THE SG

No. 14. The newsletter that supports our girls and boys



GOTCHA!



£2,000 damage done to vehicles at a battery farm at Coedkernow, Gwent.

"WOT NO BUTTS?"

The grouse shooting season came to an end in December, and moor owners are still adding up the cost of ALF actions. The ALF have destroyed over 600 shooting butts and attacked at least 5 shooting cabins during the season, and sporadic actions are still taking place.

The first action took place on August 1st, 2 weeks before the glorious twelfth, the official start of the grouse shooting season. On the Peak District moors, outside Sheffield and Manchester, over 100 activists, in ten separate groups, worked throughout the night dismantling about 250 shooting butts. Two shooting cabins were also attacked and one was daubed with the slogan "Wot No Butts?". We estimated the cost of the damage to exceed £200,000.

Some of the butts had been in place since the turn of the century and are quite literally irreplacable.

The night before the first shoot, ALF activists struck again. Gun shops were attacked in Yorkshire and Lancashire causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. In Scotland, 40 more butts were wrecked as was a footbridge leading to them. In North Wales activists attacked butts near Ruffin, and game keepers were seen frantically trying to rebuild them four days later as some Indian princes were due to be shooting there the next day.

Since then, actions have taken place sporadically and over 150 more butts have been dismantled. There have even been reports of ramblers nonchalantly wrecking butts while having a picnic. Hunt saboteurs have reported to ALF that many shoots have been severely disrupted and some even cancelled due to grouse butts being destroyed.

Alf



BLEACH OF THE PEACE

16th October 84: Today magistrates finally lifted harsh bail restrictions on three animal rights activists accused of contaminating bottles of shampoo in a Hull supermarket. The three were required to sign daily at a police station, provide sureties of £500 each and were prohibited from any shop at any time. These bail conditions had been in effect since mid-August. The three were also held in police custody for 6 days pending their original commital trial.

The original charges were to be "conspiracy to commit a public nuisance",(inferring national connections with Animal Liberation Front groups responsible for similar actions) but it now seems likely that the much less serious charge of an offence against the 'Labelling of Dangerous Substances Act' will eventually be preferred.

The charges stem from an animal rights protest in which it is alleged toxic substances (believed to be a weak bleach solution) were mixed with the shampoo and the bottles then labelled 'toxic' and marked with a cross. Three of these were placed in a Hull supermarket and the local press informed that the action had been taken as a protest against the testing of cosmetics on animals.

A spokesman for the local ALF stated that at no time was the public in any danger, the bottles were clearly marked and the store manager informed immediately. Every precaution was taken that no harm was done except perhaps to the profits of those who exploit animals.

Positive results of this action include the removal of entire shampoo stocks in all 20 of the supermarket branches. It also provided an opportunity for the local animal rights group to publicize the infamous Draize Test.

13th November 84: The three appeared in court again and were eventually charged with a "Blemish of the Peace". Due to the evidence against them all 3 pleaded guilty and were bound over for 2 years (for the sum of £200).

This charge (from the 17th century!) was dredged up by the DPP after 4 months of searching for a charge they could be sure of making stick.



Yours in love and liberation,

Hull ALF

Times Higher Education Supplement 23rd November 84

DIARY

Sept 11th: Berlin, Germany - 40 beagles rescued from vivisection lab.

Sept 14th: Ramsgate, Kent - car belonging to director of Charles River lab. animal breeders paintstrippered.

Sept 15th: Dublin, Eire - angling shop daubed and locks glued.

Sept 16th: Paris, France - windscreen wipers of fishmongers lorry damaged.

Sept 19th: Castleton, S.Wales - £800 damage caused and slogans daubed at garden centre which has mini-zoo.

Sept 20th: Canford Magna, Dorset - 15 hens rescued from battery farm. Delivery van and tractor damaged. Slogans painted.

Sept 22nd: Ramsgate, Kent - rabbit breeder's car paintstrippered. Van belonging to shop selling goat and sheepskins paintstrippered.

Sept 26th: Carshalton, Surrey - fencing damaged at BIBRA vivisection labs.

Sept 29th: Bagshot, Surrey - 14 beagles rescued from lab. by SEALL.

Sept 30th: Paris, France - windscreen wipers of poulterer's lorry damaged.

Late Sept: Nottingham - window of fishing tackle shop smashed with a rock.
Coventry area, W.Midlands - windows of 10 butchers and a gun shop smashed. Car belonging to fur shop manageress paintstrippered.

Tackle shops attacked

Nottingham Evening Post
11th October 84

THE Animal Liberation Front today claimed responsibility for attacks on fishing tackle shops in Radford, Gedling, The Meadows, West Bridgford, Arnold, Carrington and Bulwell. It appears a metal ball-bearing was projected through the shop windows, say police.

Early Oct: Heath and Reach, Beds - pheasants, due to be shot, liberated and fence of compound damaged.
Harrietsham, Kent - £1,000 damage done at battery farm - slogans on buildings, damage to vehicles.
Coventry area, W.Midlands - windows of 10 butchers shops smashed. Car belonging to owner of several fur shops paintstrippered.
Paris, France - fish rescued from bad conditions in tank at pet shop.

Oct 1st: Shrewsbury, Shrops - firm which manufactures battery cages daubed and entrance gates chained up.
Wrexham, N.Wales - slogans daubed at cattle market.

Oct 2nd: Paris, France - window of poulterer's lorry smashed.

Oct 3rd: Macclesfield, Cheshire - brick thrown through window of bloodsports shop.

Oct 4th: Soest, Holland - files taken from offices of exotic animal dealer.
Wrexham, N.Wales - lock of frozen meat store glued.
Edinburgh, Scotland - windows smashed of 5 butchers shops, a poulterer, a meat centre and a meat trade supply shop.

Oct 5th: Lancaster - 3 lorries damaged at slaughterhouse (grinding paste, paintstripper, slogans etc.)

Oct 6th: Watford Gap, Northants - car belonging to group of tourists who had been shooting deer damaged at motorway service station.

Lorry tyres slashed at abattoir

Morecambe & Lancaster "Visitor"
26th September 84

ANIMAL rights activists are being blamed for a night raid on a Morecambe slaughterhouse, in which damage estimated at £2,000 was caused to a fleet of vehicles.

And they have been accused of risking lives by jabbing spikes into tyres.

Five heavy goods vehicles and a van were attacked some time between 7.30 am Saturday and 7 am Sunday. They were parked in the open near to the abattoir in Schola Green Lane. All night security has now been brought in.

Messages in dripping red gloss paint were daubed on to slaughterhouse walls and the sides of lorries, and splashed inside the cabs and on driving seats. Aerosols were also used.

Slogans included "Blood Money", "Meat Means Murder", "Some animals have their throats cut while conscious", and "Cancer, arthritis, heart disease — that's meat".

The initials A.L.F. were also daubed in large lettering — they presumably stand for Animal Liberation Front.

The abattoir, which has been in that location for more than 12 years and employs 45 people, lies in a fairly remote part of Schola Green Lane. It is thought the raiders could have been at the scene for up to an hour.

SPIKES

Gravel was poured into diesel tanks and radiators and the filler caps on some lorries were removed.

Seven tyres were punctured, possibly with meat skewers found near the scene. It was only after close examination, however, that other spikes were found embedded in tyres that had not deflated.

Mr. Peter Winder, a director of R. P. Winder, wholesale meat distributors, who operate the abattoir, told The Visitor at the scene on Sunday morning: "The most serious and wilful thing really is that they put spikes into tyres on a number of vehicles.

"If a tyre had blown and the vehicle had killed some children, I don't know what the reaction would have been then."

He went on: "It is the first time we have been affected in this way. It is probably part of a national campaign up and down the country involving different abattoirs.

Oct 7th: Merseyside - windows of 6 butchers shops smashed. Locks of hot dog stand warehouse and Danish Bacon Co. superglued. Slogans sprayed on 2 butchers shops and a halal kebab shop.
Sidcup, Kent - slogans daubed and hoardings damaged at building site for a McDonalds burger restaurant.

Oct 8th: West Bridgford, Nottingham - windows of a butchers shop and a fur shop smashed.

Oct 10th: Rhostyllen, Wrexham, N.Wales - windows of butchers shop broken and slogans sprayed.

Oct 11th: Sparkbrook, Birmingham - brick thrown through butchers shop window.
Wigan, Lancs - slogans painted at battery egg farm.
Nottingham - windows of 7 fishing tackle shops smashed using a catapult.
Leytonstone, E.London - lorry paintstrippered, locks glued and slogans painted at bacon packers. Fork lift truck also paintstrippered.

Burger site daubed

Sidcup Times
11th October 84

ANIMAL rights campaigners daubed slogans and damaged hoardings at a Sidcup High Street site being developed by hamburger giants, McDonalds.

A group calling itself the Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the vandalism which happened late on Sunday night.

Red paint graffiti sprayed on the McDonald's site said "Macdeath burger" and "meat means murder." One of the boards put up around the site had been knocked down.

An ALF spokesman said McDonald's had been hit because of the restaurant's involvement with the slaughter of animals and factory farming.

In response to the animal rights activists' accusations a McDonald's spokesman said: "Ninety-eight (per cent of the population enjoy meat and we are there to serve that demand. All our cattle are humanely slaughtered."

Threats to traders over advertising for circus

Letters threatening to smash shop windows have been sent to Wrexham traders advertising the arrival of Circus Hoffman in the town.

The letters are from the Animal Liberation Front and police patrols are being stepped up to protect the shopkeepers from the group, which has claimed reponsibility for several window smashing incidents.

Mr Jack Stevens, who owns the Joke Shop in Town Hill, is one of about a dozen shopkeepers who received the letters yesterday, which were postmarked Chester.

It reads: "Circuses are cruel and degrading to animals. Unless you remove the poster from your window by Sat. 6th, we will remove the window from the poster."

The letter is marked with the ALF motif.

Mr Stevens said his reaction was "sheer bloody anger" when he read the letter, but that his wife had panicked a little.

"They say these circuses are degrading, but what is more degrading than sending an anonymous letter?

"I'm always willing to talk to people", he said. "Everyone is entitled to their views, but they shouldn't try and ram them down my throat."

