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2 September 1989

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Jane Goodall. I live in Tanzania, East Africa, where I am Director of the Gombe Stream Research Centre. I have a PhD degree in Ethology from Cambridge University in England. For the past 30 years I have studied the behavior of chimpanzees in their natural habitat. On 27 August 1989 I saw a video film entitled "PETA ORANGUTANS". I was shocked, sickened - and saddened - by the actions of the humans shown in this footage.

In this video I saw the following sequence of events: A door opened and five men, each leading a young orang by one hand, walked along a bare passage towards the (presumably concealed) camera. With these ten primates was a sixth man, wearing a bow tie. At the end of the passage the whole group stopped. The oranges, still standing upright, appeared quiet and well behaved. I saw no signs of disobedience in any of them at any time. Yet as they stood there - apparently waiting to go onstage for a performance - the man in the bow tie began to abuse the oranges. Suddenly he would seize one of them by its hair and pull and push it towards and away from him with violent movements. He would slap one of them, or punch it with his fist. Most of the abuse was directed towards the larger oranges. Once he pulled one round to face him, then slapped it hard over the muzzle. Occasionally he hit one of them over the shoulders with a heavy implement, shaped like a conductor's baton.

During these entirely unprovoked assaults the handlers restrained the oranges by both arms, holding them upright. They gave the impression that they were expecting the abuse and positioning their charges in readiness to receive it.

Presently - perhaps in response to some cue from on stage - the 11 primates moved out of frame.

This whole sequence was repeated five times - apparently it was filmed on five different days, indicated by numerical notations on the video itself. The repetition - door opens, orange and handlers walk towards the camera, all stop, man in bow tie hits, slaps, punches, shakes and otherwise terrorizes oranges, group moves away - made the video particularly distressing to watch.

SIGNED by JANE GOODALL in the presence of:-

Jane Goodall

C. A. S. Wise
COLIN A. S. WISE
Commissioner for Oath
LACEYS
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[REDACTED]

In 1959 I worked for a while at the London Zoo. During that time I became very familiar with two young orangutans, Alex and Georgina. They often left their cages in the zoo to appear on TV shows and I sometimes drove them there, along with their keeper. We all piled into my tiny Fiat "bubble", the model with the open top. During these car drives through London the oranges were not chained or restrained in any way - they were led by the hand, usually walking on three limbs. At no point, either in the car or on the journey to or from the car, did the keeper hit or even raise his voice to the oranges. Nor was there any abuse of any sort that I ever saw either at the zoo or on the TV set (where they appeared with Dr. Desmond Morris).

Orangs are naturally docile, gentle and obedient when young. This is what made the assaults on the young orange in "PETA ORANGES" particularly shocking to watch. The treatment I saw meted out to the oranges in that film involves severe psychological cruelty as well as physical abuse. The man in the bow tie was clearly imposing his dominance over the defenceless oranges prior to the performance on stage. He did this in a harsh, cruel and utterly inappropriate manner. This treatment of the oranges is, in my professional opinion, quite unacceptable. It will be perceived in this light by every caring, humane person. If a video were shown in which the same series of events involved young human children rather than oranges at the receiving end of the abuse, there would be a public outcry. In my professional opinion the suffering of the young orange is similar to that that would be experienced by human children. Orange show many behavioral, intellectual and emotional similarities to humans.

I sincerely believe that these five oranges should be confiscated immediately and placed in the hands of caring and responsible people who could try to cure them of their psychological (and perhaps physical) wounds. Those responsible for the treatment of the orange in the video should never be allowed to own, train or handle animals again.

Jane Goodall

Jane Goodall
Director,
Gombe Stream Research
Centre

SIGNED by JANE GOODALL in the presence of:-

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Fund for Animals/Georgia

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Sept. 26, 1989

Yerkes sells orangutans to abusive night club performer; animal rights activists plan protest

WHAT: Demonstration to protest Yerkes' selling of oranges to Bobby Berosini, Las Vegas night club performer

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 30, from 12 noon until 1PM

WHERE: At the stone gate entrance to Emory University (on N. Decatur Rd. across from Everybody's Pizza)

The Fund for Animals/Georgia will stage a peaceful demonstration at the Emory University/ Yerkes Regional Primate Center on Sat., Sept. 30 to protest the sale of Yerkes' animals to a night club act. Night club performer Bobby Berosini purchased four orangutans from Yerkes from 1973 to 1987. Recently, the television program, "Entertainment Tonight," aired a secretly-made video that showed Mr. Berosini beating the orangutans, night after night, about the head, neck and shoulders.

