



A TALE OF TWO (OTHER) CITIES, 2023.

1915, 1917, 1938, 1939, 2022, 1939(2), 1940, 1941, 2022, 1941(3), 2022.

>>>> **The Daily Telegraph, Monday 20 September 1915, page 7. >>>> GROSS BLUNDERS —ZEPPELIN MURDERS. —LONDON UNDISMAYED. —LONDON, Sunday.** The Press Bureau, at the request of Sir J. A. Simon, Secretary for Home Affairs, has issued the statement of an impartial observer, who describes the effects of the last Zeppelin raid over the London district. [...] The description states that the experience of last week, combined with the German official reports, demonstrates that the commanders of aircraft are often grossly error in their movements. [...]. Almost all the unfortunates killed have been non-combatants—who, hitherto, have been exempt from attack, in accordance with the honourable practice of civilised warfare—that is, women, children, small shopkeepers, and working men. The futility of the raids can be imagined when it is remembered that the London district is 700 miles square. The enemy has professed to have accomplished an important military purpose in hastily dropping explosives and incendiary material at random over this enormous surface.

>>>> **The Horsham Times, Tuesday 9 November 1915, page 3. >>>> Zeppelin Attack —DESCRIBED BY GERMAN.**A cable message states: —The New York American translates a Hamburg newspaper's account of a Zeppelin raid on London, written by a member of the crew of the airship. [...]. "Our Zeppelin carried four tons of the most destructive explosives that ever scientists created-sufficient to annihilate the heart of London. We had 120 bombs, each of 100lb, and 50lb. They were discharged from tubes in the floor of the airship, a button releasing them at intervals of two seconds. The 100-pounders were capable of destroying any building or making a hole in a street 100 feet wide. [...]. "We went to the west of fashionable London, and circled around, peppering with death the solar plexus of the British Empire. Beneath us were the Strand, the theatres, the hotels, the Houses of Parliament, and Government offices, also Pall Mall, Buckingham Palace, etc. "It was a night of terror for London. Searchlights and guns were played on us constantly, and luminous red shells signalling the position to the anti-aircraft gunners, but it was difficult to hit us at a height of 8000 feet. One shot struck the forepart of the Zeppelin. An expert climbed out to inspect it, lost his footing, and disappeared. We enjoyed the feeling of our tremendous power and security. We threw all our supply of bombs and then turned home again".

>>>> **The Register, Saturday 29 December 1917, page 9. >>>> AIR RAIDS AND THE LONDON ZOO —PHLEGMATIC INMATES.** The deportment of most of the animals and birds at the Zoo during nocturnal air raids would be very interesting, but when propellers are droning overhead, shrapnel oursting, and earth and air vibrant with the tremours of bombs bursting "somewhere in London", the most zealous of Zoo officials prefer concrete roofs to tours of observation (writes Twells Brex, in The London Daily Mail). [...]. The only animals who give voice during a night air raid are the lions, wolves, and jackals. The hullabaloo of the wolves and jackals has a note in it of acute distress and fear, but the lions, as one of their keepers has assured me "roar out of excitement and jealousy of the guns, more than anything else. In fact, it's a sort of song, and they sing loudest when the raids are over. People who can hear them as far away as Baker Street and Swiss Cottage can take it as a sort of unofficial "All's clear". [...] there is little or no "wind up" at the Zoo, but if the people in the cages are unperturbed, raid nights give anxious hours to their guardians. I imagine that the night watchman is the most anxious of all. Sometimes I think that the night watchman at the

Zoo is the bravest man in Britain. For it his duty immediately after a night raid, [...], to go round the Zoo all in the lonely dim moonlight, to see whether any damage has been done by vagrom "duds", and whether any of the Zoo people [...] have "got loose".