He has no intention of removing the poster from his window and says that as far as he knew other traders were not bowing to the threats.

Supt. Derek Roberts of Wrexham, said that the police were aware of the letters and shopkeepers would be protected with additional police patrolling of the streets.

He said that the possibility of using forensic scientists to test the letters to trace members of the group have not been ruled out, and investigations were continuing.

The Animal Liberation Front is also thought to be responsible for putting glue into the lock of the Iceland Frozen Food Store in Wrexham last night.

This is the second time in about a month it has been done. Staff were locked out for about three hours.

Evening Star (Ipswich)
15th October 84

RED PAINT ATTACK ON FURS SHOP

A copy-cat attack has been made on an Ipswich fur coat shop.

For the second time this year red paint was sprayed through the letter box of Sacks and Brendlor's in Tavern Street.

Managing director of the company, Mr. Pierre Brendlor, said damage was restricted to one leather coat and the floor of the shop.

Initial police reports on the attack, which took place some time between Saturday evening and this morning, estimated damage totalling about £1,500 to garments, fixtures and carpets.

In a previous paint spray attack in January a number of fur coats were hit causing several thousands of pounds worth of damage.

Once again the Animal Liberation Front has claimed responsibility for the damage.

Evening Leader (Wrexham)
5th October 84

Oct 13th: Liverpool - locks glued and slogans painted at 5 animal abuse premises (butchers, fur shops and a restaurant selling frogs legs).

Uxbridge, Middx - minibus belonging to Brunel university psychology dept. (vivisectors) was daubed and had windows smashed. Windows of 10 butchers shops, a fish shop and a hunting shop broken.

Hastings, E.Sussex - 2 vans belonging to meat firm paintstrippered. 2 butchers shops had windows broken.

Oct 14th: Clifton, Nottingham - damage caused to Boots the Chemist shop.

Ipswich, Suffolk - red paint sprayed through letter box of fur shop causing £1,500 damage.

Edinburgh, Scotland - windows smashed of 4 butchers, a meat trade supply centre, 2 fishmongers/poulterers and a frozen meat centre.

Whyteleafe, Surrey - slogans daubed on home of foxhunter.

Bolton, Lancs - over 200 mink freed from fur farm.

Derby - window of McDonalds smashed, 2 windows of Boots smashed.

West Bridgford, Nottingham - window of butchers shop smashed.

Mid Oct: Middlesborough - slogans spray painted on several butchers shops.

Sidcup, Kent - slogans sprayed on 6 butchers shops, a pet shop and the site of a new McDonalds hamburger restaurant.

Mid to end Oct: Ramsgate, Kent - 3 vans belonging to Viking Security (work for Charles Rivers lab. animal breeders) paintstrippered.

Oct 16th: Cambridge - doors and locks damaged at vivisection labs. of Cambridge university physiology dept.

Otford, Kent - window of butchers shop smashed.

Plaxtol, Kent - pavement in front of butchers shop sprayed 'meat means murder'.

Ballyellis, Co. Cork, Eire - 85 hares released from enclosure where they were being kept for coursing.

Oct 17th: Nottingham - home of convicted badger baiter daubed.

Oct 18th: Liverpool - window of butchers shop catapulted.

Oct 19th: Chadwick End, West Midlands - £2,000 damage caused and 46 hens rescued from battery farm.

Oct 20th: Paris, France - slogans painted on agriculture ministry in protest against large scale slaugter of cats by the ministry.

Westgate, Kent - Alsation rescued from cruel home and slogans painted.

Wigram, Christchurch, New Zealand - Great Dane, due to be put down, rescued from RSPCA kennels.

Aldborough, Nr. Hull - pregnant beagle rescued from lab. animal suppliers.

Oct 21st: Westgate, Kent - 2 cars belonging to man who had been cruel to his dog, paintstrippered.

Oct 22nd: Coventry, W.Midlands - window of butchers shop smashed.

Bristol - 8 butchers shops daubed and a meat delivery van daubed and tyres slashed.

Oct 23rd: Charlton, S.E.London - window of butchers shop smashed.

Plumstead, S.E.London - 'meat means murder' sprayed on pavement outside butchers shop. Slogan painted on front of another butchers shop.

Oct 24th: Liverpool - lock of gunshop jammed and slogans sprayed.

Ewell, Surrey - slogans painted on college of technology where cruel experiments take place.

Coventry Evening Telegraph
20th October 84

Battery farm raid

ANIMAL rights campaigners destroyed more than 40,000 eggs in a raid on a battery poultry farm.

They also flooded feeding troughs and freed more than 40 hens at Rosemary Farm egg-packing station at Chadwick End, near Solihull, last night.

One of the station's workers, Joy Wilkes, said: "Many chickens were absolutely soaked because of the flooding. It's lucky none of them drowned.

"These people smashed the water pipes and flooded the troughs. It seems strange they are campaigning for animal rights when they do something as cruel as this."

A person claiming to be a representative of the Animal Liberation Front today claimed responsibility for the raid and said it had released 46 hens. A spokesman said the hens had now been found "free-range homes."

The campaigners ruined more than 40,000 eggs.

Oct 26th: Smethwick, W.Midlands - 4 meat lorries windscreens smashed, paintstrippered etc.

Oct 28th: Fareham area, Hants - co-ordinated attack by SEALL on 3 establishments involved in vivisection, damage caused and documements taken.

Edinburgh, Scotland - windows of 3 butchers shops and 2 fishmongers smashed.

Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs - damage caused at battery egg farm.

Butcher hit yet again by protesters

Coventry Telegraph
23rd October 84

VANDALS have struck again at a Coventry butcher's shop hit by a wave of attacks in recent months.

John Bloxham at his shop, Holly Bush Family Butchers, in Alderminster Road, Mount Nod, yesterday morning, to find a smashed window — the fifth since August.

Yesterday afternoon in an anonymous call to the *Evening Telegraph*, a man claiming to be from the Animal Liberation Front admitted carrying out the attack "as a protest against factory farming."

After the last attack, also believed to be the work of animal protesters, Mr Bloxham's insurance claims for repairing the windows topped £1,000.

He was so sickened at the vandals' actions that he threatened to quit the business which he took over in May.

Police agreed to step up night-time surveillance of the area but were unable to prevent the latest attack.

Mr Bloxham refused to make any comment about the incident. But in August he said: "I've just about had enough. I feel very bitter about what's happening."

Oct 29th: Nottingham - windows smashed in 3 Boots shops. New Boots animal research lab. paintstrippered.

Oct 31st: Burtonwood, Merseyside - slogans painted and 38 turkeys rescued from intensive farm.
Thornton Heath, Surrey - red paint poured over front of 2 butchers shops.

Late Oct: Smethwick, W.Midlands - 4 lorries attacked at a butchers depot. Thousands of pounds damage.
Middlesborough - butchers shop spray painted with slogans.
Coventry area, W.Midlands - 2 cars and 2 vans belonging to butchers paintstrippered. 4 cars belonging to hunt supporters paintstrippered. Exit gates to a sausage tasting competition padlocked.

Protest attack on butchers' lorries

Dudley Evening Mail
26th October 84

Animal liberation "commandos" attacked lorries at a Black Country butchers today, slashing brake cables and wrecking engines.

The animal activists struck at the Dewhurst lorry compound in Dartmouth Street, Smethwick.

They attacked four lorries, smashing windscreens, cutting oil lines, pouring paint-stripper over the vehicles and putting sugar in petrol tanks.

One of the lorries had its brake cables slashed, and the protestors pledged that they would stage further attacks in the area.

Detectives investigating the case today said they were treating the cut break cables "very seriously" as the activists had put the lives of drivers at risk.

A woman spokesman for the Animal Liberation Front telephoned the Evening Mail and claimed responsibility for the raid.

Reading from a prepared statement, she said: "The attack was a protest against the slaughter of innocent animals by the meat trade. We can and will strike again.

Sandwell's head of CID, Det. Supt. Michael Holder said: "We appreciate that they called us but someone might have turned up early for work and driven away a lorry before we could have warned them.

A spokesman for Dewhurst said they were still investigating

Early Nov: Coventry area, W.Midlands: 3 windows of a butchers shop broken. Slogans daubed on NFU offices. 3 windows smashed at fur shop.
Cheltenham, Glos - window of butchers shop broken.
Paris, France - empty tank at pet shop used to imprison fish, smashed.
Edinburgh - windows of 3 butchers, a meat shop and a poulterers smashed.

Nov 1st: Leeds, W.Yorks - 3 windows broken at store with exhibition promoting animal circuses.

Nov 3rd: Merseyside - at least 5 fur shops and 4 butchers shops daubed and locks glued.

Nov 4th: Elland, W.Yorks - nearly 2,000 mink released from fur farm.
Kings Heath, Birmingham - butchers shop window smashed with lump of concrete.
Halifax, W.Yorks - 16 foxes liberated from fur farm and vans damaged.
Dewsbury, W.Yorks - slogans daubed on slaughterhouse. Locks of 15 butchers shops filled with glue.
Golders Green, NW.London - kosher poultry van paint-strippered and locks glued.

Nov 5th: East Bridgford, Notts - doors of battery farm daubed with slogans. Tractor destroyed by fire.

Nov 6th: Gloucester - slogans sprayed over cattle market.

Nov 7th: Ramsgate, Kent - window of Boots smashed.
Bournemouth, Dorset - fur shop paintbombed.

Nov 8th: East Dundry, nr.Bristol - slogans painted at turkey farm.
Bournemouth, Dorset - 2 windows of fur shop broken.

Nov 9th: Wickham, Hants - 5 vehicles at a kennels which sends dogs for vivisection, damaged by fire.

Nov 11th: Holloway, N.London - 3 meat vans paintstrippered and one also had locks glued.
Nottingham - window of fur shop smashed.

Nov 13th: Newmarket, Suffolk - window of fur shop damaged.

Nov 14th: Liverpool - at least 2 fur shops and 2 butchers shops attacked. Windows smashed, slogans daubed, glue in locks.

Nov 15th: Cheltenham, Glos - windows of 6 butchers shops broken.
Worcester - windows of 2 butchers shops broken.
Bexley, Kent - home of owner of firm which makes lab. animal cages daubed and car paintstrippered.
Bournemouth, Dorset - window of shop selling ritually slaughtered meat broken.

