

OKAVANGO

WILDLIFE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

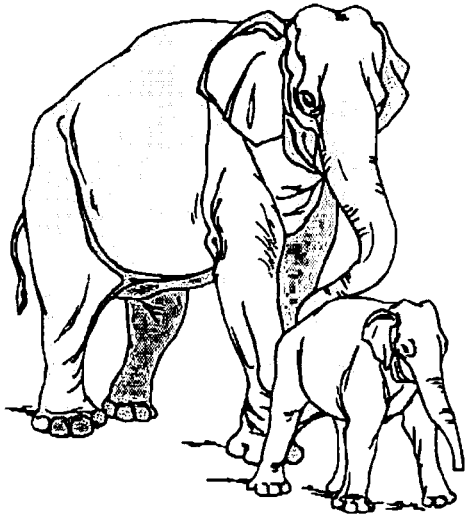


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ELEPHANTS FACE RENEWED PRESSURE



Botswana and other regional countries, which are lobbying for trade in elephants and elephant products face tough battle, following the renewal of the anti trade lobby group war chest. Dr. Richard Leakey, who as director of the Kenya Wildlife Service introduced stringent anti-poaching measures in the late 1980s, says a new market for ivory has arisen and the species is at risk across the world. Asian elephants have suffered horrendous losses in the last decade, he says, and fears that African elephants will be targeted next. Botswana and countries in the pro trade group are expected to come up against this argument at the next CITES meeting, where the two sides will pit strengths again.

(The Botswana Guardian, pg.31, Friday May 17th, 2002)

BABY BOOM HITS RHINO SANCTUARY

A late but very special Christmas present—two presents in fact, as two rhino calves were born in the Khama Rhino Sanctuary Trust bringing the total number of white rhinos to 20. Rhinos are breeding extremely well at KRST, with four calves born since January last year and a fifth expected. The capacity of the Sanctuary has been calculated at 30 rhinos, so within a few years the KRSY will be able to start selling rhinos to other nature reserves, generating the much needed revenue for the Sanctuary and helping re-introduce the rhinos back into their original range throughout Botswana.

(Mmegi, 28 June-4 July 2002, pg. 20)

