

Lee what Lee Wayne King say about the
Basel Komodo's. Also hear that other
↳ Uruguay + US now 24 to get some. Tragic.

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Ans
12/10

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1/3/67-414#

Dear Friends:

Once again I have received a fair amount of data from both European and American sources that I feel will interest you, and which pertains primarily to Primates in Captivity.

More data has arrived concerning the Mountain Gorilla birth at Antwerp. It was born 9 June 1968. The father is called KISUBI, the mother QUIVU. Pregnancy was some 255 days in duration, and the mother is raising the baby herself with no problems so far. In addition the zoo has another pair of Mountain Gorillas. The female called PEGA apparently was the one that had the premature stillbirth in October 1967. Thus Antwerp has two breeding females, and would seem in an ideal position, providing it has the room to start a captive Mountain Gorilla colony.

I have told some of you before that supposedly the female Mountain Gorilla at Chester Zoo is also thought to be pregnant, which is a good sign for this race in captivity. The male at New York is becoming a most imposing animal, but I have not had any word relative to possible breeding, maybe Lee can bring me up to date on that, and its present weight.

Douc Langurs have been taken out of Laos in considerable numbers this year, mostly provided by a dealer named Vilat, some of course were in turn sold by him to other dealers, as is so often the case. Mortality has been very high, and only a fraction of those shipped are still alive. Tulsa Zoo in Oklahoma was sent a pair by a California dealer, both have died. Colorado Springs apparently also bought a pair from the same dealer and they have died. The history of the San Diego and San Francisco animals is now well known, fortunately San Diego has several still alive. I now learn that Frankfurt also received a pair of Doucs this year, from Vilat, the male of which died, and the female has been placed with the younger pair from last year who are doing splendidly. Berlin has them and Cologne, and I suspect some of the Dutch and perhaps Belgian zoos also have them or had them. It is to be regretted that so many have been shipped with apparently no regard for the fact they are delicate and require careful attention. Just where of course they are coming from is still a mystery. I suspect that portion of Vietnam near the junction of Cambodia and Laos. In any event Osman should have no shortage of specimens available, and we might learn something more about the makeup of this rare primate.

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The Kloss Gibbon in Basel is doing very well, and several articles on the animal will appear in zoo journals shortly.

When I was stationed in Darmstadt a few years ago I wrote to several of you about the Schulvivarium, which is the new zoo opened by that city primarily as an adjunct to the city educational system, perhaps the first time a zoo really was started on a educational basis. Labelling is superb, and modern. All cages are clean, and it has that light, modern airy look that is most pleasing. It has a reptile -amphibian collection of high quality (the zoo gets first choice of items collected by several private collectors who regularly visit Indonesia and Madagascar) and also some hoofed animals pens and a small mammal house. In that house are Slow Loris, Ring-tailed Lemur (the group of 3 Crowned Lemur went to Cologne recently) 2 Golden Geoffrey Spider, 3 female Houstached Monkey, 4 Bonnet Macaque, one pair of Hecks Macaque and one pair of Celebes Ape (both are young), a pair of blond-phase White-handed Gibbon with a young (this would be at least the second young to this pair, for they had a baby in the spring of 1966 too), several young Chimpanzee and Fennec Foxes. Of interest the zoo has a group of very rare Wallabies from New Guinea, believed to be Thylogale bruijnii.

Frankfurt Zoo now has a very good Orang collection in the remodeled Ape House. There is the huge Sumatran male MORITZ, his daughter SALI, a female LADY who is called a Sumatran (and who recently had a baby on 23 October, taken away and being raised by hand), a female BRIGITTA (also supposedly pregnant, and a Bornean, so that Frankfurt also is raising 'cocktail Orangs'), a male JAMBI supposedly Sumatran, and two young pairs of Borneans KARL, TELOK, TALEM and RATIA, each about 4 years of age. The female Lowland Gorilla 'Makulla' is again pregnant. Her twins are now on exhibit during the day, and the first born young MAX has been placed into the large family group.

Some of you will be interested to know that apparently the Indonesian government has had a change of heart on its policy of selling or releasing Komodo Monitors, for six have been sent to the Basel Zoo, where one has already died of pneumonia. This present exhibit of 5 young and one adult male is the largest seen in a European Zoo in many years. Antwerp at one time had about six all from Krag, and all adult. These are all now dead.

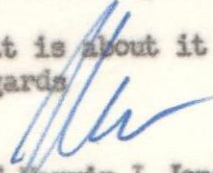
Also in Frankfurt it is of interest to note that a female Greater Kudu ~~xxxx~~ there since 1955 (she arrived adult) has had 11 young in her 13 years at the zoo of which ~~7 have~~ 7 have been raised.

Frankfurt is now building a animal nursery in the area near the Ape House. It will be used to show the young primates born in the zoo and being raised by hand.

Unfortunately the young Humboldt Saki born early this year died on 3 September.

That is about it for now, will keep you posted as things come in.

Regards


SSG Marvin L. Jones