Nov 16th: Prees, Shropshire - 8 lorries belonging to Goldenlay battery egg firm daubed with slogans.

Nov 17th: Bromley, Kent - 29 rats and 5 frogs rescued from cruel experiments at College of Technology. £1,500 damage done.
Preston, Lancs - slogan painted on doorstep of Boots.

Nov 19th: Preston, Lancs - 8 vans daubed at British Beef depot.

Nov 20th: Wareside, Herts - 6 vans damaged at intensive poultry farm. Paintstrippered, slogans, sugar in tanks.
Birmingham - 2 guinea pigs rescued from cruel experiments at a hospital.
Rugby, Warwicks - locks of 3 butchers shops glued.
Weymouth, Dorset - slogans painted on butchers shop.

Nov 21st: Worcester - windows of 4 butchers shops broken.

Nov 24th: Arkendale, N.Yorks - tyres of vehicle belonging to foxhunt slashed.

Nov 25th: Ramsgate, Kent - slogans sprayed on RSPCA shop in protest against RSPCA condemnation of ALF actions.
Effingham, Surrey - slogans painted on meat shop.
Guildford, Surrey - 3 butchers shops damaged.
Lewarde, Northern France - bomb attack on premises of international lab. animal dealer causing extensive damage.
Bournemouth, Dorset - 2 windows broken of shop selling ritually slaughtered meat.

Nov 27th: Oxted, Surrey - cars belonging to a hunt master paint-strippered.

Nov 28th: Gloucester - window of butchers shop broken.

Nov 29th: Gloucester - windows of 4 butchers shops broken.

Nov 30th: Bournemouth area, Dorset - windows of 5 butchers shops smashed.

Harrogate, N.Yorks - slogans painted on Hazleton vivisection labs.

Paris, France - 4 hens and 5 rabbits rescued from vivisection lab. at a university and about £500 damage done.

Late Nov: Daventry, Northants - slogans painted at battery egg farm run by nuns.

Bexley, Kent - car belonging to director of firm, which makes cages for lab. animals, paintstrippered.



Manager Keith Parnell with the burned-out delivery van

AN EXTREMIST animal rights group today said its members started fires which caused £10,000 damage to a Bedworth abattoir.

The arson attack last night was carried out by fanatics from the Animal Liberation Front.

The same group recently mounted the hoax that Mars bars had been injected with rat poison.

A spokesman warned more attacks could follow. "Any place connected with the meat industry is a target for us," he said.

In last night's blaze at Smith's Abattoir in Park Road at Bedworth two vehicles and an office were damaged.

Inside the abattoir buildings 30 lambs and 30 pigs were being kept overnight and a spokesman at the company said: "If they are so concerned about animal welfare, why risk burning them alive?"

Today abattoir operators in Coventry and Warwickshire were stepping up security.

Police in the county are already on alert because of the threat posed by animal rights campaigners prepared to take criminal action. Extra patrols have been mounted for the run-up to Christmas to protect farms and butchers both from extremists and thieves.

Controlled

Inflammable liquid was poured over a cattle truck and a delivery van at Smith's last night. The intruders also poured fluid through the letterbox of the office.

Both vehicles were badly damaged but the blaze was noticed quickly by a neighbour and brought under control by firemen whose station is just across the road. Three separate fires had been started.

Coventry Evening Telegraph
5th December 84



Evening Standard
2nd January 85

Raid exposes Zoo cruelty

On the night of Tuesday 17th December '84, 5 members of the ALF broke into Broxbourne Zoo (Paradise Park) in Hertfordshire, via the main gates which had carelessly been left open. Due to the complete lack of security, we quickly secured the release of one Coati Mundi, which was suffering terribly due to the diabolical conditions it was living under. We found the animal very easy to catch, a fact we can only put down to his being so very hungry that when we placed a carrying cage baited with food in front of him, he gladly obliged us by walking straight inside.

The cage the unfortunate animal was being kept in was nowhere near large enough, being barely 4' x 5' (the size of the average lavatory). It contained no branches, platforms etc. which, to an arboreal (tree living) animal like the Coati Mundi, are an absolute necessity.

On examining the animal, before taking it to more suitable accomodation, we found the animal to be extremely thin and very cold, wet and covered in filth. This, we believe, was due to bad feeding and the damp, dirty straw which was the only bedding made available to it, at this disgusting mismanaged 'zoo'.

The sores on the animals tail and legs are now well on the mend. His tail, which was practically bald, is starting to show a new coating of hair, and his painfully thin frame is starting to fill out on his new well-balanced diet, as recommended by our sympathetic vet. The vet also told us that had this animal been left at the zoo under those conditions for any longer, it would by now have died a very painful and lingering death, due entirely to mismanagement and total neglect.

The lack of care and attention shown to the animals, and the general second-rate keepership employed by those 'looking after' them, at Paradise Park is illustrated very well by the fact that the Coati Mundis liberation went completely unnoticed by everyone at the zoo for an entire morning until a reporter, visiting the zoo after a tip-off, discovered the empty cage with the door wide open early in the afternoon.

The zoos manager has denied that the Coati Mundi was suffering in any way but the camera does not lie, and as the photos we took prove, even after a month of specialist veterinary treatment, the animal is still not completely well. To try and explain the ridiculously small cage that the animal was living in, Mr. Sampson claimed that the cage was only temporary, as the Coati Mundi was in hibernation, so he did not need much room. We know for a fact that that the animal had been in the same cage for at least four months, which is hardly temporary, and a quick 'phone call to London Zoo confirmed what we already knew, namely that Coati Mundi do not hibernate!

We decided to release the photographs of the rescued animal to the press to dispel the rumour, started by Mr. Sampson, that in rescuing and moving the animal we could well have killed it. Mr. Sampson has at least admitted that the Coati Mundis mate died a few months ago. It was to prevent the same fate befalling this animal that we considered it necessary to rescue it.

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(Photo in the next newsletter).

«.....freedom is what it deserves.»

by ralph cooke

In reply to Julie Weston's criticism of the article on mink release in the August issue of the SG Bulletin, I would like to say that most of what she said would be open to argument requiring far more space than this newsletter could provide before agreement on the major points could be reached. Further, although most of what Julie Weston says is logical, I have found that when dealing with wildlife problems logic never provides all the answers. For these, in depth research is necessary.

In preparing my last article I read and re-read over fifty scientific papers on mink, studies conducted in the field on both wild mink and recently escaped mink and in the laboratory, again using both wild and escaped mink. These studies were supplemented by information gathered by myself from scientists, farmers and countryfolk, from the Ministry of Agriculture and from my own observations of wild mink. Julie Weston does not actually say that she has cared for escaped or wild mink but she does imply it - for myself, I would not bother looking after any but injured mink for they are quite capable of looking after themselves.

Dealing with Julie Weston's points in turn, it is true that newly escaped mink tend to prey upon domestic animals (poultry, rabbits and guinea pigs) when they are available; while this may create animosity towards mink in those who lose 'valued' animals to mink predation it can make little difference whether those mink kill wild animals or 'slaves' of human beings. Most mink hunts are not in existence merely because aggrieved farmers became aware of the so-called 'mink menace', they have been created by hunters with time on their hands at the end of the fox and hare hunting season. Rat-proofing pet and poultry runs is not difficult.

Julie Weston's most important point is that mass releases of mink lead to a large number of predators in one small area competing for food to the detriment of natural wildlife. It is, however, neither based on fact nor theory. Most mass releases of mink have led to very few actual escapes, most mink returning to the fur farm in search of food or being live-trapped in the vicinity of the farm. This is best avoided by taking the mink away in sacks and releasing them some distance from the farm (perhaps ten miles). If this is done of course the animals could be released in small groups thus avoiding the spectre of hundreds of ravening, vicious carnivores eating their way across the countryside (an unlikely image, but much beloved of our sensationalist press).

Meanwhile, what happens to those few mink that do escape? Yes, some will kill domestic stock and pets, a few will die (especially if released in winter), some will kill helpless animals (if released in spring when there are young birds and animals all over the countryside), but if released in autumn and summer the great majority of them will quickly learn to kill 'natural' prey and disperse. Laboratory studies of the learning abilities of farmed mink have shown that inexperienced mink are capable of catching and killing fish for food within hours of being introduced to water. The instinct to hunt and to kill is, in other words, still complete even after generations of captive breeding. Minks natural prey, small birds, small mammals, fish and amphibians and invertebrates present no problems to such animals, death comes quickly to them. Julie Weston has kept polecat ferrets, thus she will know how quickly they are able to kill. As a youngster I used to ferret for rabbits and was always surprised at how naturally the ferrets killed their first prey. Mink are the same.

As for dispersal, Julie Weston asks where these mink are supposed to disperse. Animals are continually dying in the wild, creating ready made home territories for wandering, homeless creatures to take over. For wild mink life is short, death both natural and artificial (by mankind) are constant hazards, work by Ian Linn in Devon has shown that on one particular Devon river, mink rarely live in one place for more than a few months before dying or moving on. Thus there are always vacant territories to occupy. Mink released in autumn will merely add to the large number of young wild mink seeking territories like them, released mink take their chances at finding a home, at least in the wild they get a chance. Released mink in summer have the advantage of taking up residence in territories left unoccupied after the rigours of winter and before the years young have left their natal territories in search of new homes.

Mink, while searching for territories are known to be capable of travelling ten or twelve miles a day, following river banks and being moved on by territory holders. Clearly even a few hundred mink could be well dispersed in less than a week. This process is the natural one for restoring the balance which Julie Weston claims is destroyed by mass releases.



Oldham Evening Chronicle
23rd November 84

"You hypocrite! You only joined because I said I wanted a fur coat for Christmas".

Finally I must question Julie Weston's analysis of the animal rights ethic - she claims that liberation of animals is the most easy part and that responsibility for an animals future is the real challenge. I disagree, in the case of an animal which we know to be fully capable of living in the wild (as mink have shown themselves to be), release is the end of our responsibility. If an individual mink once it is released dies of a natural cause, common to its wild relatives then fair enough, that is how mink are supposed to live and, yes, to die, even to suffer. All wild animals are destined to suffer at some time, that's a callous fact, but fact it is. Animal rightists may endeavour to alleviate suffering in individual cases (by killing a myxomatosis affected rabbit for example), but our primary task is to change the one-sided human - animal relationship and when possible allow animals the freedom to follow their own destinies.

