

## Present status of the Asian Two-horned Rhinoceros in the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma

A friend who visited Shwe-u-daung Game Sanctuary, East Katha Sector, Burma (for description see JBNHS 52: 275-8) informed me that wildlife inside the sanctuary has been depleted to a dangerous level by organized gangs of poachers. He could not penetrate into the interior. He doubts whether there are now any rhinos inside the sanctuary.

Oliver Milton and R. Estes in their 1963 wildlife survey did not penetrate into the interior also. They estimated that there might be three animals. With the elimination of this small group, there are now according to definite information received by me only three small groups: Tumanthi Game Sanctuary, 25° 15'-25° 30'N., 95°05'-95°25'E., altitude 152-1168 m, 4 animals; Las-

sai Tract, 26°N., 96°E., altitude 1164 m, maximum 7 animals, minimum 6.

U TUN YIN

## Elephant poaching and punishment in Burma

*Kyemon*, a state-owned Burmese language daily reported on 22nd June 1980 that a gang of 9 elephant poachers were convicted, the leader to five years' imprisonment and the remaining 8 of the gang each to three years' imprisonment on 17 June 1980 by the Nattalin Township Peoples' Court, Tharrawaddy district. The wild elephants were shot on the Pegu Yoma. Elephant tusks valued at Kyats 20,000/- were seized from the Bogyoke Market, Rangoon. The poachers were convicted under section 6(1) of the Public Properties Protection Act.

U TUN YIN

*Aide-memoire.* Subscription to the Society falls due on 1st January each year.

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