
The hearty, farming types of yesteryear have given way mainly to professional men and women. The joint Master, Mr. Hugh Morton, who has lived in Kenya much of his life, was "in tea", as they say. Now he is retired. Among the members, the legal profession is strongly represented. On good days, fields of forty are not unusual.

For all the devout adherence to tradition, the Limuru Hunt is neither snobbishly exclusive nor expensive. Anyone is welcome to join the field and a "cap" for a day is under \$2.00. The annual subscription for adults is \$25.

To most people, hunting in Kenya means big game hunting, a collection of trophies and boastful tales of bush safaris. To the Limuru Hunt's loyal band of followers, the true sport lies in a morning's gallop with a view-haloo and a tally-ho on the verdant fringes of Nairobi. Mr. Kuniara is a new element, but he merges with discretion and distinction into Kenya's comic copy of the Victorian squirearchy.



TOP: The rural scene could easily be that of the English shires—but is in fact not far from Kenya's capital, Nairobi. **Above:** Mr. Ndegwa Kuniara, the African whipper-in is a respected member of the Hunt and has, in fact, led it as Master.



...IN WHICH HE RELATES THE SAGA OF THE RELUCTANT MERMAID WHO COVERED HER CAPTOR IN DUBIOUS GLORY...

MY FIRST introduction to a dugong was at Aden when my ship called there in 1933. There were few attractions at the time apart from the tanks and the museum, the walls of which were festooned with water colours showing troops of the British East India Company as in 1839 they invested the town. They were opposed by the army of the Sultan of Lahej, who by defeating the Turks a century before had taken possession. There was other bric-a-brac on display but the piece de resistance as far as newcomers were concerned were the male and female dugongs which lay side by side looking like a pair of Egyptian mummies. As it was somewhat difficult to ascertain which was male and which was the female the museum authorities or some passing wag had added an appendage to the male in the shape of a bamboo stick a foot in length. Being somewhat free in my habits then I took hold of the appendage which came away with the slightest tug and as far as I know it is somewhere still among relics of visits I have made to faraway places in other parts of the world.

During the 1880s the Natural History Museum sought to obtain specimens of a male and female dugong and with the help of the Foreign Office invitations were despatched to diplomatic officials stationed in territories bordering the Indian Ocean. Such an invitation was received by Captain Jack Haggard, R. N. who held the office of Consul at Lamu. This official was the brother of Rider Haggard, the famous author of adventure books. Rider used the experiences of his brother and a newcomer to East Africa named Frederick Jackson as the background for such books as "She" and "Alan Quatermain". Jackson was staying with Haggard at Lamu when the museum appeal arrived. In brief the two men were instrumental in catching a brace of dugongs and the mammals' skeletons can be seen at the Natural History Museum in Kensington today.

I say "skeletons" because although Jackson was a taxidermist of some note his work had been with birds and small animals only. An aquatic mammal with a length of ten feet and weighing some 500 lbs was another matter. But the method of winning the skeletons could be of interest to scientists and laymen who might be asked to procure such a specimen for the purpose of research.

Lamu is an island some 200 miles north of Mombasa. The township faces a wide creek and in the 1880s resembled an ancient Arabian city enveloped with the miasma of the Bombay burning ghat. The Consul's house still stands on the foreshore, its arches, verandahs, courtyard and high wide rooms redolent of imperial days. The waters of the harbourage, salubrious enough were at the times I mention fetid with noisome flotsam the nature of which I will refrain from describing.

Local fishermen soon captured the required dugongs which expired when dragged ashore. Haggard then had the monsters, wrapped in netting, roped and weighed down with firebars, old anchors and any other ironmongery that came to hand. The dugongs were then towed into deep water where they sank to the bottom of the harbour. As Haggard explained to Jackson the dugongs would soon decompose, the flesh eaten by fish and the skeletons would remain within the netting to await collection.