One last word, anyone thinking of providing a home for a released mink ought to change their mind, rescue and rehabilitation is fine for ill-treated pets, vivisection laboratory victims and farm animals, but a rescued mink is a half-wild animal, captivity is alien to its basic instinctive make-up; freedom is what it desires when it bites at the cage floor or wire, and freedom is what it deserves.

TRAITORS

At a meeting on January 13th the BUAV committee refused to pay the ALF any compensatioh for the lock-out of the ALF Press Office from BUAV premises in April 1984.

The BUAV had been told that any compensation was to be put towards funding sanctuaries for rescued animals - so their refusal has condemned many animals, which would otherwise have been saved, to torture and death in vivisection laboratories. This is in addition to the animals which suffered and died as a result of the disruption to the ALF caused by the original lock-out.

And we always thought that the aim of the BUAV was to prevent the suffering of animals!

Traitors to the animals at the BUAV committee meeting were Steve McIvor (who proposed a motion that the ALF should get no compensation), Steve Spencer (who seconded it), Alan Cheeseman, Chris Fisher, Marcia Guess, John Hale and Sheila Kilvington (who all voted for it) and Office Manager Margaret Manzoni who spoke in favour of the motion. With 'friends' like these the animals don't need enemies.

On the other hand we would like to thank BUAV committee members Margaret House, Beryl Spence and Joan Watson who voted against the motion (and who took no part in the April '84 decision to expel the Press Office) and BUAV Hon. Treasurer Peter Grant who stated that the BUAV had plenty of money and that the ALF should be given what they wanted.

The rapid rise in BUAV membership over recent years was largely due to the fact that they gave the impression of being a radical, go-ahead organization which supported the activists. Statements in the BUAV newspaper 'Liberator' purporting to support the ALF and the reporting of ALF activities caused a good deal of money to flow into the BUAVs coffers but rather than give some of this to the ALF the BUAV committee prefer to see large amounts of it go towards ineffectual political campaigning.



And far from supporting the ALF the BUAV has in practical terms caused the ALF great damage through the ejection of the Press Office and the refusal of compensation for doing so.

So, by means of a massive con-trick, the BUAV has ridden to fame and fortune on the backs of the activists - stabbing them in the back with one hand while pretending to shake them by the hand with the other.

It is now time for SG members and other animal rights campaigners to withdraw support from the BUAV. Rapidly falling BUAV membership figures indicate that many people have already seen through their deception. And when considering where to send your next donation or to whom to leave your legacy it is worth remembering that, despite being in existence since the turn of the century and having substantial funds and a large paid staff, the BUAV has rescued few, if any, animals from vivisection - whereas the ALF, which was only formed in 1976 and is run on a shoestring budget entirely by volunteers has saved many, many thousands.

RSW

With regard to the comment made in the Oct. newsletter relating to the running of the SG, it has been pointed out to us that more than one person was involved in its running.

ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF ALF

BEAGLE RESCUE

On the evening of Saturday 20th October, animal rights activists forced their way into the premises of Bantin and Kingman, laboratory animal suppliers, Aldbrough, near Hull.

We rescued a pregnant beagle bitch which had been kept in disgusting conditions ie. kept on a bare concrete floor without bedding and lying in her own excrement with no food or water. When we approached the dog she cowered away with fear.

We took her to a sympathetic vet who treated her for sores which were caused by lying on solid concrete flooring. This dog has now been found a good home. Within thirty six hours of her rescue she gave birth to nine healthy puppies.

The most soul destroying part of the raid was having to leave behind other animals in equally disgusting conditions which have no future except at the hands of the merciless scientists in the vivisection laboratories.

Prior to the raid on Bantin and Kingman, activists cut their way through fences at Reckett and Colman vivisection laboratories in Hull. After failing to gain access they sprayed slogans all over buildings in red paint so they could be clearly seen from the roadside.

Yours for the animals,

YORKSHIRE ALF

THE REAL..

In April 1984 the ALF were almost forcibly evicted from the small office space which the BUAV had, until then, allowed the Press Office to use. The ALF Press Officer Ronnie Lee had in fact used a desk at the BUAV premises since September 1981, when the so-called radicals took over the BUAV Committee. This act of forced expulsion ended what had been a somewhat stormy attempt at unity between two very separate sections of the animal rights movement. Many ALF members as far back as 1981 were of the opinion that it would be through the strength of direct action alone that the end of commercial animal abuse would be achieved. The BUAV at that time was of the opinion that it alone could lead the movement to victory. It set about producing the best leaflets, the most impressive merchandise and a new campaigning paper which was sympathetic to direct action - they even hijacked the word liberator. They were determined to be seen as the head of the animal rights movement and this could only be achieved by getting the ALF firmly behind them.

However, they were always political campaigners and as such they wanted direct action to coincide with their parliamentary campaigns. To them direct action was best if it constituted a threat rather than a reality. Politicians were to believe that the BUAV had the militants in check and that they had to come up with some concessions if they were to be kept under control. Meanwhile the direct action supporters were urged to wait for just one more major attempt to put animals into politics. In 1981 Lord Houghton and Clive Hollands formally wrote to the ALF and the NALL asking for an end to direct action in the hope that this would impress parliament and they would order the freeing of animals from abuse. The BUAV eventually realised that the ALF were not joking when they said that it would only be when the last laboratory lay in ruins that vivisection would be at an end - and evicted them in the most damaging way possible.

However, the BUAV cannot operate without some form of <u>apparent</u> connection with direct action and with the emergence of the SEALL as a new and powerful force for vivisectors to reckon with they chose to align themselves with this new group, obviously mistaking the SEALLs tactical decision not to damage property as somehow showing more respect for law and disorder and, desperate to be seen supporting the activists, the BUAV try to stand in front of them. It is of course most unlikely that the SEALL activists involved in their break-ins believed that the most important consequence of their actions was the possibility of a future labour government. The absurdity of such a suggestion shows what little hope the political campaigners have to offer, particularly as the labour party is not even opposed to vivisection.

The BUAV and the League Against Cruel Sports have, in the past, tried to incorporate the direct action movement into their political campaigns. However, political campaigners only support the threat of direct action and they have no use for activists who are on bail or in prison. The SEALL and the NALL are likely to find that the front page Liberator headlines they got for their raids will not be matched when the court cases arrive. When the BUAV support dries up these groups may well decide that no lasting alliance can be forged with the political campaigners.

The launch of the Direct Action Animal Bulletin earlier this year finally sealed the end to any reliance that the direct action movement had with the political campaigners. There was a time when people would go out and rescue animals from labs. believing that it would assist the political campaign.- we are now reaching the stage where local animal rights groups see themselves as direct action support groups. So now we see the emergence of two separate movements, one believes in direct action as the only realistic hope animals have and the other believes in the bosses parliament. It is not surprising that many of the most ardent political campaigners are middle class, their position in class society endears them to the institutions that have given them the privileges which are available only at the expense of human oppression.

<u>THE REAL DEBATE.</u>

We no longer need to argue for the necessity of direct action - the real debate is about the tactics and practice of a direct action movement.

For the first time we are seeing actions being taken which, although they are militant and although they are causing damage to the profits of animal abusers, are causing concern within the direct action movement, not because they are too militant but because they are indiscriminate. The contamination threats to products which are bought by ordinary people should not occur again because they introduce one more element of fear into the lives of ordinary people who are not responsible for the power structure of society that chooses to oppress animals. Neither do they benefit from the oppression of animals, they merely endure it in the same way they endure unemployment, bad housing, racism and all the other shit that you can't avoid unless you are in the affluent class. It is largely isolation from the real world that prevents affinity with the oppression of people. Those that believe that the unemployed 'don't want to work', the striking miners are agents of the devil, the national front have the right to their opinion and that battered wives are their own worst enemy, such people also tend to believe that it does ordinary people good to be shaken up by the threat of a poisoned turkey. Such people ignore the fact that only one small section of the human population <u>benefit</u> from the oppression of animals.

It is the same social class that benefits from animal abuse that also benefits from selling riot vehicles to the fascist governments of Chile and Argentina to oppress their own people, that also benefits from the building of nuclear power plants at the expense of the health of Uranium miners in Namibia and the livelihood of British coal miners.

The direct action animals movement must define itself in terms of opposition to oppression and, in that context, define what style direct action will take. We are opposed to the oppression of animals, we recognise that the commercial oppression of animals is allowed to continue and is in fact defended by the state because it benefits the ruling class in this society. Our intention is to destroy that benefit. This will occur through systematic acts of sabotage designed to make the oppression of animals more trouble than it is worth. Our natural enemies are those people who have a vested interest in the oppression of

DEBATE AND

animals and those elements within the state who will defend the abusers of animals as an act of solidarity. The combined forces of our natural enemies are enormous, we have no need to make any more by indiscriminate acts which cause distress to those who are not our natural enemies. More importantly, it is just another kick in the teeth to people who are already trodden on.

