COYOTE PUPS ARE NORMALLY KILLED IN THE PREDATOR CONTROL PROGRAM WHEN THEIR DEN IS DISCOVERED. THIS PUP WAS SAVED AND SUCCESSFULLY RELEASED IN A PROTECTED AREA WHEN OLDER.

© The National Humane Education Center
PRESIDENT ORDERS POISONING STOPPED

Washington, D.C. -- The President of the United States issued an Executive Order February 8, banning the poisoning of predators on federal lands. This order, direct from the President, bans the deadly 1080, strychnine, and other poisons that government agents have used for years to kill coyotes. The order will also prevent the death of thousands of other animals, either from eating poisoned bait put out for coyotes, or from feeding on a coyote that has died from the poison.

The immediate ban on poisons is a tremendous victory in our efforts to protect all animals. It is most unusual for the welfare of animals to be the subject of an Executive Order issued by any President.

Interior Secretary Rogers Morton had announced publicly that he intended to send a bill to Congress to ban the use of poisons. This would have taken too long, however, to affect the decision of the court case The Humane Society had begun against the government. We went to court to ask that the government be forced to abandon its entire predator control program. We want each state to give assistance to ranchers when an occasional predator turns to killing domestic livestock. If this were done, our predators, like the coyotes, could live free, and the balance in Nature might eventually be restored.

The Executive Order is important because it protects animals immediately. It is still important that Congress passes such a law, however, since some later President could issue another order to permit the use of poisons once again. Three bills have been introduced in Congress to ban the poisoning of predators. We believe Congress will support the President, and pass such a law.

Now another threat to coyotes may become serious. Government agents who protect sheep from predators also set steel jaw traps for coyotes. Now that poisons can't be used, they are likely to use the cruel traps more extensively. A coyote caught in a steel jaw trap may suffer even longer than if it were poisoned, until the trapper returns to kill it.

Another bill in Congress would ban the use of steel jaw traps. This bill is S. 2084, introduced by Senator Bayh in the Senate, and H.R. 8784, introduced by Representative Broomfield in the House. Not as many people know about the cruelties of trapping, and no one knows if this bill has much of a chance to become a law. You may want to tell your friends about this legislation and write, and urge them to write, to your Congressmen to urge them to support this bill. You can also write the chairman of the committee that will study this bill. The Commerce Committee has the bill in the Senate, and in the House it is being studied by the House Committee on Interior and Foreign Commerce. You can also order copies of a free leaflet on trapping from KIND headquarters. Order just the number you need to give to your friends.

The American Indians respected the coyote for his cleverness and his ability to adapt to nearly any situation. They so respected him, in fact, that one old Indian proverb says: "Next to God, Brother Coyote is the smartest man on earth." Let's do what we can to save Brother Coyote.

"Wild places and wild things constitute a treasure to be cherished and protected for all time. The pleasure and refreshment which they give man confirm their value to society. More importantly perhaps, the wonder, beauty, and elemental force in which the least of them share suggest a higher right to exist--not granted them by man and not his to take away".

from the President's February 1972 message to Congress
BABY WHITE-COATS WILL NOT BE KILLED THIS YEAR

GULF OF THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER -- For as long as anyone can remember the Harp Seals have returned to the ice floes in these waters to have their pups in late February and early March. Every year crews of men came onto the ice floes with clubs and beat the baby seals to death, for the special grey-white fur they wear at this age. This year for the first time the seals will not be threatened by men wielding clubs. The Canadian Government has banned the killing of seals by plane or ship. Since the men clubbing seals can't get to the ice floes by any other method, no baby seals will be killed this year on the ice floes in the Gulf of the St. Lawrence River. Canadian officials say the ban was established out of fear these seals may become extinct. It's much more likely that the public protest against the clubbing of seals was really responsible for this decision. Let's keep working together to save the animals that need our help.

THE YEAR OF THE RAT

1972 is the Chinese Year of the Rat. The Chinese include mice with their celebration of this year. They consider having a mouse in their houses to be an omen of good fortune. No self-respecting mouse would choose to live in someone's house unless there was an ample supply of food available.

The Chinese New Year started in February. It is different from ours because they follow the Lunar Calendar. This calendar is designed from the phases of the moon. Their official calendar, since the time they first began keeping a record of the years, lists this year as number 4,670.

Share your newsletter with a friend, who may want to join KIND, too. Annual dues are $2. Membership application:

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KINDNESS CLUB ages 6-10, DEFENDERS 11-14, EcoloKIND 15-18
THE RETURN OF THE BUZZARDS

March 15 is Buzzard Day in Hinckley, Ohio. Turkey vultures regularly return on that date. Thousands of people come to watch their return.

EARTH WEEK

Senator Gaylord Nelson has introduced a resolution to proclaim April 17 through 23 EARTH WEEK. If it passes the Senate it will be sent to the House for action.


"DEAR ARAHKUN..."

Dear KIND,
Our club of 13 members had a bake sale. We are donating $24.50 to KIND for helping animals.
age 13
Meg Van Dorn, Short Hills, N.J.

Dear Arahkun,
I have learned how they make the feet of Tennessee Walking Horses so sore they walk more lightly. Also that a law was passed to stop this, but it hasn't been working. I thought KIND could do something to stop this.
age 12
Anne Surman, Natick, Mass.

Dear Anne,
Congress passed the law, then didn't allow much money for enforcing the law. The best way to help is to write your Congressmen and ask them to help.
age 12
Your friend, ARAHKUN
MRS. EDIE ABMA'S KINDNESS CLUBS MADE HOUSES TO SHELTER THE DUCKS AT STRAWBRIDGE LAKE. DAVID ENNIS AND ANTHONY MANCUSO PRESENT THE HOUSES TO MOORESTOWN, N.J. TOWNSHIP.

Photo courtesy Courier-Post, Camden, N.J.