

RHINOS LIVE... ...But Not For Long!

Tom Davis, of Rhino Replacement Parts sent me a brochure on Rhino Rescue, USA. I am quoting liberally from this pamphlet which appears to have been written and translated in Kenya which explains some of my editorial comments. Artwork is lifted directly from the pamphlet too.

On the entire continent of Africa, where once hundreds of thousands of rhinos roamed, today there are less than 8,500! The southern white rhino was declared extinct by the late 1890's. Several years later a small herd of whites were discovered in South Africa. After an intensive conservation program they now number 3,000 animals. [unsubstantiated]

Although the white rhino is less aggressive than the blacks, they are still dangerous in the wild. They are both big and powerful animals, needing plenty of room to roam. Males are territorial during the mating season and can injure one another. It is for this and other reasons of conservation that rhinos must be relocated to safe areas within their natural habitat.

Bob Ougua, chief warden of the Kenya Mayroo [Meru?] Wildlife Park and his team spent months tracking down poachers who are out to slaughter rhinos so they can collect about \$150 each for the horn from unscrupulous African politicians and



black market dealers.. [exact words here]

Zimbabwe is a country regulated by socialism and is rich with farmland, industry, and mining. Tax money is readily available for the Zimbabwe Rhino Projects. Kenya, on the other hand, is a struggling republic whose gross national product is less than the budget of most medium sized cities in the United States. The Kenya Rhino Rescue Project is hurting for funds, as the government has no money to fight the onslaught of poachers out to make a fast buck.

RHINO RESCUE TEAM, U.S.A. and the Kenya Park Rangers need you help to stop these money hungry poachers before the only rhinos left alive will be in a zoo. Glenn Tatham, chief warden of the Zimbabwe National Park has recently obtained the status of dominant guard over that country's national parks' rhino population. His rangers are fully equipped with automatic firearms and other special weapon needed to eliminate the poaching problem and eliminate them they do! With remorse, they are killing and capturing more than 60 poachers a month. [figures unsubstantiated]

AK-47's. Tragically, relocation of rhinos and other scientific projects don't stop them from being slaughtered by poachers. What can YOU do to help the situation? Join Rhino Replacement Parts and pledge your financial support to the Kenyan Park Rangers. How? A donation, no matter how small or large can help buy AK-47 assault rifles and ammunition for a Kenyan Park Ranger to exterminate a poacher and to save the life and future of the rhinoceros as a species. They are

DEAD serious. Your donations will not be used for scientific study but specifically for the protection of the rhinoceros population by whatever means it takes.

Send whatever donation you can made payable to Rhino Rescue U.S.A. Fund PO Box 52, Walhalla, SC 29691. You can also purchase the 1 hour National Geographic Video "Rhino Wars" (VHS only) for \$34.50. Profits from the sale of this video will also go to the Rhino Rescue Project Fund.

BETTER LATE... ...THAN NEVER

Hail the returning rhino. (well, back in April, 1988). Bloomington, Indiana's favorite rhinoceros sculpture is back on a solid limestone base at Harmony School after students at the middle school took on the return of the 3,500 pound sculpture as there pet project, raising most of the sculptor's asking price of \$6,000 with various fund-raising activities. I don't know if any "Save the Rhino" t-shirts are still available, but if you are interested in the Harmony rhino and/or wish to make a donation to their fund (they may still be short a few scheckels), write to: Harmony School, 909 E. 2nd, Bloomington, IN 47401 (812) 334-8349.

ADOPT A RHINO

There is still time to adopt a rhino at the Winston Safari Park (PO Box 1600, Winston, OR 97496-0231) You can be an aunt or uncle for only \$50 a year. If you have a garden but don't live near a zoo, you may also wish to purchase some ZOODOO which is a generic term for various grades of zoo compost, a product of a rather complex process of recycling animal and vegetable waste.