



JACK

JEUNES ANIMAUX CONFISQUÉS
AU KATANGA

Report on
Pro Wildlife Vet
Dr Ainare Idoiaga's
Mission
at J.A.C.K. Sanctuary
-September 2017-



J.A.C.K.

Jeunes Animaux Confisqués au Katanga

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A - Foreword

Jeunes Animaux Confisqués au Katanga (J.A.C.K.) is a chimpanzee sanctuary located South of the Democratic Republic of CONGO. The Congolese NGO was created in 2006 by two great ape lovers, Franck and Roxane Chantereau, who have devoted their lives in rescuing these poor souls from the horrible bushmeat trade and from the dreadful exotic pet trade.

J.A.C.K. has 3 important goals: (1) to enforce wildlife laws, (2) to stop ape trafficking in Lubumbashi and (3) to release the rescued chimpanzees in their natural habitat.

For 11 years, J.A.C.K. has been working jointly with DRC Environment authorities (law enforcement) and has spread awareness (Education = Conservation) on the rapid disappearance of apes in the wild.

In 2008, J.A.C.K. was promised state land to start its pre-release program. However, so far, because the main priority of DRC Government is to tackle political issues (armed conflicts, presidential elections, etc.), no land has been given to J.A.C.K. to launch the second step of the sanctuary.

Today, there is nevertheless a positive outcome from all the hard work **Jeunes Animaux Confisqués au Katanga** has achieved: since November 2014, no new chimpanzee has been on sale on the streets of Lubumbashi, the former hub of ape smuggling in South DRC!

In 2017, J.A.C.K. had scheduled a general Health Check of all its residents as some orphans needed special veterinary care.

Also, since Dr Ainare Idoiaga was ready to offer her time and experience to the chimpanzee orphans of the Congolese NGO, she asked for some help to Pro Wildlife, a German organisation which kindly responded positively to the veterinary's request!

This is how Dr Idoiaga managed to come and spend a week at the DRC Sanctuary early September 2017.



B – Dr Idoiaga’s April Mission aborted

Health Checks at J.A.C.K. had been planned in April 2017.

Unfortunately, for unexpected and unknown reasons, the Spanish veterinarian didn't get her visa to enter the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Health Checks nevertheless had to take place at J.A.C.K.: other volunteers had managed to fly to Lubumbashi to help out.



However, important surgeries such as eye and testicle removal didn't take place; J.A.C.K. Congolese vet insisted on having Dr Idoiaga to carry out these very particular surgeries!

C – September Mission to J.A.C.K.

In June 2017, Dr Idoiaga finally got all her papers done to fly to the DRC from September 2nd till September 9th. Flight expenses have been generously sponsored by Pro Wildlife as well as most of the veterinary material (drugs & tools) she had in her suitcases!!



Day 1 – Saturday 2nd of September

Day of arrival

Day 2 – Sunday 3rd of September

It was important to both sanctuary managers, Franck & Roxane, to introduce the sanctuary to Dr Ainare: she visited the Education centre and the whole sanctuary.



In addition to that, Dr Ainare paid a visit to the chimpanzees that were playing on their open air playgrounds and she absolutely wanted to see Doguy, the orphan chimpanzee she was going to remove the eye from on the next day.