True love and piscatology would appear to suffer in like measure, both being subject to pleasure and dolour. So far all had gone well but on the following morning Haggard and Jackson were confounded when they saw the two corpses bobbing on the surface of the bay complete with all the ironware that was supposed to secure them. What had happened was that the stomach contents had generated sufficient gas to raise the mammals up from the deep. Jackson at once suggested that a few bullet holes from his elephant gun would release the gas, but Haggard ruled this measure out. Bullets could damage the bones. He had a better idea.

By now the tide was flowing. Haggard armed himself with this Consular sword, boarded a rowing boat and rowed himself to the nearest dugong. Shipping the oars, he clung to one of the binding ropes of the corpse and plunged his sword to the hilt into the swollen body. The boat began to float shorewards on the tide and in less than no time Haggard was stretched face downwards his hands grasping a rope and the sword and his toes resting inside the gunwale of the boat. In his desperation he withdrew the sword letting loose a geyser of several hundredweights of putrescence which covered the wretched Haggard from head to foot and continued to do so until Jackson implored the Consul to let go all. This Haggard did and fell into the sea thus cleansing himself.

Haggard, shocked and smelly, swam ashore. Jackson retrieved the boat, got his gun and, at a safe distance, punctured the mammals until at last they had relieved themselves and sank. Some time later the skeletons were recovered intact, undamaged by the bullets.

If you ever visit the Natural History Museum you might look out for the skeletons. They used to be exhibited just inside the main entrance. Never was a mermaid used so cruelly; never did a mermaid show her displeasure to better effect. As the albatross haunted the Ancient Mariner so the dugong must have haunted Jack Haggard:

"He went like one that hath been stunned,
And is of sense forlorn;
A sadder and a wiser man
He rose the morrow morn."

And even the high cost of helicopter hire is justified in view of the speed of ground covered, ranged of vision, manoeuvrability and general efficiency. Also air to ground radio facilitates directions to the vehicular back-up for removal of the immobilised animal to the holding pens.

And that's where the real business starts.

If the animal has been drugged it must be revived and there are just as many hazards in administering the antagonising compounds should they be necessary. But whatever the capture system employed the real skill is in maintaining the animal, its health, condition and psychological wellbeing. The holding pens have to be custom built depending on the animal it must contain. That includes the style as well as its size since the beast, in the early days, could injure itself if given too much freedom. Its diet must be just right. And then it has to become acclimatised to the create in which it will eventually live and travel to its final destination. Trappers develop an attachment to their charges which, incidentally, usually become quite tame within a few days. Frequently they travel with the animals to ensure they settle down all right in their new locations.

And here is something new for Africa. A new invisible

commodity.

The exportation of wildlife management know-how—and there are many requests for it. A recent consignment from the Seago/Parkinson team of more than 100-head of Kenya plainsgame to the Verona, Italy, Safaripark carried with it a request to also supply the expertise in order that Italians might learn animal care, feeding and wildlife management methods.

Game trappers consider themselves far-sighted conservationists, even though they traffick their living merchandise between such climatic extremes as the heat of the tropical savannahs to Canada's cold or Mt. Fuji's frosts.

And they have an argument to justify this apparent paradox.

Sweden currently exports Bengal tigers to India while Germany is breeding white rhino. The Arabian oryx is alive and well in Arizona, and the World Wildlife Fund has restored the Indian Blackbuck from Texas. The per David deer, extinct in its native China, was reintroduced from an English breeding herd, while Nigeria is anxious to restock its depleted wildlife from Kenya.

Could it be that, in years to come, tourists might come to see the African plains dotted with indigenous wildlife—made in Japan . . . ?

THE PROCEDURE of capturing giraffe by the darting method is described here by Dr. JACK ADAMS, Professor of Animal Behaviour at California State College. He was concerned in the capture of a male and a female giraffe for translocation.

AN ATTEMPT was made to select a giraffe for capture which was in an open area and on relatively level terrain, since the procedures would be difficult to execute in a thick thorn-bush area.