>>>> The West Australian, Monday 4 April 1938, page 20. >>>> LONDON ZOO AND AIR RAIDS. —Metal Shutters for Snake House. —LONDON (By Air Mail). Plans for the protection of life and property in the event of air raids are being formulated all over England. [...]. Menagerie officials have discussed with the authorities all possible measures for protecting the creatures in their care, particularly the more powerful and valuable animals. A London Zoo official declared that very little could be done. "You cannot make the animals wear gas masks", he said, "because they would not tolerate them for more than a few moments". [...]. "The real danger lies not in gas bombs, but in high explosive, which in a place like the zoo could not only do considerable damage, but would in all probability liberate dangerous animals". [...]. A few high-explosive shells dropped in or near the gardens would almost certainly cause a panic, and in those circumstances no one can tell what would happen. "We had a certain amount of excitement during air raids in the Great War. Fortunately, no bombs actually fell inside the gardens, and no animals or visitors came to any harm. Several bombs dropped near the zoo". [...]. "If we are ever subjected to an air raid in the future, our best plan lies not in building any special safeguards for the animals, but in seeing that every keeper is at his post". [...]. "At the reptile house some extra precautions would be needed. There are scores of venomous snakes confined at present behind thick sheets of glass. The glass would soon be shattered by high explosive. Probably we shall arrange for these to be reinforced by metal shutters, which can be dropped across the fronts of the dens at the first hint of danger".

>>>> Daily Mercury, Saturday 9 July 1938, page 4. >>>> Air Raid Precautions — COMPLETING ARRANGEMENTS AT LONDON ZOO —LONDON, June 25 (by Air Mail). The London Zoo is completing its arrangements for air-raid precautions. Keepers, who are reviving special training, will have to prevent animals from escaping, and, as far as possible, from suffering pain in raids. [...], all surplus stock would be evacuated to Whippsnade, the London Zoo's country extension. The animals left in Regent's Park would be watched, and any gas victims would be destroyed by the keepers. The risk of high explosive bombs liberating animals by destroying parts of houses or blowing out bars is regarded as slight, for it is believed that the shock of such explosions would kill the occupants. As a precaution, however, the Zoo would have a hunting squad, so that any lion, tiger, or other dangerous animal could be shot if it broke free.

>>>> Morning Bulletin, Thursday 12 January 1939, page 4. >>>> A.R.P. AND LONDON ZOO. A remarkable death list has been prepared at the London Zoo for the event of war. All poisonous snakes and spiders are immediately to be executed, for fear that they would be released by air bombs.

>>>> NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC IN SPANISH -Samantha Ward / *The Conversation. -Friday 25 March 2022, on-line. >>>> WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE ANIMALS IN UKRAINE ZOOS. At the Kiev Zoo, some species are being sedated or moved underground to protect them from the war between Russia and Ukraine. [...]. Some of the animals, such as lions, tigers and wild cats have been moved to zoos in Poland, but this solution is not possible for many other species. [...]. At the moment, the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) and the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) are working to support Ukrainian zoos as much as they can. [It is easy to think that the best course of action would be to evacuate the animals to a safer environment, away from the war zone. But this operation would be

enormously risky for several reasons. In a tense and complicated environment, the animals may be afraid of the sounds around them. In addition, loading highly stressed animals into crates and transporting them through conflict zones could cause serious illness or even death, apart from the danger of being hit by gunfire. [...] You also have to consider where they would go. Neighbouring zoos may not have the space, staffing needs, expertise, or specially designed enclosures to house these animals. [...] Even under normal circumstances, moving zoo animals is not an easy task, transporting animals can have negative effects on their welfare. Transported animals can suffer from dehydration, fatigue, behavioural changes, and stress. Research has also shown that animals build relationships with keepers, so this could have additional welfare implications if animals are moved under stress to new locations. [...]. London Zoo was founded in 1828 and has survived two world wars, so its history of coping with bombing may offer useful lessons in the current Russia-Ukraine war. On 3 September 1939, the Second World War began and at 11am on that day, the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), which runs the London Zoo, was ordered by the government to close it. London Zoo had prepared for this. Records show that two giant pandas, two orangutans, four chimpanzees, three Asian elephants and an ostrich were moved to Whipsnade Zoo, outside London, for safety. The ZSL has collected documents from this time that tell what happened. Unfortunately, some of the poisonous animals were killed to increase safety [...] in case any of them escaped due to an explosion. Parts of the zoo could be reopened, but the aquarium remained closed until 1943 as a bombing precaution. The tanks were emptied and some of the inhabitants had to be culled, although some fish were transferred to tanks in the turtle house. London Zoo began to raise its own supplies of invertebrates, such as mealworms. Requests for acorns and other items to feed the animals were broadcast on the radio and the public donated them at one tonne per week. Citizens could also adopt animals and help keep them, something that could happen in Ukrainian zoos. As of 18 March 2022, the EAZA Ukraine Emergency Fund had raised 576,371 euros thanks to contributions from a large number of individual and institutional donors, [...]. The funds raised will be used to help Ukrainian zoos to provide food and care for the animals.

