

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE  
INVESTIGATIVE AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES  
WESTERN REGION  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION- No Violation Report

Case Number: CA01069-AC

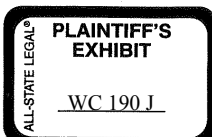
Alleged Violation: 9 CFR 2.131(a)(2)(i)

Alleged Violator: Feld Entertainment, Inc.  
d.b.a. Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey  
8607 Westwood Center Drive  
Vienna, VA 22182

Business Information: Feld Entertainment, Inc. is a licensed exhibitor with the USDA; license #52-C-0137. One of the businesses owned by Feld Entertainment is Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey [Circus]. There are two main traveling units with this circus- the red unit and the blue unit; as well as two animal facilities located in Florida.

Summary of Events: On August 30 through September 2, 2000, the Blue unit was being exhibited in Northern California (San Francisco Bay area). During this time period, it appears that the baby elephants were pinched on their sides with pliers, apparently used as a training tool. It is also documented that one of the baby's was hit in the trunk with the ankus, apparently used as a disciplinary tool.

Explanation of Evidence: Affidavit from Pat CuvIELLO (Exhibit 1) stating that he witnessed and video taped the babies getting hit with the ankus, and the handler using a folding type pliers to pinch the sides of the baby elephants. Video tape (Exhibits 2) taken by CuvIELLO, showing the use of the pliers and the ankus on the babies (note that you can not see the actual contact of the pliers on the baby). Six photographs (Exhibits 3 through 8) of the baby elephant known as Kelly-Anne. Pictures 7 and 8 show a lump (about 1 1/2 inch long) on the side of this animal. Affidavit from Michael Smith, VMO (Exhibit 9) stating that the lump on this animal could be caused by mosquito bites as indicated by [ ] but they could also be caused by other means. *bl*



Other background evidence is also included.

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**Summary:** The evidence shows that the ankus is used to correct the baby elephants, and also it appears that pliers are also used as a correction tool.

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**Date of Report:** March 15, 2001