It was usually possible to approach a selected giraffe slowly in a Landrover to within 75 yards before it began to move away toward a bush area for protection.

Because the flight distance of a giraffe is approximately 50 yards, and because the accuracy of the dart gun is best at 50 yards, the intervening 25 yards between giraffe and vehicle had to be covered at high speed and the dart gun fired within the last 50 yards.

After the darting, the vehicle was manoeuvred so as to cut off the giraffe's escape into the high and dense thorn-bush.

The darted giraffe at first ran for a distance of approximately 50-100 yards. Then, when the injected drugs began to take effect after about 10-15 minutes, the animal stopped running and wandered about aimlessly in short steps with its head held high. It became very docile and could be approached with complete safety. The hyoscine ingredient in the drug dilated the animal's pupils so its vision was impaired, and generally the combination of drugs used was sufficient to reduce its activity but still allowed it to remain on its feet. (Should the animal be allowed to go down, it could suffer severe head injury because of its long neck striking the head on the ground.)

At this point, on a signal from the Ranger in charge of the operation, the rest of the capture team (numbering 10-12 members) emerged from hiding and approached the animal. The giraffe was induced to walk into a long stretched out rope, a loop of which was thrown around its neck. It was forced to its knees without letting its head strike the ground and a specially designed harness with guide

ropes was rapidly fitted.

The animal was then permitted to stand up, and it was manoeuvred into a low-bed trailer with the aid of the guidelines and direction bars extending from each side at the rear of the trailer.

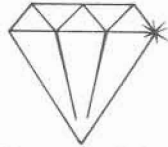
Thirty minutes elapsed from the time of darting the giraffe to its loading onto the trailer, and entire procedure was accomplished without injury to the animal or any member of the capture team.

The transporting trailer was constructed so that both the rear and front end could be lowered to form a ramp. Heavy sailcloth was nailed to the floor of the trailer to prevent the animal from slipping while in transit and a shoulder bar was inserted to prevent it from injuring its neck should it lunge forward accidentally. The guide lines from the harness were fastened to the sides of the trailer to prevent the giraffe from moving about since serious injury can be suffered if the animal has too much freedom of movement while in transit.

After the animal was securely restrained in the trailer, the dart-syringe was removed, the wound dressed with a topical antiseptic, and 6.5 cc of Triplopen was injected intramuscularly as a prophylactic dose of antibiotic. The antidote, Lethidrone, was then administered intramuscularly and the captured giraffe was transported to a holding pen.

A cloth was wrapped round its head, covering the eyes, in order to keep it calm and the eyes protected from dust during the 10-mile journey to the boma. There, the trailer was disconnected and manoeuvred so that its front part was directly in the entrance to the boma. The harness was removed from the animal; the front gate lowered and the giraffe persuaded to walk forward off the trailer. The vehicle was then withdrawn from the entrance and the gate to the boma was securely fastened. Later, after the narcotic effects of the drugs wore off, the giraffe became slightly hyperactive in its new surroundings and attempted to escape over the top of the seven foot walls of the boma which were padded with thatching grasses. When the animal became too hyperactive, a tranquilizing drug was administered.