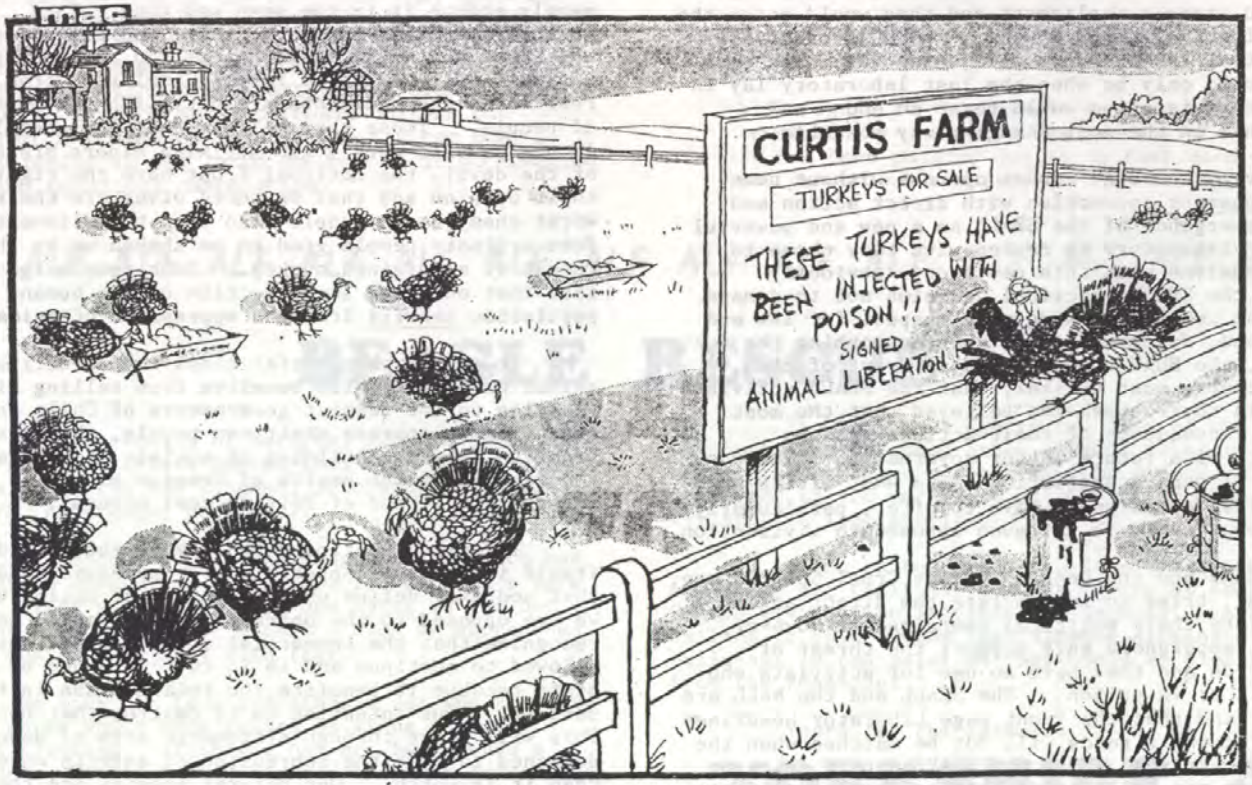
As the struggle for animal rights develops there will be more and more occasions when suggestions for tactics are unacceptable to the mainstream of the movement and it will be necessary for groups to define what is an appropriate tactic and what is not. For this reason it will be necessary to see the regionalisation of direct action support groups and press liason. Already some ALF groups are prefixing their names, for example there is the Combined Counties ALF and the Merseyside ALF. In other areas there are direct action groups who could supply spokespersons for the movement. Regional autonomy within the direct action movement is a necessity and it will become increasingly necessary for groups to be judged by their actions and for ordinary people to be able to distinguish between the animal liberators and people bashers. Otherwise we will all be held responsible should someone plant a bomb in a crowded Boots store and claim it was the work of the ALF.

CB

There are many problems with C.B's article, not least that it is hysterical and mis-directed. It contains many misconceptions, and some complete falsehoods. The main problem in answering it, is that it cleverly mixes already accepted ideas with reactionary nonsense. This makes it difficult to attack the contentious issues without appearing to condemn the article totally.

It is not true that there is widespread concern about the Mars Bars and Turkey actions within the direct action movement. From my experience, the vast majority of ALF activists and supporters totally agree with the campaigns as do most animal rights people generally. There will always be the odd few who are fooled by press hysteria or by their respective animal rights group leaders.

That there is concern among the general public cannot be denied, and this is regrettable. At the same time it is inevitable. We should understand that it is the media, not the ALF, who have terrified the general public. The purpose of the media is to defend their vested interests, which it achieves by twisting public opinion, and when that fails, by putting the fear of god into them. When this happens, you can be certain that you have been successful because the vested interests (Mars company, Matthews Turkeys etc.) have been threatened. Surely we should be able to see through this. The alternative is to allow the media to dictate our actions and methods, which is exactly what they are trying to do. By the same token, the press could warn the public to lock all their doors and windows, as the ALF have been attacking the homes of scientists and fur traders. Would C.B. then condemn these actions also?



Daily Mail
December 84

'She's not just a tasty bird—She's got brains'

MAC'S YEAR is now available in bookshops, published by Sphere Books at £1·95

THE REAL..

It is ridiculous to start classifying our 'natural enemies', just as it is to say that only the affluent class benefits from animal exploitation. How the hell can we smash the meat industry without putting the working class butcher out of business, or the underpaid, overworked farm labourer on the dole? The fact is that we have a socio-economic systen which is based on animal suffering. It is extremely naive to believe that we can achieve animal liberation without affecting the less affluent to some extent.

The argument that people who agree with the turkey scares, also believe that the national front have a right to their opinion etc. is so conceited and hysterical that it isn't worthy of reasonable debate. Such nonsense is usually reserved for the 'Sun' or 'Daily Mail', or even the 'Meat Trades Journal'.

Regardless of the inevitable rhetoric, history will bear witness to the courage and achievement of the activists involved.' Millions of pounds worth of economic damage was caused to animal abusers, all of them quite affluent. No-one, rich or poor, was poisoned or harmed in any way. Indeed, although there were turkey scares in over 30 towns and cities, all but one of these were hoaxes.

It may be conceded that these actions may lose some public sympathy for the animal rights movement, but such oratory is puerile and empty considering the number of animals' lives that are saved by such actions.

Complaints that activists have 'gone too far this time' are nothing new to the animal rights movement. We heard the same whinings when the HSA began to sabotage grouse shooting, when activists started attacking the homes and cars of scientists, and more recently when the movement finally came out against angling. These tactics are now regarded as acceptable, and in a few years time the same will be said about the poison scares.

The Observer

I do not wish to take sides in the debate as to whether poison scares are a good or bad tactic but rather to point out some of the dangers inherent in such activity.

I agree with C.B. that the general public should not be a target for ALF actions - but this is for somewhat different reasons than those he puts forward.

C.B. displays an unwarranted sympathy with 'ordinary people' which seems, from the style of his article, to be based largely on marxist/socialist misconceptions.

Ordinary people, by and large, <u>are</u> responsible for the power structure of society, as it is their failure to combat that power structure and their acquiescence in it that allows it to continue. They <u>are</u> responsible for the fact that they would rather drink in the pub or watch Coronation Street than do battle for a better world, and for the fact that they prefer mediocrity and a humdrum existence to a life lived with passion and the exciting prospects of revolutionary change.



Daily Mirror
17th December 84

". . and don't forget the weedkiller for the turkeys, dear."

There is, in a sense, a collusion between the bosses and 'ordinary people' to create the nightmare which is everyday life in the 'technologically advanced' societies. We will not destroy the nightmare by glorifying ordinary people or 'the working class', nor through the crushing boredom of sanitized socialism, but by carrying out actions which shake ordinary people out of the rut of their tiny lives and make them realise the possibility of really living (as distinct from merely surviving) in a different world.

> *"How is daily life to be reinvented? By creating <u>situations</u> that jolt people out of customary ways of thinking and behaving.....we have to see through the Spectacle, destroy the stage sets, know that there are other ways of doing things."*
>
> *(Carol Ehrlich)*

Ordinary people, on the whole, <u>do not</u> 'endure' the oppression of animals. Only those people who care about the wellbeing of animals endure such oppression - and they are to a large extent made to endure it by the majority of 'ordinary people' who do not lift a finger to fight animal abuse. C.B. seems not to understand that human beings <u>as a species</u> (apart from a few enlightened individuals) have for thousands of years viciously oppressed and persecuted all the other animal species. His concern for 'ordinary people' in this context is as irrelevant as being concerned for the fate of the less well-off concentration camp guards in the context of the nazi persecution.

DANGER.

I believe, however, that C.B. is correct in his assertion that animal liberation will come 'through systematic acts of sabotage designed to make the oppression of animals more trouble than it is worth'.

In order to achieve an end to all animal persecution many, many thousands of these acts of sabotage will need to be carried out and this demands that a very large number of people be active in the ALF and other direct action groups. These people will need to come from the broad-based animal rights movement - so this means that the overall campaign on behalf of animals will need to have a very large intake from the general public into its ranks.

If actions are carried out which have the effect of alienating the general public in too great a degree from the animal rights movement we may find that the number of potential activists, and thus our chances of eventual victory, could be drastically reduced.

Supporters of the poison scares could no doubt argue that, because they were either hoaxes or because adequate warning was given, these actions were not targetted at the public but rather at big businesses which make vast profits through animal abuse. They could also argue that, despite the fact that some people were obviously alienated by such activities, enough others were made aware of the issue and animal abuse businesses damaged to such an extent to have made the actions, on balance, worthwhile.

Whatever the strength of such arguments, I feel that one thing is clear: that it would not take much more to tip the balance in the wrong direction. And if someone had actually been poisoned after eating a Mars Bar or a turkey or blinded after using shampoo there is little doubt that this would have been the case.

Of course it was not the intention of any of the activists responsible for the poison scares to injure ordinary members of the public - but activists must look further than their own intentions and take into consideration the intentions and machinations of the authorities and the state. Firstly, there is no doubt that the authorities are becoming more and more desperate to discredit and destroy the ALF. The ALF and other direct action groups are perhaps the greatest threat to its own existence that the state has ever known - because time and again we are showing people that we do not need politicians or governments but that we all can achieve things through our own actions and by our own hands. Secondly, the authorities do not give a toss for the well being of ordinary people and care only about preserving their own power and control.

Thus it would not be at all beyond the desires or ability of the authorities to organise the deaths of ordinary people in an attempt to bring down the ALF. And if agents of the state are sent forth with real poison to turn the next hoax into a tragic and crippling reality, who will believe us when we say we weren't to blame?

Captain Kirk

DAVID LANGDON



"Fred! Man from Mars."

Sunday Mirror
November 84

Time Out

Nov 29th - Dec 5th '84

2ND OPINION

Ronnie Lee, *Press Officer of the Animal Liberation Front, defends last week's Mars bar incident.*

The gutter press reached new levels of hypocrisy and hysteria in its reporting of the Animal Liberation Front's Mars bar poison hoax. Great play was made of the stories that a few people had been frightened after consuming 'poisoned' Mars bars (which, in fact, had not been poisoned), but there was very little mention of the much greater suffering and death imposed on monkeys in tooth decay experiments financed by Mars.