Following the "Entertainment Tonight" story, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), filed a lawsuit against Berosini, seeking custody of the orangutans. Numerous affidavits have been filed in support of the lawsuit, including one by world-renowned scientist Jane Goodall, alleging that the Berosini tape shows the orangutans to be the victims of serious psychological and physical abuse. "The treatment I saw meted out to the oranges in that film involves severe psychological cruelty as well as physical abuse...Those responsible for the treatment of the orangutans in the video should never be allowed to own, train or handle animals again." Goodall says in the affidavit.

Other experts agree that the oranges are victims of animal abuse. Two highly-respected veterinarians, Michael Wolff and Robert Stone, along with Rob Shumaker, a primate caretaker from the National Zoo in Washington, examined Berosini's orangutans. The physical examination findings and behavioural observations made support charges of animal abuse and are consistent with the events depicted on the videotape.

Yerkes, however, continues to *defend* Barosini's treatment of the animals despite the videotape evidence. Kenneth Gould, Ph.D., of Yerkes, examined the animals since that tape's release, and denied seeing any signs of abuse. Gould has made a 15-year career out of submitting male chimpanzees to "rectal probe electro-ejaculators," a device designed to force ejaculation via electric current. He also forces female chimps to undergo electric rectal probe after being artificially inseminated, although there has not been any scientific evidence to support the usefulness of this painful electro-stimulation.

- more -

"It looks like Yerkes is scrambling to cover a grievous mistake," said Cheryl McAuliffe, director of FFA/Georgia. "We don't understand why Yerkes officials will readily provide animals to people who exploit and abuse them, while Emory refused to sell primates to the Fund, whose primary concern is the creatures' welfare."

McAuliffe said a volunteer with the Georgia chapter placed several calls to the office of Emory physician Richard P. Michael in late May and early June to inquire about the purchase of six rhesus monkeys that he had for sale. The volunteer was told, "Don't call us again. We'll call you if we're interested." Emory never followed up on the offer.

"We are just mystified," said McAuliffe. "We were prepared to purchase the animals and take them to our own Black Beauty Ranch in Texas where they could live out their natural lives in a humane environment. Now, it's anybody's guess what will become of those poor animals. They may meet the same fate as Bobby Berosini's orangutans."

Berosini's Orangutans
 Current Studbook Information
 Documentation current as of 6/1/89

NAME	STUDBK #	AGE	SEX	RACE	DOB & ARRIVAL	LOCATION
Tiga	957	20	F	S	8/01/68 8/27/73	Yerkes Berosini
Popi	1141	18	F	B	4/23/71 8/27/73	Yerkes Berosini
Rusty/ Jiran	1442	14	M	S	5/15/75 7/08/75	Yerkes Berosini
Benny/ Akar/ Jonathon	1703	10	M	S	3/06/79 04/81	Phoenix* Berosini
Bo	1864	7	F	S	1/16/82 11/29/82	Phoenix* Berosini
Lucy	1972	5	F	X	2/11/84 8/84	Chicago Berosini
Nicky/ Kirana/ Sammy	1981	4	F	X	7/01/84 11/13/84 4/87	Toledo Yerkes Berosini

Key:
 B=Bornean S=Sumatran X=Hybrid

*was property of Phoenix Zoo, shipped directly from San Diego to Berosini via F.J. Zeehandelaar

Note: Berosini's documentation states, in a letter dated 6/9/87 to FWS from Ben Boley, that:

- (a) Jonathon was purchased in 4/87 from Pet Farm, Miami, FL;
- (b) Jiran was purchased in 9/82 from Yerkes;
- (c) Lucy was purchased in 8/84 from Pet Farm, Miami, FL;
- (d) Kirana was purchased in 4/87 from Yerkes.

On Tuesday, September 12, 1989, the following experts examined the orangutans used by Bobby Berosini.

Michael J. Wolff, D.M.V.

Dr. Wolff has been veterinarian at the National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. for the past two years (he recently left the zoo upon completion of an intership).

In his capacity as a veterinarian at one of the most prestigious zoological facilities in the world, Dr. Wolff acquired extensive experience in the medical and husbandry management of a large collection of primates including direct involvement in the care of eight orangutans including infant, juvenile and adult individuals. His veterinary interaction with the orangutans has required the development of an understanding of individual, group and species-specific behavioral, physiological and anatomical characteristics. This includes the evaluation of changes in physical appearance and behaviors as they relate to stressors such disease states, environmental upsets (diet, exhibit changes, group dynamics, etc.). Specific examples would include evaluating physical and behavioral signs indicative of pain, depression, anxiety, fear and aggression.

Robert Stone, D.V.M.

Dr. Stone has been practicing exotic and zoo medicine for over 35 years. He has worked with many species of primate. For 10 years he was a veterinarian for the International Animal Exchange. He has published several papers on exotic animals and is an editorial reviewer for the Merck Veterinary Manual. (That's basically the vet bible).