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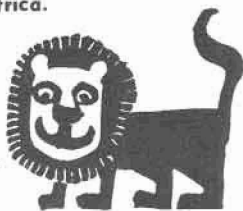
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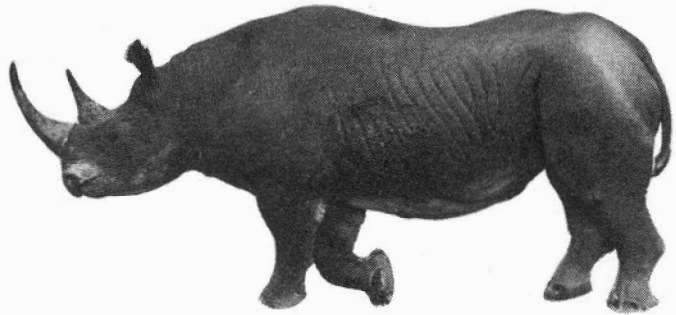
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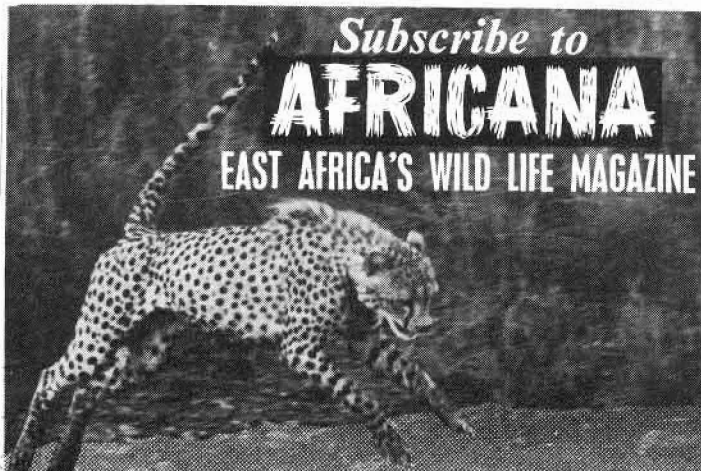
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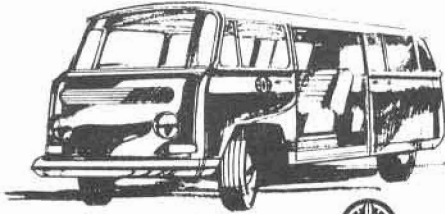