>>>> The Courier-Mail, Thursday 26 October 1939, page 2. >>>> PLANTS, ANIMALS SENT TO SAFETY —War Steps in London. —Townsville, Wednesday. Not only were the animals of the London Zoo moved to the country when the war broke out, but the more valuable collections of relics in the British Museum and of plants at Kew Gardens were transferred to safer areas. [...] When the war broke out, [...] the botanical staff at Kew put valuable specimens into safety covers so that, in emergency, they could be removed to the country. Some of the most valuable collections were removed early in the war.

>>>> The Examiner, Tuesday 14 November 1939, page 6. >>>> War Sidelights — THE PROBLEM OF THE PETS — Dogs, Canaries, Cats. Domestic animals are something of a problem in wartime, with the possibility of air raids upon undefended towns. It is interesting to read that in Britain the R.S.P.C.A., Our Dumb Friends' League, and the National Canine Defence League are acting in co-operation with the National Veterinary Medical Association and the P.D.S.A. on the question of dealing with animals in the event of emergency. [...] The societies are collaborating under the Air Raid Precautions Department of the Home Office, which has caused the formation of the National A.R.P. Animals Committee. The following general recommendations were made for the guidance of the public in dealing with their household animals: (1) Send or take them into the country in advance of an emergency. (2) Provide dogs with muzzles and leads and cats with baskets if travelling by public conveyance. (3) Should you decide to keep your animal with you, find out at once the nearest veterinary surgeon or local centre of an animal welfare society in case their help is needed. If you do not know already, any local police officer will tell you. —NOT IN

SHELTERS— (4) Remember that animals will not be permitted to enter public shelters. Of course, if you have a suitable private shelter, you should take them with you, but muzzle your dog and put your cat in a basket, for frenzied animals are dangerous and difficult to handle. (5) If you and your family have to leave your home at very short notice and cannot take your animals with you, in no circumstances leave them in the house or turn them into the streets. Remember your animals cannot accompany you under the Government evacuation scheme. It is needless to destroy your animals if you can find neighbours to take care of them, but should dire necessity demand, ensure their painless destruction by taking them to the nearest veterinary surgeon or local centre of an animal welfare society. Do not take them to the police station, as the police will not be able to deal with them.

>>>> The Daily Telegraph, Monday 8 April 1940, page 1. >>>> MILLION PETS DIE —INDEPENDENT CABLE SERVICE —LONDON, Sunday. A million cat and dog pets were destroyed in England in the early part of the war. The slaughter was due to owners' fears that evacuation of London and other large cities, the call-up for war service, and food rationing would make it impossible for them to care for their pets properly. "I saw 80.000 pets buried one night in September", Colonel Robert Storrey, chief of the A.R.P. Animals Committee, told the Sunday Express. [...]. "There were queues of people at animal clinics throughout the country, waiting with pets to be destroyed. The slaughter was unnecessary. My committee looks after pets in wartime. We have 500 vets., who are giving their services free".

>>>> Barrier Daily Truth, Monday 6 January 1941, page 4. >>>> London Zoo Carries On – DAMAGE BUT NO DEATHS (By Air Mail). London Zoo is carrying on, despite bombs which have damaged buildings, but fortunately produced no casualties. Much glass has been broken by the detonation of unexploded bombs. If a time bomb falls in the Zoo, the inhabitants cannot be evacuated: yet the must continue to be bed and looked after. Luckily the two-time bombs that fell in the Gardens without exploding were both small, and the animals' routine could continue until the Royal Engineers got round to digging the bombs up. [...]. Three humming birds escaped, and are doubtless gone for ever, but they do not constitute a danger to the population of London. A crane escaped into Regent's Park when its enclosure was damaged by a high-explosive bomb but was recaptured by the offer of food after a few days; and a zebra which was liberated by a direct hit on the zebra house was rounded up without much difficulty. Experienced keepers can manage to recapture most animals; but if a brown bear, say, or a chimpanzee, or a large antelope, were to be liberated an to prove difficult, there are rifles and scatter-guns which could be brought into play as a last resort. [...]. All the dangerous larger cats have been placed in the lion house, and every night are shut up in the inner sleeping dens. These are so situated that it would take two bombs to release an inmate —one to break open the den and a second to break the bars of either the outdoor or the indoor cage. The odds against such a double event are so great that its possibility can be safety disregarded.

