

OKLAHOMA CITY ZOO
OKL - U.S.A.

Bear Babies

by Wes Benson

On Thanksgiving Day 1967 two SLOTH BEAR cubs — a male and a female — were born at the Oklahoma City Zoo.

The Mother, "White Dove", arrived at the zoo with "Running Bear", her mate, in November 1960. A first litter of two cubs was born on 12th November, 1966; these two babies did not survive due to the absence of one kidney each.

The mother did not care for the cubs properly; they were taken away from her and Judy Fields, Zoo nursery keeper, has bottlefed them and controlled their comfort by housing them in an incubator.

When the cubs were born on 23rd November, 1967 the male weighed 16 ounces and the female 15 ounces. In four weeks they have increased to 47 ounces for the male and 49 ounces for the female.

They each measured 13 inches in length at four weeks old. The cubs first started to open their eyes on 21st December, 1967.

On 26th December, 1967 another unique Bear birth took place: a single MALAYAN SUN BEAR cub. This baby is also being bottle-fed in the zoo nursery.

When 16 days old the Sun bear baby weighed 1 lbs 10 oz; its length was 10½ inches.

RARE CRANES AT WEST BERLIN ZOO

With 12 of 14 species — with the exceptions only of the Whooping Crane and the Black-necked Crane — to our knowledge the collection of Cranes at the West Berlin Zoo is now one of the most comprehensive in the world.

As the last most welcome addition a pair of Brolga Cranes (*Grus rubicunda*) arrived from Australia on the 14th of October, 1967. The Brolga, which is kept in no other European Zoo, is rather closely related to the Sarus Crane and similar in colour but somewhat smaller. The two subspecies live in pairs or small groups in the swampy plains of East and South Australia and southern New Guinea.

After we had imported 6 Hooded Cranes (*Grus monachus*) into Germany for the first time after the war in March 1967, which have settled down very well, we have now purchased 6 more specimens. The 12 Hooded Cranes are kept together with our two pairs of closely related Lesser Sandhill Cranes in a special enclosure.

In December we had the good luck to acquire in exchange a fine adult female White-naped Crane (*Grus vipio*) as a mate for our single male.

(Dr Heinz-Georg Klös)



RHINO BORN AT HANOVER ZOO

On the 2nd January 1968 a second African Rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) was born at the Hanover Zoo, Germany. The first baby was a male, but this one is a female. The mother is taking excellent care of her child.

Photograph: Gerhard Dierssen, Courtesy Hanover Zoo.



GRANT'S ZEBRA TWINS, BORN 13TH JANUARY 1968 AT THE COPENHAGEN ZOO.

Photo: Erik Parbst.