

# ZOO International NEWS

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## BIRTH OF OKAPI



The Vincennes Zoo is to be highly congratulated on the birth of an Okapi! The news of this very important event was only released when the baby (born 6th June) was a month old. It is the first to be born and to thrive in captivity outside of the Belgian Congo. The parents of this youngster (the female Ebola) are "Irmu" — the mother who entered the Zoo in 1955 and "Dolo" the father, who came in the Vincennes Zoo at 1948. We are proud to show you herewith this little Okapi — this is the first photograph and taken by the well-known Swiss animal-photographer and co-worker of this magazine Marcel Langer.



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From the 13th to the 18th May the annual Conference of the International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens was held in the Blij-Dorp Zoo, Rotterdam, Holland.

The Meeting coincided with the centenary of the Rotterdam Zoo which has now been honoured with the title "Royal". The hosts were Mr. F. Siewerts van Reesema (who has now retired as director of the Zoo), and his successor, Dr. F. J. Appelman.

Nearly 50 members of the Zoo-Union with their wives and guests attended the Conference and 17 countries were represented.

The Rotterdam Zoo, as hosts, were most lavish in their hospitality—a wonderful and carefully planned programme had been drawn up so that all who attended were ensured of happy days packed with interest. Administrative and Scientific Sessions were held, a visit to the Wassenaar Zoo Park, a boat trip up the river to visit the bird sanctuary "De Beer" at the Hook of Holland, the Aalsmeer Flower Market, the Madurodam Miniature Town at the Hague and, on the final night, a Festival Concert by the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and solists in the Riviera Hall at the Zoo which was specially decorated with thousands of tulips and other flowers. The Scientific Sessions included many papers of great interest and including:

Breeding of the gorilla at the Columbus Zoo (U.S.A.), reported by R. Bean (Chicago), and illustrated by film.

Young Indian rhinoceros at the Basle Zoo by Dr. E. M. Lang, illustrated by colour film.

Breeding of snow leopards at Copenhagen Zoo by Dr. S. Anderson, illustrated by slides.

Breeding of Canadian beavers at Zürich Zoo by Dr. H. Hediger, illustrated by slides.

Breeding of the flamingo at the San Antonio Zoo by F. Stark, illustrated by colour film.

Notes were given on the breeding of the pigmy hippopotamus by Dr. Dathe, East Berlin, the new ruminant and ape houses at the Wuppertal Zoo by Dr. Muller, on okapis by Drs. Andersen, Jacobi and Lang, the white rhinoceros by R. Bigalke (Pretoria), diet of the giant pangolin by W. Van den bergh and the renovated elephant house at the West Berlin Zoo by Frau Dr. Heinroth.

The last Scientific Session was devoted to the magnificent colour film made and presented by Dr. B. Grzimek of Frankfurt-am-Main. Entitled "No Room for Wild Animals", this film emphasized the great danger facing the fauna of the world to-day.

And so the 1957 Conference came to an end—all too quickly—and the many delegates left carrying away many happy memories of good comradeship and of time well spent in hearing of each other's successes—and problems.



List of members and guests attending the 1957 Conference at the Rotterdam Zoo —

Mr. & Mrs. F. Siewertsz van Reesema	) Rotterdam
Dr. & Mrs. F. J. Appelman	(Joint hosts)
Dr. & Mrs. K. Kuiper	Formerly of Rotterdam
Dr. & Mrs. E. F. Jacobi	Amsterdam
Dr. & Mrs. A. L. J. Sunier	Formerly of Amsterdam
Mr. & Mrs. W. Van den bergh (President)	Antwerp
Dr. J. Nouvel	Paris
Mr. & Mrs. S. H. Benson	Glasgow
Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Greed	Bristol
Mr. & Mrs. G. S. Mottershead	Chester
Mr. & Mrs. E. H. Tong	Whipsnade
Mr. G. T. Iles	Manchester
Dr. & Mrs. E. M. Lang (Secretary)	Basle
Dr. & Mrs. H. Hediger	Zurich
Dr. M. Meyer-Holzappel	Berne
Mr. & Mrs. C. Robillard	Montreal
Mr. & Mrs. R. Bean	Chicago
Mr. F. Stark	San Antonio