Over the years, because of my work as a naturalist and photographer, I have made a number of trips to Africa and Asia. These have been, needless to say, photographic safaris and shoots. (The Asian version of safari is shikar, the Indian meaning hunting trips, but for the cameras and the camera is substituted.)

More than time that I can count, friends and associates have said they dreamed of taking such a trip some day. Although they often said it half in jest, I am convinced a great many people meant it.

In cooperation with Park East Tours of New York, experts in East African travel, I am putting together a photographic animal and bird-watching safari for February, 1976. We will cover the major wildlife areas of Kenya and Tanzania. I shall take great personal pleasure in introducing a new world to people to Africa and its splendid wildlife for the first time. A first-timer on safari or naivest as much fun as the animals—wider eyes cannot be imagined.

If you have ever dreamed of going on a safari, join us. Write for a beautiful descriptive brochure containing the details and cost. Those people who participate will receive all necessary instructions and information well in advance.

Go to East Africa with Roger Caras
Deluxe 16-Day Photographic Safari Tour
For HSUS Members and Friends

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Special Group Rate Includes:
• Round trip jet from New York • Luxury accommodations at the Nairobi Hilton and the magnificent wildlife lodges of Kenya and Tanzania • A thrilling photographic safari • The support of the HSUS

Your host will be HSUS Vice President Roger Caras.

U. S. Agency Grants Illegal Seal Permit

HSUS has uncovered information that indicates that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) granted permission to a New Jersey zoo to take a pair of California sea lions into captivity without learning that the zoo had falsified the request. The information contains a record of such sloppy investigative and operational procedures that it calls into serious question the service’s willingness to effectively execute and enforce the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act, for which it is responsible.

According to the information un­covered by HSUS, one of two sea lions owned by the Cohanzick Zoo of Bridget­on, N.J., was dead when the zoo applied for permission to obtain a third sea lion in December, 1973. The infor­mation indicates that the zoo may have deliberately falsified the request by stating it already maintained two healthy sea lions. Furthermore, the second sea lion died before the request was approved, without the zoo having notified NMFS of the death.

HSUS Vice President and General Counsel Murdough Stuart Madden wrote to NMFS on Feb. 25 requesting an explanation of “the questionable and bizarre incident” and criticizing NMFS for failing to prosecute the zoo. We would suggest that in the face of this record, replete with evidence of illegality and falsification, this lack of action is clearly serious. Our question is that your personnel are either unwilling or unable to take effective action to en­force the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

Among the discrepancies she cited were these: (a) cage and fence wire in “deplorable” condition (one animal had been killed and another injured under the cage and fence wire). (d) A死 animal, which had rejected permits containing the zoo veterinarian’s name, was rejected and the permit was sent back to the zoo. (e) Several seal permits were issued in the name of the zoo veterinarian. The information uncovered during interviews with employes and adminis­trators convinced Mrs. Pressman that major changes needed to be made in administrative policies to pro­vide proper care for the animals. On an inspection tour of zoo grounds she found several major hazards to the health and welfare of the animals. (f) The absence of a zoo veterinarian. The information uncovered during interviews with employes and adminis­trators convinced Mrs. Pressman that major changes needed to be made in administrative policies to pro­vide proper care for the animals. On an inspection tour of zoo grounds she found several major hazards to the health and welfare of the animals.

Mrs. Pressman said early this spring. “If all other measures fail, the hiring of a special full-time veterinarian is the only way the zoo can avoid a serious problem that we have already identified. If all other measures fail, the hiring of a special full-time veterinarian is the only way the zoo can avoid a serious problem that we have already identified.

The zoo’s problems were under­scored a few weeks after Mrs. Press­man’s investigation when a pair of rare white rhinos died from intestinal infec­tion. The animals’ keeper reported that he had removed one elephant from the corral to prevent further deaths. Mrs. Pressman had requested that the zoo veterinarian examine the rhinos on several occa­sions but that his requests had been ignored.

Animal mortality has been a major problem at the zoo for some time. In 1973, 173 animals died out of an inven­tory of 887. “A high mortality rate is almost always symptomatic of major problems in zoo administration,” Mrs. Pressman said.

“The union work stoppage has placed a greater role in management, with em­phasis on nutrition, preventative medi­cine, and pest control. To correct labor-management prob­lems and physical discrepancies, Mrs. Pressman said, “it may be that the only way for the zoo to overcome its very serious prob­lem is for the director to step aside.” Mrs. Pressman said early this spring, “If all other measures fail, the hiring of a new director may provide the only hope for this zoo to survive.”

Mrs. Pressman visited the Albu­querque zoo because she was afraid the animals were being neglected during the heated three-week strike by 15 zoo employes. Her fears were confirmed when she learned that the mortality rate of sea lions had risen considerably.

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The strike has since ended, but the reason for it being called—the demotion rather than the firing of the zoo director—has not yet been resolved.