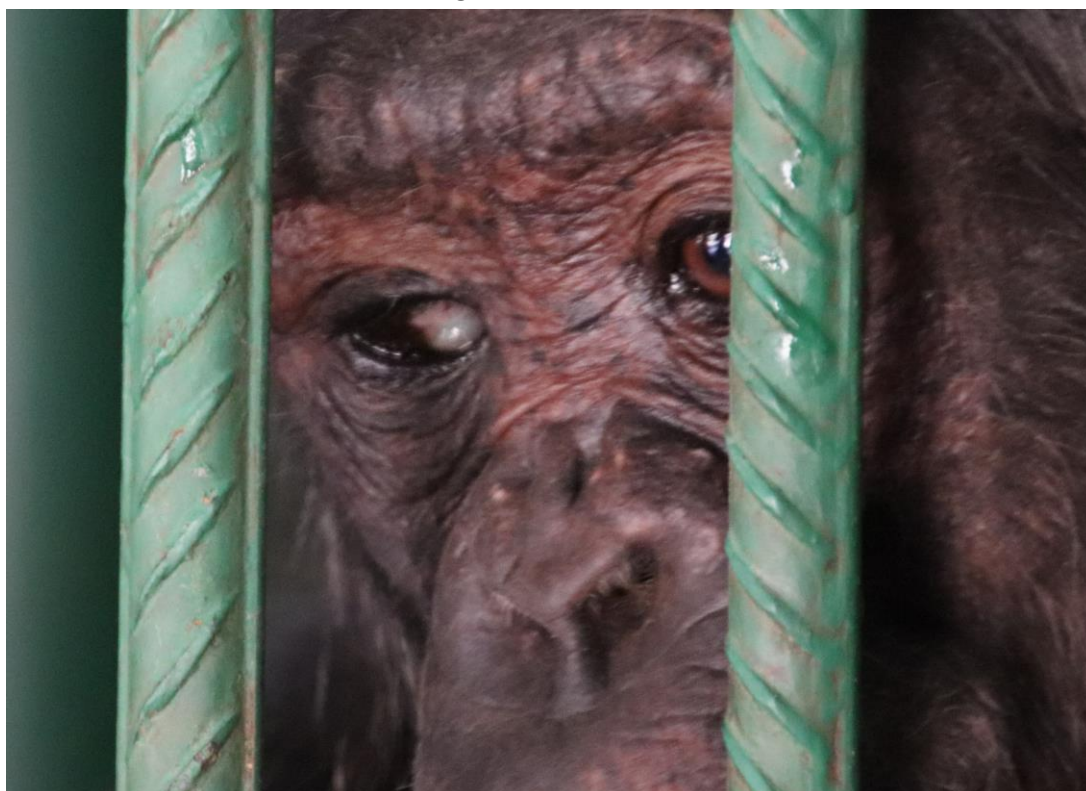
Back at Franck & Roxane's place where the vet was accommodated, it was high time Dr Ainare opened her suitcases to show all the wonderful veterinary items she had brought with!



Day 3 – Monday 4th of September

First surgery of the week: eye enucleation of **DOGUY!**

This orphan chimpanzee has had eye issues since he was very little: both eyes were sick and only one has been cured. According to Dr Ainare's diagnosis, the sick eye was totally dead and the second is now sick and will need special treatment. Doguy is apparently suffering from uveitis. Therefore, a new sedation will have to take place in the coming weeks and a Congolese eye specialist will be called to check how far the uveitis has damaged the left eye...



Young male Doguy was sedated at J.A.C.K. and, since the sanctuary hasn't got its own veterinary clinic, Doguy was driven to a vet clinic whose theatre and oxygen material had been rent for this particular occasion by J.A.C.K.



Surgery went well. A Congolese eye specialist, Dr Rebecca, assisted Dr Ainare and so did J.A.C.K. veterinarian, Dr Jean Claude.





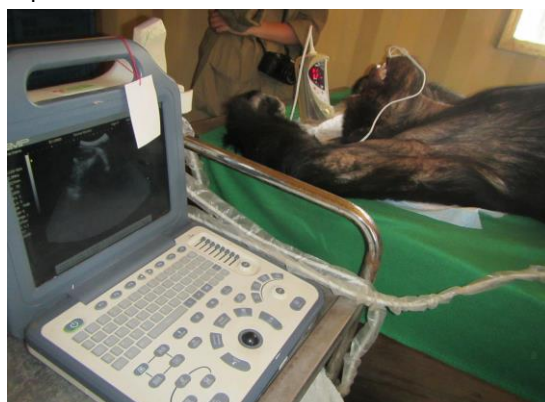
Day 4 – Tuesday 5th of September

A second surgery was meant to take place.

Yes, this time, Dr Ainare had to check a young male, **PADDA**, whose growth has shown only one testicle. The aim on this Tuesday was to find out if the second testicle existed and where it was located.



J.A.C.K. therefore had rent an ultrasound scanner and a scan specialist to check the abdomen.



No testicle has been found which offered us a double option:

- The testicle doesn't exist and there is nothing to do: Padda was born lie this;
- The second testicle is very small somewhere inside and we must open the abdomen to find it.

The second option was the most hazardous possibility: Padda went through several traumas when he was a baby and he is the kind of rebellious chimpanzee which doesn't like to have much contact with humans. So, in case of surgery and should he get rid of the stitches and open his abdomen, nearly no post operation care can be done and Padda's life could be at risk (infection)!



Finally, J.A.C.K. managers decided not to operate and to wait until Padda is fully grown into an adult. Should the second testicle be inside, it could turn into cancer and, because testosterone (male hormones) could have an impact on the growth of cancer, castrating the adult

male could be the final option... So, Padda's surgery was cancelled!



Day 5 – Wednesday 6th of September

Two sedations took place: DIAN & PASA

1/ Young girl DIAN needed to have an implant and she had an abscess on her left arm. Dr Ainare double checked the abscess and disinfected it. She put the human implant on top of the right shoulder of the chimpanzee female.