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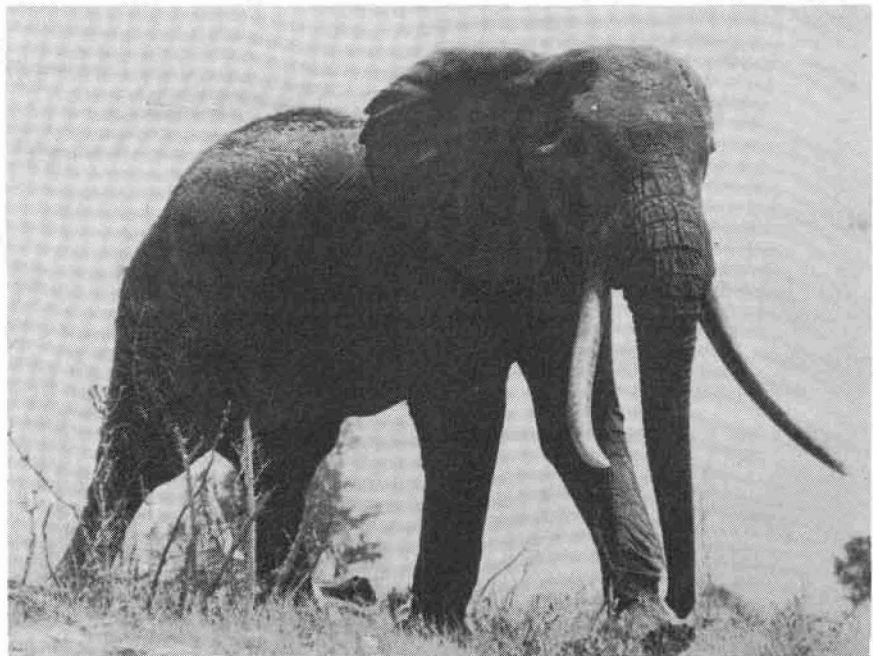
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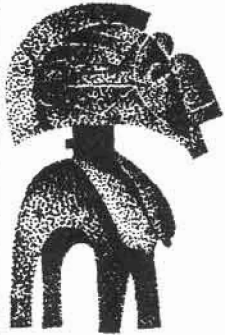
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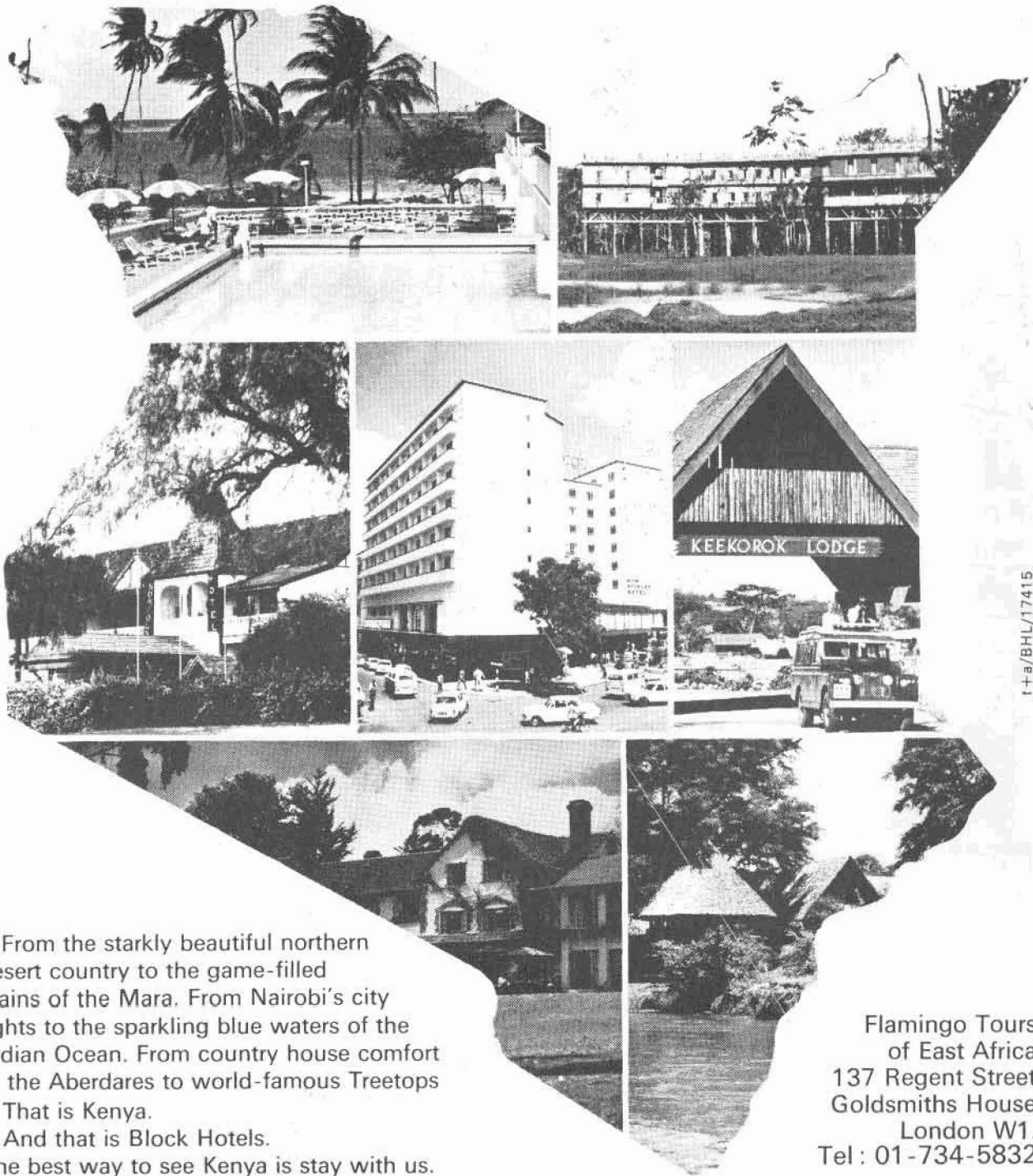
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