

RHINO POACHERS CAUGHT BY USE OF WWF-SUPPLIED RADIOS

Two would-be rhino poachers were caught red-handed in India's Kaziranga National Park during testing of an anti-poaching radio network financed by the World Wildlife Fund.

Mr. P. Lahan, Divisional Forest Officer, Kaziranga, reported to the World Wildlife Fund that two men were detected digging pits to trap rhinos and the radios were used to facilitate their arrest. They were later sentenced to three months' imprisonment and fined.

"Everyone involved with the protection of the park is greatly elated and has resolved to work harder than before," he declared.

The radio network, financed through a World Wildlife Fund grant of 20,000 dollars, is the first to be installed in an Indian National Park. Networks are also being established with the Fund's aid in nine special tiger reserves.

World Wildlife Fund

PEREGRINES FLY AGAIN

Reintroduction of the Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) in the Eastern United States, where it had been wiped out by pesticides, appears to be developing well, according to a report received by the World Wildlife Fund.

Dr. Tom Cade, of Cornell University's Laboratory of Ornithology, reported that 16 young Peregrines bred in captivity had been released at five different release sites in 1975, and 12 of them were now living successfully in nature.

"Certainly our success in rearing 12 out of 16 young birds to the stage of independent existence in nature is better than wild Peregrine parents could manage, but the crucial measure of success still lies in the years ahead when these birds will hopefully return to take up residence and breed in the regions from which they fledged. We shall need to release many more young Peregrines during the coming years before we can claim ultimate success, but at least we made a start that encourages us to continue".

1975 was the third breeding season in the programme, which is receiving World Wildlife Fund support, and the Laboratory's production was 23 Peregrines, three Gyr falcons (*F. rusticolus*), three Prairie falcons (*F. mexicanus*), and seven Lanner falcons (*F. biarmicus*) at Cornell. Two Peregrines and 30 Prairie falcons were raised at a new facility at Fort Collins, Colorado, which is intended to specialise in the sub-species of the Peregrine found in the Rockies.

To re-introduce Peregrines to the wild young birds are placed in selected nests, which may be artificial. When fledged, after about two weeks they are allowed to take to the air, returning to take food which is put out for them. Gradually they start hunting natural prey and become independent.

World Wildlife Fund

Book Reviews

International Zoo News, No. 134.

ZOO DESIGN. Proceedings of the First International Symposium on Zoo Design and Construction. Ed. by A. P. G. Michelmore. Obtainable from: The General Manager, Paignton Zoo, Paignton, Devon. £12.00, plus postage.

This useful record of the Symposium held at Paignton in May 1975 (see I.Z.N. No. 129 pp 24-26) will be of interest to everyone concerned with zoo design and its underlying philosophy. It crystallizes the experience of many experts, and it certainly justifies the holding of a second Symposium on the same subject in May 1976. There is a good general index and an index of zoos mentioned in the text, which makes *Zoo Design* a valuable reference work, and a most welcome addition to the small amount of literature on this subject.

G.S.

A ZOO MAN'S NOTEBOOK by Lee S. Crandall in collaboration with William Bridges. University of Chicago Press, London and Chicago. Second impression 1975. Cloth £2.95. Paperback £1.80.

This pot-pourri of animals, originally published in 1966, was based on the author's celebrated *Wild Mammals in Captivity*, which must be on the shelves of every zoo director in the world. Although written as a popular account of animals in the New York Zoological Park, this book contains much useful information in an easily retrievable form. Anything the author wrote is worth reading, and this is an opportunity for those who missed the original edition to acquire it.

G.S.

THE ATLAS LION RESTORED?

A group of lions in the Rabat Zoo in Morocco have been found to have characteristics very closely resembling those of the Atlas or Barbary lion *Panthera leo leo*, hitherto believed to have been extinct for about fifty years. The last individuals in the wild were apparently in the Grand Atlas in the 1920s. Professor Paul Leyhausen, Chairman of the IUCN Cat Specialist Group, inspected 23 lions at Rabat and considered that, although all still clearly had many of the right genes in their make-up, eleven showed only minor differences from *P. leo leo*, and it is hoped to breed back the Barbary lion from these.

Oryx