



# ARK ANIMAL REFUGE KANSAI

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9/2/95

TO: [REDACTED], The Company of Animals.  
FROM: Elizabeth Oliver, Animal Refuge Kansai.  
NUMBER OF PAGES (INCL.COVER): 1  
RE: Animal Rescue following the Kobe Earthquake

Dear [REDACTED]

In October 1994 you kindly donated a box of Kongs for the animals at ARK. I am hoping you can help us once again. Since the devastating earthquake that hit Kobe city on January 17th we have been involved in a massive rescue operation to save some of the tens of thousands of pets injured or made homeless. Below is a brief description of the situation at present. We are preparing an appeal leaflet asking people to support ARK by sending donations - could you help by having a pile on your stall at Crufts in March? If so can you give us an address to post them to (other than your P.O.Box no.) and let us know how many you could distribute.

We have been busy distributing emergency pet food supplies and collecting and caring for animals whose owners are no longer in a position to care for them. Many of these animals have led a happy life and separation from their families (in some cases after 14 years) is heartbreaking. Many animals are bewildered and withdrawn but we are encouraging people to come to the shelter to visit their pets as often as possible. Posters have been distributed in the Kobe area offering food, support and free boarding until people can care for their pets again. Work on temporary housing is nearing completion - we have erected two large vinyl houses and a prefabricated building (for approx. 200 dogs & cats) in our exercise field.

Examples of animals rescued/sheltered by ARK include:

- Eleven Yorkshire terriers from a breeder whose house was destroyed. Many of the dogs were old, some were pregnant - all were very traumatized. One dog gave birth the night she arrived at ARK - only one pup survived.
- Sixty rabbits rescued from a burning house. Some died in the fire, but those rescued are now safe at ARK.
- A male husky who was reunited with his owner following two weeks of frantic searching.
- Countless other dogs and cats found wandering the streets or waiting patiently amid the rubble of their former homes.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Oliver.  
Director, Animal Refuge Kansai.