>>>> NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC IN SPANISH -Andrea Fischer. -Wednesday 6 April 2022, on-line. >>>> ZOOLOGIST IN UKRAINE PLANS TO SACRIFICE ITS ANIMALS TO PREVENT THEM FROM LIVING THE WAR. Although the plan is to relocate all the animals back to safety, the Zoo in Kharkiv, Ukraine, faces severe difficulties in achieving this. The decision is being painfully mulled over. In the midst of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, Kharkiv Zoo is considering culling some of its largest animals. Although the animals are members of endangered species, the zoo's authorities would rather put them to sleep than let them face starvation and shortages due to the war. After a bombing of the zoo in Ukraine, the spaces were practically destroyed. [According to CBS News coverage, the animals' cages are severely damaged [...]. The institution's authorities are at a difficult crossroads:

"Feldman Ecopark is trying to relocate animals, but if that option fails, some animals, such as lions and tigers, will have to go to sleep," the media outlet reports. [Although they are struggling to get food and water for the animals, the Kharkiv Zoo was adamant in stressing that euthanasia will be an extreme measure [...]. They are therefore contacting international organisations and charities to help them relocate the animals. In addition to the fact that special transport is required to achieve this, considerable funds need to be raised. To this end, Kharkiv Zoo has published an official donation site.

>>>> The Murrumbidgee Irrigator, Friday 31 October 1941, page 4. >>>> BRITONS CAN ADOPT AN ELEPHANT AT £1 A WEEK —PROTECTING LONDON ZOO ANIMALS FROM AIR-RAIDS. [...] Animal lovers all over the world have taken up the London Zoo's adoption scheme, by which people "adopt" animals for the duration of the war by paying a weekly fee to cover the food bill. The name of the adopter appears on a special label on the animal's cage. Thus, anyone who wishes may become the foster parent of an elephant for £1 a week and of a tortoise for one shilling. Since the first animal was adopted one month after the outbreak of war [...] more than 380 animals with fees totalling £3600 have acquired foster parents all over the world, often in the countries from which the animals originally came. But there is still a wide choice for prospective adopters. From North America there are raccoons, at 2/6 a week, husky dogs, deer and bears at 5/-, bison at 7/6, deer and alligators at 3/6, African animals, such as baboons, genets and civets can be kept for 2/6 a week; crocodiles for 3/6, hyenas, gnus, antelopes, wild swine, ostriches and pythons for 5/-, buffaloes for 7/6, cheetahs, zebras, rhinoceroses, giraffes and pelicans for 10/-, and chimpanzees for 15/-. Australasian specimens still open for adoption include cockatoos at 2/6 a week and emus and dingoes at 5/-, while there are Indian macaques and mynahs at 2/6, blackbuck and Nilghai antelopes and wild swine at 5/-, rhinoceroses at 10/-, tigers at 15/-, and elephants at £1.—Some people do what they can for their town. Others do whom they can.

>>>> Glen Innes Examiner, Thursday 10 April 1941, page 2. >>>> PETS HIT BY WAR —But Thousands Survive. —(By Air Mail From London). The war is having strange effects on animal and bird life, especially domestic pets. It seems that 1941 will be a year of plagues, ranging from sparrows to wolves. Denmark is afflicted with a pest of sparrows, running into millions —thirty million is the official count. They are to be exterminated, if possible, before they begin nest-building in the spring. Germany, so it is reported, is afflicted with wolves, which hunt in packs like the Gestapo, with equally dangerous results. There are no wolves now in England, but foxes —since the war started— have been increasing in leaps and bounds, causing havoc in country poultry runs, during the long hours of the winter black-out. Because of the practical disappearance of the hunt, farmers are organising special shoots to get rid of the fox —one of the many striking changes in English country life which the war has brought about. The prolific rabbit is also alarmingly on the increase, though since the shortage of imported beef and mutton, it has replaced, to some extent, the supplies of meat. Tens of thousands of rats were burnt out in London during the great City fire, but a quarter of a million or more still survive in City areas, which the bombs did not reach and men are making good money in catching them. One expert ratcatcher, brought before a London court admitted that he was earning £20 a week by trapping the vermin. In spite of the bombings, the City pigeons still strut and flutter around St. Paul's Cathedral and the church yard; the pigeons of Westminster remain faithful to Parliament Square and Trafalgar Square. Dogs and cats have had a worse time. Although perhaps not more than 2000 dogs and an equal number of cats perished as the result of enemy action during last year's raids on London, more than half a million dogs have been slaughtered in Britain since the war began. More than half this number perished by bombing, in black-out accidents, and because of rationing