Rob Shumaker, Primate Caretaker

Mr. Shumaker is currently employed at the National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. He has worked with orangutans for 7 years. He has extensive experience in all areas of orangutan management. He presently works with 8 orangutans of various ages.

Findings of Expert Examiners of Berosini Orang-utans.
September 12, 1989.

On September 12, 1989, and pursuant to court order, three expert observers, Michael J. Wolff, D.V.M., Robert M. Stone, D.V.M., and Robert W. Shumaker, primate behaviorist, observed seven Berosini orang-utans for approximately two hours at the Berosini residence in Las Vegas. Drs. Wolff and Stone also performed a physical examination of the animals. Those animals are:

1. Tiga, 21 year old adult female
2. Popi, 18 year old adult female
3. Rusty, 14 year old adolescent male
4. Benny, 10 year old juvenile male
5. Bo, 7 year old juvenile female
6. Lucy, 5 year old juvenile female
7. Nicky, 5 year old juvenile female

Drs. Stone and Wolff after extensive examination of the animals were able to reach the following conclusions:

1. Physical lesions consistent with those that would be produced by the blows shown in the PETA Berosini Orang-utans videotape.
2. Apprehension and distress in the orang-utans, including distress vocalizations.
3. Evidence of discomfort in certain areas of the body.

In addition to the above findings, supporting physical injury, Drs. Stone and Wolff remain concerned about the following issues:

1. Inadequate housing for the animals.
2. Routine surgical extraction of the canine teeth.
3. Social deprivation of the animals.
4. No opportunities for breeding and reproduction.
5. Lack of routine tuberculosis testing of the animals.

The specific findings concerning each of the animals examined is as follows:

A. Tisa

1. Bilaterally, diffuse, reddened, alopecic (devoid of hair), hyperpigmented forearms and orange/bronze skin discoloration indicative of chronic inflammation and irritation consistent with stereotypic self-mutilation.
2. A focal, approximately 7-8 cm diameter warm, elevated, subcutaneous, soft tissue lesion located over the dorso-medial extremity of the right scapula (shoulder blade), and a similar 2-3 cm lesion located over the lower left scapula, which are indicative of localized swelling and inflammation consistent with traumatic blows of the variety observed on the PETA videotape.
3. Apprehensive demeanor, including looking nervously over her shoulder.
4. Deficient muscular development in both arms consistent with inadequate opportunities for upper body exercise.
5. Appeasement/distress vocalizations exhibited frequently during restraint by Beresini and assistants.
6. Stress indicated by immediate urination when first approached by Beresini.

B. Papi

1. Absence of all four canine teeth consistent with surgical extraction.
2. Roughened thickening of soft tissue along mid-dorsal neck indicative of changes observed in association with traumatic blows of the variety seen in the PETA video.
3. Gentle shoulder palpation elicited wincing, guttural stress vocalizations and postural shifting, indicative of tenderness and apprehension.
4. Stress indicated by immediate urination when first approached by Beresini, accompanied by frequent submissive/distress vocalizations.
5. Prolonged disorientation upon emerging from enclosure (bus), characterized by slow body movements and dulled facial expression.

C. Rusly

1. Absence of all four canine teeth consistent with surgical extraction.

2. Approximately 6-8 cm long, 2 cm raised, oval soft tissue lesion located at proximal lumbar dorsal midline (mid-back) characterized by thickened, possible hyperkeratotic, hyperpigmented, alopecic tissue, consistent with the chronic granulation tissue. The orientation of the lesion (long axis horizontal) and the lack of ulceration are more consistent with lesions produced from chronic blunt trauma of the variety expected from the shape and mode of use of the instrument seen used by Berosini in the PETA video, than they are from chronic pressure lesions (bedsores). [Photos taken]

3. Frequent submissive/distress vocalizations exhibited during restraint by Berosini and assistants.

4. Excessive diffuse dental tartar present.

5. Stress indicated by immediate urination when first approached by Berosini.

6. Restraint and precautions were intensified, verbally and physically, by Berosini and the handlers suggesting increased relative difficulty in controlling this animal.

7. Atypical apprehension and sensitivity characterized by postural wincing and submissive/distress vocalizations as Berosini reached towards the genital region of the animal.

D. Benny

1. Stress indicated by immediate urination and defecation accompanied by submissive/distress vocalizations when first approached by Berosini.

2. Multiple, bilaterally, asymmetrical, linear, irregular, indented, pigmented lesions located proximo-lateral zygomatic region (cheekbones) indicative of healing soft tissue lesions consistent with the type of facial blow delivered to this particular ape on the PETA video. [Request for photos refused by Berosini and associates]

E. Lucy

1. Unremarkable findings.

F. Bo

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