A few scared people makes headline news, and those who scared them are branded as 'fanatics', 'extremists', 'beneath contempt', 'maniacs' and 'crackpots'. The fact that millions of animals are tortured in laboratories or imprisoned in factory farms every year in this country hardly ever gets a mention. One national tabloid even carried an 'exclusive' story about how the ALF had admitted: 'We don't care if people die — animals come first.' It was bound to be an 'exclusive'. The story was a lie.

It comes as no surprise that the newspapers attempt to do down the ALF. They are part of big business and supporters of it. Animal exploitation is big business too. And the ALF's campaign is beginning to severely damage those business interests.

No rat poison was ever put into any Mars bars on sale in the shops. But in order to inflict economic loss and disrupton on the Mars company, it had to be claimed, at least for a while, that there had been. Warnings, together with Mars bars which *had* been impregnated with a small amount of rat poison, were delivered to the BBC and the *Sunday Mirror*. But the authorities took an inordinately, and no doubt deliberately, long time to act upon them. This hold-up resulted in a delay in the clearing of Mars bars from confectioners' shelves and caused a few of the public to come into possession of bars which had not been poisoned, but which contained notes regarding painful animal experiments financed by the Mars company. Some unintended anxiety was therefore caused to the public - but then, of course, the authorities are far more interested in discrediting the ALF than in protecting ordinary people. A statement by a National Poisons Centre spokesman that 'one bar containing rat poison sold over the counter would be harmless' was given a small mention by one national newspaper, but ignored by the rest.

The inaccurate and frenzied reporting of the Mars bar incident by much of the media will no doubt have turned some people away from the animal rights campaign and against the ALF. But, on the other hand, more people than ever before are aware of the suffering of animals in research laboratores — and some of them will act upon that awareness. And, perhaps most important of all, the Mars company has been punished for their part in cruel animal experiments. Hopefully they will now be deterred from doing the same again and, with luck, that deterrent effect will apply to other firms involved in animal research or thinking of being so.

People opposed to tyranny against animals have, until now, been peaceful and lawful in their protests. Hardly surprisingly, given the vast vested interests involved, they achieved virtually nothing. So now we have the Animal Liberation Front, which conducts nearly 2,000 raids a year in England and has quickly built up activity in many other parts of the world. Millions of pounds worth of damage has been caused to property connected with animal persecution. Hundreds of thousands of animals have been saved.

In the face of massive cruelty to animals and considerable violence to ourselves, the animal liberation movement has exercised considerable restraint. In the eight years of our existence we have seriously injured nobody. So much for 'violence' and irresponsibility' accorded to us by MPs and the Press.

It isn't what *they say*, but what *we do* that matters. And we will fight on, not just for the animals, but for ourselves and humanity, in our demand to be part of a species that is not cowardly and cruel but noble, compassionate and dignified towards the rest of creation.

It should also be noted that the rat poison put into the Mars Bars delivered to the media was Alphakil - a brand which is not harmful to human beings unless taken in massive doses. The authorities without doubt discovered this almost immediately through forensic tests. It is interesting that they did not reveal their findings until several days later. If the powers that be were concerned about allaying public anxiety this fact would have been made known straight away.

R.L.

RABBITS RESCUED

On 14th December 1984, approximately 50 rabbits were taken from a smallholding at Cross Roads, nr. Keighley, West Yorkshire. These, we believe were being bred for meat and fur. They have now been found homes. The owner concerned was 'hopping' mad, (a Mr. Jeffrey Webb) and told the newspapers a right load of rubbish about how he discovered dead rabbits everywhere following the night-time attack. At the smallholding there were three guard dogs, chained up, living in upturned steel drums. Only one was approachable but unfortunately we did not have a home for it. It was noticed that it cowered a lot, no doubt 'trained' by its owner. All the guard dogs were kept relatively quiet with a large marrow bone apiece, which we don't suppose they had ever had before.

The newspapers used, the Telegraph and Argus, Bradford, and the Keighley News, Keighley, were sent a long statement from the ALF plus photographs of the rabbits. No photographs appeared, and the only comment from the statement was one which described the smallholding by the raiders as a 'shantytown'. A lot of nonsensical rubbish spouted by the owner was printed. Again, like the nationals, we find the newspapers are printing biased, one-sided rubbish and missing the whole point of the exercise. We have wondered whether to even bother informing them next time. There was absolutely no mention of the dogs living conditions, even though this was described in graphic detail to the papers.

PS. Mr. Webb informed the paper the rabbits were just about to go for slaughter.

ALF



"I'd like to join the Animal Liberation Front, but I don't really have room."

We want to hear from ALF Supporters (not activists) who are willing to get together with other supporters in their area to organise local ALF Support Group activities - fund raising, public meetings, leafletting sessions etc. More and more animal liberationists are getting arrested and these local supporters should be willing to help cater for the welfare of activists arrested in their area - taking vegan food to the police stations and prisons where activists are held, organising visiting rotas for the prisoners, organising demonstrations outside the police stations, prisons and court rooms, setting up Defence Funds, putting people up overnight, leafletting, talking to the local media etc. The first step is to write and let us know if you want to be involved in setting up a local Support Group in your area. Write to ALF SG, BCM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX.

LETTERS

Send your letters to:
'Letters Page',
ALF SG,
BCM 1160,
London,
WC1N 3XX.

Dear Sirs,

During the recent scare of the Mars bars poisoning, which fortunately turned out to be a hoax, I was so annoyed at all the criticism the ALF was getting that I wrote a letter to the MP David Mellor, who is supposed to have some Parliamentary connection with animal welfare, and enclose a copy herewith for your interest.

I must say that had the Mars bars really been poisoned I would not support this, simply because random poisoning like that might hit the wrong people, animal lovers like myself whose only desire is to help them. That would be my only complaint - as to people who are cruel to animals and exploit them, I always wisn I could exterminate them.

I have supported you in a small way for years and only wish I could do far more, but I am only a few years off 70 and have very little more than just one pension to live on, out of which I not only support you, but quite a few other animal charities, besides having five cats of my own, so you will see from this that, though I have the desire to help a lot more, I just haven't got the means. I have, however, just increased my monthly donation to you by £1.

Good luck to all of you in your constant efforts to help our poor animals who are so monstrously exploited in so many ways.

691 London.

PS. To date, I have had no reply to my letter to David Mellor.

Dear ALF,

As a new member of ALF SG I have just received my first Bulletin and was gratified to read the impressive list of actions undertaken May-Sept in the Diary section.

However it was with somewhat less enthusiasm that I noted the large proportion of attacks on butchers premises these actions constituted.

Whilst not doubting the sincerity of intention behind such attacks on these penultimate links in the non-human murder chain I wonder if our energies might not be more usefully expended by directing ourselves towards more selective targets.

Little public sympathy will ensue from smashing butchers windows so long as the vast majority of humans persist in the obscene practice of consuming non-humans.

Would our aims not be better served by concentrating our efforts against the centres of greater abuse such as research (sic) labs. and factory/fur "farms"?

By their very nature these evil establishments are farther removed from public sympathy and prejudice than is "Stan the butcher". Their damage and, hopefully, destruction would engender less public reaction and serve to enlighten the man in the street to the atrocities committed therein.

Ultimately our aim must be to abolish from this planet all forms of violation of non-human rights but expediency dictates that we should proceed with more discrimination.

In short, hit fewer but hit harder.

2102 Lothian.

To change your telephone number costs £11 plus VAT.

To have your calls intercepted by the operator costs £25 and lasts for 2 weeks only also costing £1 per day up until the 14th day.

The BFSS regional organisers are loathe to change their numbers for obvious reasons. SG members who want to do something tangible could follow my lead in this.

1346 Hants.

THE LEAGUE A[illegible]RUEL SPORTS 'TRAITORS'

League Against Cruel Sports director, meat-eater Dick Course, continues to condemn the ALF with an ever increasing degree of hysteria. It seems he is afraid that ALF actions might upset his friends at Westminster - not that they have ever done anything to help the animals, nor are likely to unless there is a massive increase in direct action.

Courses sidekick (some would say puppet) John Bryant is more than keen to join in the condemnation. It is very sad to see how this once good man has sold out on his principles.

League T-shirt salesman Jim Barrington called upon LACS members to shop the Duke of Beaufort grave-diggers to the police and committee member Bob August (a former HSA Chairman whom they are now well rid of) said that he would do so himself if he knew who they were. Neither of these pathetic characters is fit to kiss the arses of the two excellent activists John Curtin and Terry Helsby on remand in Bristol prison charged with desecrating the grave of the evil animal torturer.

In view of this despicable behaviour by League Against Cruel Sports officials those who currently support the League financially or otherwise may prefer instead to support the Hunt Saboteurs Association, PO Box 19, London, SE22 9LR, an organization which spends its time saving hunted animals rather than condemning activists.

m.e.

Attack on grave denounced

By Joe Ravitch

The "Hunt Retribution Squad", which desecrated the Duke of Beaufort's grave on Christmas night, was "simply a bunch of terrorists and should be exposed and stopped", a spokesman for the League Against Cruel Sports claimed yesterday.

Mr Jim Barrington said that the squad's actions damaged the efforts of the campaign to ban hunting.

"You can't ask for a change in the law, while breaking the law", Mr Barrington said.

According to the league, which has been trying to ban field sports since 1924 and has 18,000 members, the squad is part of a "strange, anarchist element in the anti-hunt movement, which is totally unrepresentative of the movement as a whole".

The league has enlisted the backing of the Labour and Liberal parties in its efforts to ban hunting, and says that the desecration of the duke's grave will discredit their efforts.

"What they did to the duke's grave was inhuman. He wasn't so much cruel, as simply outdated. The real cruelty is carried out by the young hunters who know what they are doing when they inflict pain on animals", Mr Barrington said.

Daily Telegraph 28/12/84

Mr Jim Bonnington, promotions manager of the League Against Cruel Sports said there had recently been increasing concern over anarchist involvement in the campaign.

