

1150 Yoneda,
Yokawa cho,
Mino gun,
Hyogo ken, 673-11,
Japan.

15th May, 1995.

Dear [REDACTED],

It was good to see you at Elizabeth's after the earthquake. It was also a great relief to learn that IFAW will be taking over the pet animal problem in Japan by supporting Elizabeth's and presumably, other "no-kill" animal groups. This cannot of course be considered true animal welfare, for in all the heavily populated countries of the world, both the backward and advanced - except perhaps for the Scandinavian countries, Holland and Korea (Korea being an exception in a special way), there could never ever be enough "no-kill" organisations to cater for even half of the needy animals. This means that only a handful of those needing help will ever be reached by such organisations, and most animals, as a result, will end up being destroyed inhumanely, if not very cruelly, by unconcerned, uncaring and in many places brutal authorities. In other words, the idea of helping just a few needy animals and ignoring, or failing to reach the majority needing help, is akin to the early Victorian concept of "welfare", which is considered totally unacceptable today by any advanced thinking peoples, in terms of human welfare.

This narrow animal welfare policy of IFAW's and other unenlightened groups already operating in Japan, will probably mean that our work will fold up, i.e. the work of animal rescue on a large scale. In normal circumstances, i.e. before the Great Earthquake, my group of volunteers and I were forced to take in every two weeks the number of animals Elizabeth took in in one whole year! Urs and Miyo at the JAWS Hanshin Rescue Centre, were sometimes forced to accept in ONE DAY, the same number of animals Elizabeth's group accepted in a whole year! Those needy animals which she and other "no-kill" groups turn away because they simply have no room, have been forced onto us and we in turn, in order to cope and to save large numbers from suffering a cruel death, have been forced to euthanize them, much against our will.

Elizabeth chose to join the other "no-kill" groups working against us and making it very difficult for us to continue. In fact, the ARK group (Elizabeth's) added their poster against euthanasia to those other posters on the Ai-no-Kaeru tent holding rescued dogs and cats in Nishinomiya city, straight down from our JAWS Rescue Centre. However, as if to illustrate how inadequate and very hypocritical this "no-kill" animal welfare concept can be, the very day after Urs had taken a photograph of Elizabeth's notice against euthanasia, she called him to ask if he could put to sleep ARK's 12 pet black and white cats! Of course Urs refused!