difficulties and their owners having been called up. Another 100.000 were destroyed by their owners at the outbreak of war and the remainder when the air raids began and homes were evacuated. [...] Sir Robert Gower, chairman of the R.S.P.C.A., is to put forward a suggestion in the House of Commons that food for dogs should be rationed. It is hardly likely that the Home Secretary (Mr. Morrison) will regard the suggestion seriously, with so many more important food problems on his mind. Meanwhile, the R.S.P.C.A. is 'putting dogs to sleep' at the rate of 10.000 a month — usually at the owner's request.

>>>> **Daily Telegraph, Monday 14 April 1941, page 2. >>>> ZOO ANTELOPES DIE OF FRIGHT DURING RAIDS —Daily Telegraph Service and A.A.P. —LONDON, Sunday.** Antelopes died of fright in the Whipsnade Zoo [...] during recent air raids, states the Zoological Society in its annual report. More than 50 explosive and 70 fire-bombs have fallen in the Zoo grounds. There were no casualties among staff or visitors, but some equipment was damaged. Once 41 explosive bombs fell in the zoo. Only casualty, apart from antelopes, was a baby giraffe, which was killed by a bomb splinter.

>>>> **The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser, Wednesday 20 November 1946, page 13. >>>> LONDON ZOO IN THE BLITZ —How Animals Took Bombing.** As a matter of general conversational and newspaper interest the unhappy subject of bombing, with its attendant stories of near-escapes and freak blast-effects, has long since been dropped, though the Londoner at one time spoke of little else. It has passed out of the stage when it provided news, and even out of the bore's repertoire, into the saddest pages of history. However, the story of how the animals in the London Zoo stood up to the high explosive, incendiary and flying bombs has been recently told by Dr. Geoffrey Ververs, speaking in the BBC's short-wave service, and it was an interesting story. There were remarkably few casualties among the animals. The aquarium had a direct hit but luckily the tanks had been emptied and no harm was done. [...] Incendiaries played havoc with the roofs, but efficient fire-fighting prevented serious damage. The flying bombs or "doodle-bugs" were more dangerous, 18 falling nearby, removing all the Zoo roofs and practically every pane of glass (34 tons of glass were lost in one "incident" alone), but the animals' luck still held. [...] The glass roof of the monkey house fell in a shower on the monkeys, but not one of them was cut and in the morning the keeper found them busily playing with the pieces.

>>>> **EURONEWS -Natalia Liubchenkova. -Tuesday 8 November 2022, on-line.**
>>>> **MIKOLAIV KEEPS ITS ZOOLOGICAL ZOO OPEN EVEN THOUGH THE WAR FRONT IS AT ITS DOORS** [...] This is one of the oldest zoos in Ukraine. In these circumstances, it has to overcome a multitude of difficulties to be provided with water, food, and medicine for the animals, and also to ensure the safety of workers and visitors, as Yuriy Kyrychenko, deputy director of the Mikolayev Zoo, explains. "We don't have drinking water in the city, salt water from an estuary comes out of the tap, we bring fresh water for the animals to drink, in these containers and also in larger ones that are in each department," he says. The Mikolayev Zoo exists thanks to the help of Ukrainian and foreign volunteers, the support of other zoos, and donations from people all over the world who buy tickets online to help maintain the zoo. The zoo has also served as a refuge for the pets of Ukrainians who have been forced to flee the city during the war. [...]. **THE BIG CHALLENGE IS THE ARRIVAL OF WINTER. THEY HAVE BEEN PREPARING FOR THE COLDEST SEASON OF THE YEAR FOR MONTHS.**