He said that the lunatic fringe, who inevitably got the biggest headlines for outrageous acts, were jeopardising the gains made by the League and other related pressure groups. The main trust of the campaign was in Parliament, where the Labour party and the Liberals had adopted an anti-bloodsport stance.

"The way to stop hunting is by changing the law, not breaking it. You can't have it both ways. We would advise our members to co-operate with the police in tracking down these people, to come forward if they know who is involved," he said.

Mr Bob August, a former secretary of the Hunt Saboteurs Association, said: "If I knew who these people were, I would turn them in. They can do us nothing but harm."

The Times Dec 28 '84

"The ALF are insincere nut cases, and what they are doing is making it impossible for reasonable people to make progress on animal welfare issues," says Richard Course of the League Against Cruel Sports, who are themselves no strangers to radical action in defence of animals.

Most ALF activists, he claims, are anarchists who do not want to see legal reform in the field of animal production. "The best thing they can do for animals is to go off and join the Foreign Legion," he says.

"Their acitivities make us all look like nut cases in the eyes of the public, almost all of whom will be eating turkey this Christmas.

"Legal progress on animal rights is being made. I don't blame the police for doing all they can to track down these nut cases.

"We cannot have this country run by terrorists and mob rule. In the end, that question is more important than cruelty to animals."

The Star (Sheffield) 21st Dec '84

By LEON SYMONS

'Give bullies a hiding'

ANIMAL lovers are advocating violence against people they claim abuse animals.

An article in a bulletin put out by the Animal Liberation Front says: "A bully is always a coward and the best way to deal with bullies is to give them a damn good hiding."

The article, signed simply R.L., says: "Total pacifism is an immoral philosophy.

"There are times when violence has to be used to prevent a greater evil and to refrain from carrying out that violence . . . is to be almost responsible for the greater evil that is allowed to take place."

Accusing huntsmen of picking on the weakest hunt saboteurs to attack, the writer states: "Violence is the only language these people understand."

And while urging the ALF itself to refrain from personal violence, the article says fresh groups could be set up "under new names whose policies do not preclude the use of violence towards animal abusers.

"There will be injuries and possibly deaths on both sides before our ultimate victory for animal liberation is achieved. This is sad but certain."

The call for violence was immediately denounced by various sporting organisations.

Richard Course, of the League Against Cruel Sports, said: "The newsletter demonstrates what I have always believed—the ALF are a bunch of nutcases."

John Hopkinson, of the British Field Sports Society, said: "The article clearly doesn't show any regard for the six million people who choose to take part in field sports."

Daily Express 16 Nov 84



Interview with the Hunt Retribution Squad

Why was the HRS formed?

The majority of current HRS members were all once hunt saboteurs who would go out on a Saturday to peacefully try to save the life of the hunted animal. Unfortunately, most of the time we just ended up getting beaten up by the hunt heavies, and the HRS was formed by a group of us who decided that enough was enough. Instead of just lying back and accepting the violence, as most HSA members do, we would fight back. In fact, we would actually go to a hunt armed to fight.

How many members do you have?

Currently about 90 - 100 members throughout the country. The majority though are in the Southern part of England.

What are your tactics?

We have quite a number of different ways to attack hunting. One way is to actually go to a hunt, pull a hunter off his horse, strip him, hand-cuff him to a tree and paint him red. We want to humiliate them. Another way is to go into their houses at night and rough the hunters up, with the aim of actually putting them in hospital. We will also use weapons such as petrol bombs and shotguns as you will soon see.

How frequent will the actions be?

Well, we really only started the HRS in October, and already we have carried out two major actions. We will dictate the rate of actions ourselves and will not be pressurised by the media. But you can expect to see quite a lot of HRS activity in 1985.

What distinguishes you from the ALF?

The difference between the HRS and the ALF is the question of violence. The ALF, who we obviously totally support, does not wish to harm any human or animal. The HRS though feels that the only way you can fight violence is with violence. Having said that we will always make sure that we never harm any animal or innocent human. I think at one time most of our members wouldn't have wanted to harm anyone - but we have now lost all patience with animal abusers and from now on we will give them a taste of their own medicine.

Will there come a time when you will actually kill a hunter?

In time, yes. We feel it is important to escalate slowly - so at first we will just inflict injuries, which will increase in severity. When a hunter ends up in hospital with very severe injuries, the next stage then would be to actually take a hunter out completely.

Do you have any particular targets?

We have a list of people, some of which got a lot of publicity, such as Jack Charlton, Willie Whitelaw, Michael Heseltine and the Royal Family. We do also have a comprehensive list of hunters such as Nora Harding - master of Staghounds, Rodney Cooper - master of Beagles, Michael Clayton, Tony Jackson, a number of Terriermen and other blood junkies, all of which can expect some attention from the HRS.

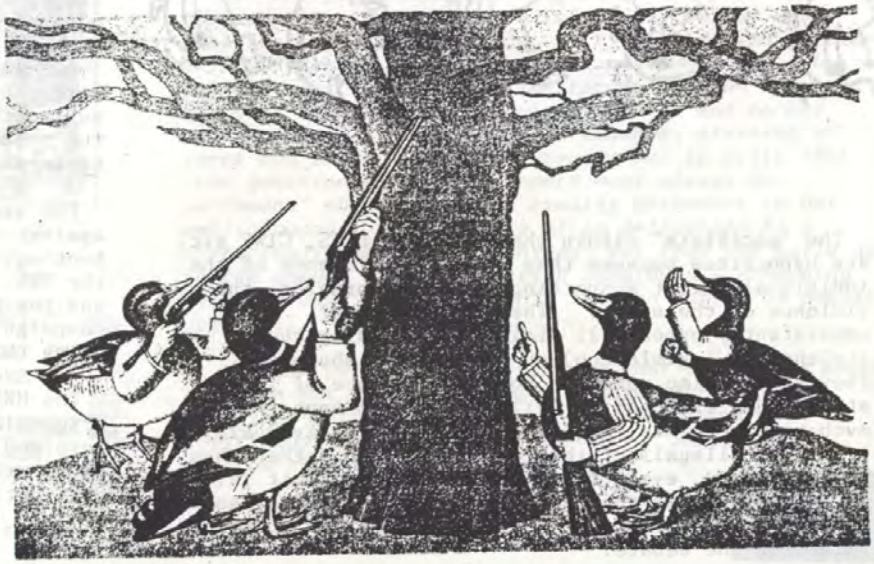
Where can you see the HRS going in 1985?

Well, let's look at the last few months. In October we spread broken glass on the pitch where Jackie Charlton and Jimmy Hill's (both notorious hunters) team were due to play. In December we desecrated the Duke of Beauforts grave. Also in the last few months we have steadily built up an armoury of weapons including knives, knuckle-dusters, club hammers, crow-bars, axes, sledge hammers, chain saws and shotguns. All are safely stored awaiting use. We have also drawn up a comprehensive list of targets we will systematically work through. We gave two promises to the press, one to attack Jack Charlton, which we did, and one to have a Boxing Day coup, which we also did with Beaufort. The HRS is working on its next attack, which will be soon. We will give one promise though for 1985 - we will have a hunter in hospital by the summer.

Does the HRS have any particular policy?

We have a motto in the HRS which is 'a punishment to fit the crime' and that is exactly what we will do. We will punish these animal murderers , the more animals they kill the harder we will punish. That is why we are called the Hunt RETRIBUTION Squad.

It is very important that all correspondence to the ALF or the SG is sent to the proper address BCM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX. Nothing is to be sent to us at the old Peace News address. All leaflets and literature with the old address on should be either destroyed or clearly corrected.



Henri Galeron

VIOLENCE & RETRIBUTION

It seems to me to be a common fault of animal rights campaigners that they are often unable to properly understand subtleties of argument and so leap to totally inaccurate conclusions about the views of others in the movement.

Thus my article 'On Violence' which appeared in the last SG newsletter has been widely misunderstood and I have been accused of being a far greater advocate of violence than is, in fact, the case. The article argued the case for the careful use of violence in certain circumstances and was a very long way from being a plea for all-out violent action. There is, surprisingly enough, room for many shades of opinion between the two extremes of all-out pacifism and all-out violence - but shades of opinion are something that many people in the movement find it hard to comprehend. One does not have to be a terrorist to believe that total pacifism is a ridiculous and harmful ideology.

Sadly, there are those in the animal rights movement who seem more interested in their own eventual canonisation as saints than in the liberation of animals. Those who would rather see a thousand animals perish in agony than have their own 'holiness' tainted by 'violence'. Their pathetic butter (or should I say Vitaquell)-wouldn't-melt-in-their-mouths posturing would be damning enough - but they are also hypocrites.

They are hypocrites because they do, in fact, support violence and they fail to understand that they are supporters of violence because they fail to understand its nature. All of them support and work for laws to abolish various forms of animal abuse and many of them are involved in organizations that have legislation as their primary aim. They would all support laws which say that people caught vivisecting or hunting should be forcibly arrested and even thrown into prison. What is imprisonment if it is not a form of violence? What is more violent, a sentence of imprisonment or a punch on the nose? The answer is obvious.



The 'pacifists' within the BUAV, the LACS, CIWF etc. are hypocrites because they decry the violence of the individual whilst supporting, even encouraging, the violence of the state. They should either consistently oppose all violence (including the violence of legislation) or they should shut-up. They should also remember how the violence of states (Hitler, Stalin, Chile, Iran) has been that much more terrible than the violence of individuals. If it is 'illegality' they are opposed to rather than violence (and, even though they might not admit it, this is obviously the case) then they should say so - and then at least there would be an accurate starting point for the debate.

But just as the movement must reject pacifism so it must also reject campaigns of terrorism and all-out violence as a means to achieve our aims. There is a world of difference between a violent movement and a movement which sometimes uses violence - and it is the latter, rather than the former, which has the greater chance of success.

We do not need widespread violence to achieve animal liberation. What is needed is a massive increase in the present campaign of damage and animal rescue. Violence should only be used on the occasions where the violence of our enemies prevents us from non-violently carrying out this campaign. Violence should not be shirked from where necessary, but neither should it be used gratuitously where other methods of direct action would be sufficient to achieve our purpose.

