

A TON OF RHINO

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CURATOR

AFTER the unfortunate loss of Barney, our adult male African Hook-lipped Rhinoceros, on August 14, 1968, we immediately set about the business of obtaining a replacement. A letter went out to John Seago, a well-known animal collector in Nairobi, Kenya, who has supplied us with many fine animals through the years. Quickly came the reply, "It so happens that we have a nearly adult male in captivity that we acquired when working with the Game Department on a translocation operation. As we have had it in captivity since January, it is now absolutely ready for shipment."

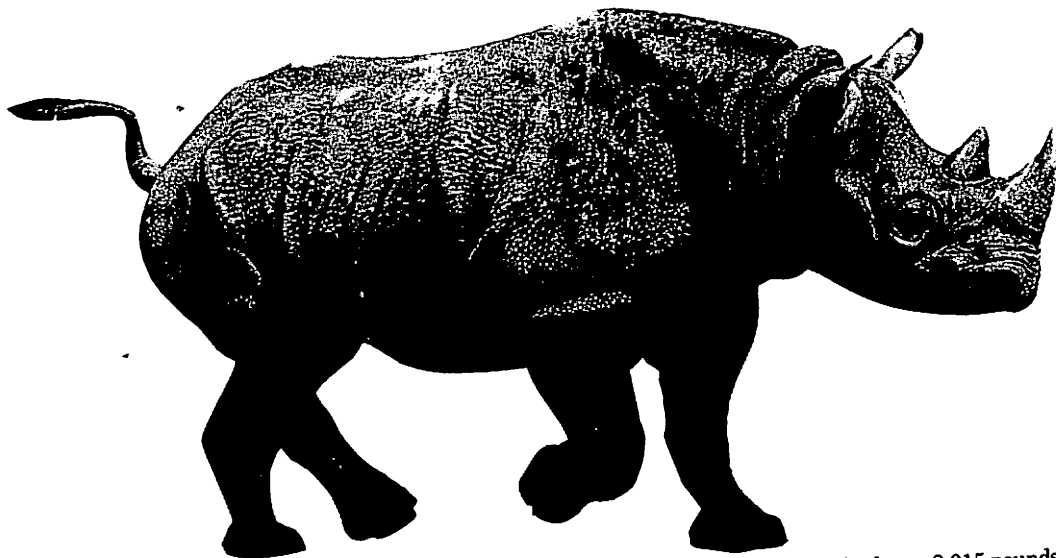
Mr. Seago continued, "You might be interested to know that on this particular rhino operation, Tony took our own team and joined up with Dr. John King who was responsible for the Game Department side and the immobilization of the rhinos, and together they successfully moved some fifteen rhinos in the space of six weeks without any casualties. Several of them were put into the Nairobi National Park!"

The day his letter was received, our cable of acceptance was on its way. Several exchanges of

correspondence concerning shipping arrangements took place. We wished to have the animal consigned to a vessel coming to a Southern California port if possible. A Nedlloyd Line ship scheduled to leave the East African port of Mombasa on January 3, 1969, and due to arrive in Los Angeles about February 15, was chosen. Before sailing, the Master of the vessel, expecting inclement weather on the voyage and fearing that there would be a bad effect on the rhino, decided against taking it. Finally, the rhino was placed aboard another Nedlloyd Line vessel, the *Maasloyd*, which arrived at Terminal Island, San Pedro, California, on May 24.

On hand to greet the animal was William Crytser, assistant principal keeper, and Leonard Page, mammal keeper. The trip to San Diego was made by truck and the rhino was placed in his new home without incident.

The recently arrived "Lenny," named after Leonard Page, will soon be introduced to Sally, our female rhino who has been in the Zoo since 1952. We feel confident they will be compatible and hopefully, reproductive.



"Lenny" lopes around his enclosure as proudly as a show animal. His weight on arrival was 2,015 pounds. The Black Rhino has been described by Ernest Walker to "run with a cumbersome motion, reaching top speed at a canter, that is, a gait resembling a gallop but with moderate and long bounds and leaps." The African Hook-lipped, or Black, Rhinoceros, *Diceros bicornis*, is found in eastern and South Africa. It is believed by some game authorities to be having greater survival problems than the White Rhinoceros. The Black Rhino lives in thorn bush country near streams and waterholes, and in Kenya it is also found in dense mountain forests. Its actual coloring is a dark yellowish brown to dark brown. Its upper lip differs from that of the Square-lipped or White Rhino in that the Black Rhino's protrudes in the middle and the tip is prehensile.

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