Why an implant? For some important reasons, J.A.C.K. is using contraceptives as (1) the sanctuary hasn't got any particular enclosures for pregnant chimpanzees, and (2) to welcome and accommodate a newcomer, the sanctuary needs more space and more money!! So far, J.A.C.K. has reached full capacity and since it lives solely on donations, having a new arrival could put the life of all the other residents at risk!



2/ **PASA**, a male of about 10 years old, had teeth issues and his face had recently swollen so badly he could hardly eat... Dr Ainare checked the upper right canine whose tooth gum was red and irritated. When looking closely, the vet discovered a very small piece of bone was protruding on top of the same canine which meant PASA had probably had a shock on his mouth (fight? fall?) thus cracking the maxillary. Along with J.A.C.K. veterinarian, Dr Ainare got rid of the piece of bone hurting Pasa's tooth.



Day 6 – Thursday 7th of September

TONGO is a young male of 10. Since April 2017, he had had several abscesses in his nose and neck which needed to be cleaned and treated locally and orally. Unfortunately, the abscess didn't react to any treatment and the infection was showing up regularly.



Dr Ainare was thus asked to check what was wrong and immediately noticed the two central upper incisors were rotten and that they probably caused infection. Decision was taken to remove both sick incisors.



Upon tooth removal, it was noticed both incisors had holes on top of the tooth which spread the infection up to the nose and down into the throat as abscesses were visible in Tongo's throat too!



Day 7 – Friday 8th of September

Last day for Dr Ainare! She double checked all the chimpanzee orphans she had worked with on the last few days and made sure J.A.C.K. team would follow up the different medical treatments of each and every orphan.



Also, Dr Ainare took some time to work with **MAYA**, a female of nearly 13, who is constantly anaemic and losing weight. A drop of blood was taken to analyse for malaria with the microscope, but it was negative...

Finally, Dr Ainare palpated **SHASA's** tummy. Shasa is the oldest female of J.A.C.K. and although her tummy seemed swollen, it wasn't sore. Shasa enjoyed the company of Dr Ainare and even tickled her vet visitor!!



D/ Updates on Dr Ainare's recovering orphans

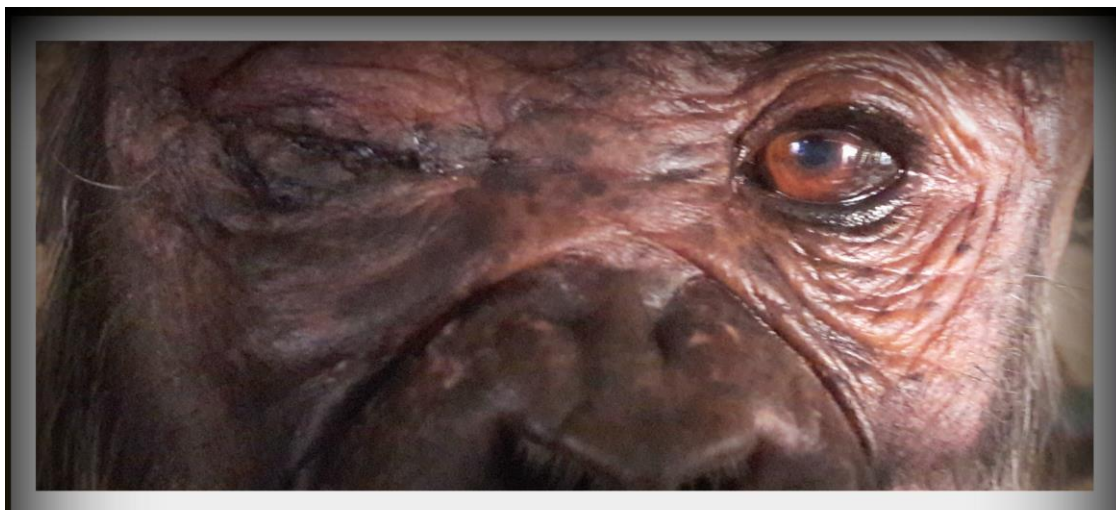
Two weeks after the vet departure, all the chimpanzees are doing fine!

- **Doguy's** eye is healed and the young orphan is adjusting to his new life. Antibiotic treatment is now finished and he will probably join his group in the coming days...
- **Pasa and Dian** have returned into their groups the day of sedation and their antibiotic treatments are finished too!
- **Tongo** is no longer in pain because of his teeth removal and, since his antibiotic treatment was finished, he joined his friends last Sunday.

E/ Thank yous

It was an honour to have Dr Ainare Idoiaga around and a real privilege to work with your PRO WILDLIFE institution! Since our small NGO is striving every day solely on donations, wonderful supports like yours are more than appreciated and are miracles coming true!

Thank you again, PRO WILDLIFE, for all the Love and care you have given our orphans!



Herzlichen Danke für Eure gute Hilfe,
Doguy & Freunden

