

USAR Center, Louisiana Hall
Ft Myer, Arlington 8, Va
3 July 1961

Dear Lee:

Thanks for your note of the 29th. I shall write to Anghi today to try and secure more information on that Platypus report. I tried to check the Zoologischer Gartens for the period ~~they lived~~ concerned, but alas the National Zoo library is vacant for that period. It does seem odd, however our knowledge of the collections of any of the Zoos of that area of the world are so vague, except for certain years, that one can expect surprises. Of course as a real matter of oddity is the fact that the Antwerp Bongo exhibited prior to the war was never announced at all, until the one came to Cleveland.

Very glad to see that you have a pair of Malay Tapirs, hope that you will have good luck with them. They are getting to be better established now in the USA, but longevity still a problem. Also glad to see the two female Gerenuk added to the list. Maybe you will have some of Grzimeks luck rub off.

Assume you have seen the recent BandarLog from Brookfield. It seems that the Seven Seas Panorama is open and operating. Also they had a Dall Sheep birth this spring, which also leads one to assume that theirs are doing well. DC as you know only has two females, but is ordering a pair, in the fall. Edmonton has a single ram.

Knowing that you and Robert Bean are close friends, if you ever have the opportunity could you try and find the date of arrival of his Aardvark. According to a recent BandarLog is older than the animal at DC, which arrived October 1950. Bob refuses to answer any of my correspondence.

Have a letter today from my correspondent in Paris, who gives me news of the Vincennes ~~Okapi~~ Okapi. "Irimu" the older of the females gave birth to a male calf on the 25th of April, which is doing fine. This is her third calf, one ~~a~~ male born in 1959 died. The other a female born in 1957 "Ebola", has been mated back to the father and produced her first calf on the 14th of June. It weighed 25kgs at birth, and the gestation period established at 425 days. However this calf lived only two days. However this is the first second generation Okapi to be born in a zoo. Paris is doing well, therefore.

Reports from the Republic of the Congo (Belgian) indicate that Epulu is open and operating under native care. There are seventeen Okapi there now, and several are due to be sent to the USA shortly. The former Commander, M J de Medina is still working for the Game Department as the Chief de Chasse in another section of the Congo.

Enclosed is a report of the new arrivals at London from 1 January to June. To be added are three Lowland Gorilla that arrived in the last week. This gives them 4 Lowland and 1 Mountain Gorilla.

Regards to all

Muir

P.S.

Received Jim Atz's letter list in this AM's mail.