Those involved in the direct action movement have already learned from history how peaceful and constitutional protest have failed to bring about animal liberation - they should also allow history to teach them of the failure of terrorist groups to achieve their aims. The reason they fail is that the nature of their activities is such that they are unable to involve enough people in them to create an effective movement.

We must remember that animal liberation will not be achieved unless a large number of people are involved in direct action activities. We must also be aware that most people who are prepared to carry out direct action against property and to do two or three years in prison are not prepared, either for moral or practical reasons, to carry out extreme violence to people and end up with a life sentence.

If the movement begins to carry out indiscriminate acts of violence (as distinct from violence when absolutely necessary), if it becomes a violent movement rather than a movement which occasionally uses violence we will lose the majority of our activists and, with them, the war.

In so far as the Hunt Retribution Squad seek to use violence against hunt thugs to prevent or deter the violence of the latter against hunt saboteurs then the actions (or proposed actions) of the HRS are not only acceptable but long overdue. Beyond that they are entering, and taking the movement into, difficult territory and they should think very carefully before taking violent action against other members of the hunt.

But so far there has been little or no violent action by the HRS. It has been all threats and publicity stunts - and some people could be forgiven for thinking that their violence goes no further than their imaginations.

For years the ALF has been taking direct action against vehicles and other property connected with hunting. There is no need for people to do this as the HRS. It will lead to confusion between the HRS and the ALF - and if and when the HRS embarks on its campaign of violence the ALF will be in danger of being tarred with the same brush.

The HRS should stick to the activities which it was originally set up to carry out. It should not be involved in activities which can be carried out by the ALF or the HSA. They should either do their retribution or disappear.

RL

hunt van damaged

On December 28th, Friday morning, 5 members of a combined Lancs/Merseyside ALF unit paid a visit to the Holcombe Hunts kennels based in Bury. Our intention was to cause as much damage as possible to the hound van.

Small pieces of wire were inserted into locks, then superglue was added. Paint stripper was poured over the cab. 2lb of sugar was put in the fuel tank. Using a dart, all 4 tyres on the van were punctured. The windscreen wipers were bent double. Red aerosol paint was sprayed over the windscreen and the side windows. Slogans were also painted on the side of the van, eg. 'ban hunting'.

Due to the fact there is a guard dog opposite the kennels and the hounds start up at the least sound we couldn't do as much damage as we would have liked.

The damage was done in retribution for a hunt saboteur who was beaten unconscious by hunt thugs on Boxing Day and also for the increasing violence against HSA members carrying out a peaceful protest.

In a statement to the press the thugs who carried out the attack were warned they have been put under surveillance. and their property is now considered a target for attack.

The hunt have also been warned that if the violence continues we will be back.

Yours for Animal Liberation,

wigan alf

CAPTION COMPETITION NUMBER 783

WINNERS—

Punch



ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT IN YOUR WILL. IT IS PERFECTLY LEGAL TO LEAVE LEGACIES - BUT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE ORGANISATION STATED IS THE ALF SUPPORTERS GROUP AND THAT THE ADDRESS TO USE IS ALF (SG), BCM 1160, LONDON, WC1N 3XX. ASK US IF YOU WANT ANY ADVICE ABOUT THIS.

ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF. ALF.

Sabotage..... not Symbolism.

REVIEW OF 'MEN AND BEASTS' BY MAUREEN DUFFY (Paladin £1.95)

Some of this book is very useful - but in so far as the direct action movement is concerned it is dangerous and potentially damaging.

This is because Maureen Duffy, while appearing to be broadly sympathetic towards direct action, fails to understand its role in the struggle for animal liberation and the reasons why most animal liberationists carry it out.

The danger of the book is that some of the false views and misunderstandings within it may influence animal liberationists because of the 'credibility' gained by Maureen Duffys apparent sympathy with the ALF and by the inclusion of an appendix in which a large number of ALF actions are listed.

As far as I am concerned most of the contentious material in the book is contained in Chapter 7 and starts with the statement that 'the BUAV....currently publicizes and supports the main group of activists, the Animal Liberation Front...' Well, we should all know by now the truth about the BUAVs 'support'.

Maureen Duffy goes on to write - 'The activists have a dual purpose: to release individual animals from lives of misery and to draw attention to the need for change'. This statement is true as far as it goes but is misleading in that it fails to include what many activists consider to be the main aim of ALF action - the destruction of animal abuse industries through the causing of economic loss and disruption.

The main reason why Maureen Duffy so often misses the point about the ALF in this book is that she appears to view direct action as a back-up to political campaigning rather than a means by which people can directly bring animal persecution to an end. This is why she fails to mention economic sabotage and why she talks about pressure being brought to bear on government rather than animal abusers. She claims that 'to drive thousands of researchers out of their jobs' is an unattainable end - when it is, of course, perfectly attainable if direct action continues to increase (and is not spiked by political campaigners or books such as this).

Ms. Duffys misunderstanding of the purpose of direct action causes her to impose ridiculous and debilitating constraints on the type of action carried out. It leads her to make such statements as 'The Wellcome Institute is a prime target but the cars and homes of individual researchers aren't' and to her opposition to 'the smashing of windows, slashing of tyres and arson'. It also causes her to write that 'the question of public support must always be paramount' when what is in reality paramount is not public support (which is so often influenced by a hysterically based media anyway) but that the build up in the amount of direct action continues - something which is only influenced to a limited degree by public opinion.

Maureen Duffy fails to realise that the ALF is about sabotage not symbolism, about freeing the animals ourselves rather than relying on untrustworthy politicians to do so on our behalf. She hasn't noticed that there's a war going on.

RL

The disgraceful letter written by CIWF director Peter Roberts to virtually all the national and local newspapers in the country must surely spell the end of Compassion in World Farming as far as radical animal liberation campaigners are concerned.

As well as being hysterical and foolish in his condemnation of the activists Roberts has wasted hundreds, if not thousands of pounds in sending out the letter - money which could have been spent on saving animals directly from suffering.

It may well be that CIWF members who have seen their society and its director go rapidly downhill in recent years may wish to support a more radical campaigning anti-factory farming organisation which also supports direct action. Such a group is Campaign Against Farm Animal Abuse, 54, Allison Street, Digbeth, Birmingham 5. They are urgently in need of funds - including those which Roberts and his society no longer deserve.

Libbers stage a turkey swoop

ANIMAL rights activists including one dressed as Santa Claus staged a raid on a turkey farm yesterday.

And they claimed afterwards it was only the start of a campaign to end the Christmas turkey trade.

Sixteen members of the Animal Liberation Front broke into Ivy Cottage Turkey Farm, Joy Lane, near Burtonwood.

After spraying slogans including "animal Belsen", "ban factory farming" and "animal concentration camp" on the outside of the breeding shed they left, taking 38 turkeys with them.

A spokesman for the ALF said yesterday: "This is part of our Cruelty at Christmas campaign, and further raids are planned.

"We did it to publicise the plight of these birds and the intensive rearing methods used in factory farming.

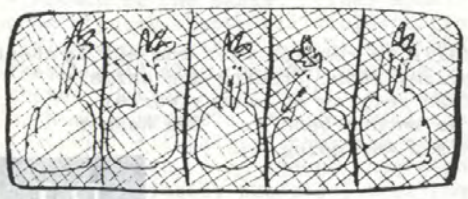
"The birds are being reared on a diet of drugs and hormones which increase the fat contents of birds, when coronary attacks are on the increase.

He also said the leader of the ALF, Ronnie Lee, was in the north west yesterday to address members.

The turkeys are owned by E. W. Webster Ltd of Bickerstaffe, who own several turkey farms.

Mr Peter Webster defended the way his birds are kept. "We've nothing to hide at all, the conditions are ideal, and the statement about hormones is rubbish as far as I'm concerned.

Liverpool Daily Post
1st November 1984



CIWF TRAITORS

Compassion in World Farming

20 Lavant Street, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3EW.
Telephone Petersfield (0730) 64208.
Telex: 858893 FLETEL G ATTN CIWF.

Glm.

PHR/BB/C

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

To the News Editor

3rd December, 1984.

Dear Sir,

Non-Violence and Animal Liberation

We are engaged in a long struggle to end animal cruelty. It is a campaign that has been going on for many, many years and at last the tide is beginning to turn.

The case for animal rights is now widely supported by the media, and public opinion has swung in our favour. The majority of people are outraged by the cruelties involved in factory farming, vivsection and the seal cull. The National Opinion Poll has shown that 88% of the population want a better deal for farm animals. Progress is now proposed among legislators at Westminster and Brussels although it may not be as radical as we would wish.

Suddenly all of this progress is threatened by the lunatic fringe putting bleach into bottles of baby shampoo, breaking windows of butchers shops, threatening to poison Christmas turkeys and pretending to have put rat poison in Mars bars. The self-styled Animal Liberation Front is now advocating an escalation of violence and is encouraging its followers to take part in armed trespass on private property.

By such violent acts these people imply that the animal welfare movement is a cranky minority, and the suggestion is that its arguments are so weak that they have to be defended by terrorist tactics. They are losing us public support. Can they not see that they are fighting against their own nature. They are themselves adopting the very faults that they are trying to overcome in others.

The case for animal rights is moral, reasonable and overwhelming. It does not need violence to defend it. We shall succeed only through the process of education and legal reform.

I ask your readers, if they would like to help in the campaign to put an end to factory farming, live exports and inhumane slaughter, to join with us in Compassion in World Farming and denounce the violent tactics which alienate the public and serve only to delay much needed reform.

Further information available from me.

Yours faithfully,

Peter H. Roberts

PETER H. ROBERTS NDA.,CDA.
DIRECTOR



THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

DOG RESCUE FINE

Schoolteacher Yvonne Western was fined £150 at Ringwood (Hants) Magistrates Court on October 11th for rescuing a dog which was tethered in a back garden on a very short chain and kept in bad conditions. She said that the dog "had a right to a better life".
(Donations to ALF Supporters Group, BCM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX)

DAMAGED DOORS

Four animal liberation activists have each been fined £100 and ordered to pay £75 costs by Cambridge Magistrates after being convicted of causing damage at Cambridge University Physiology Dept. The activists were members of a group who were alleged to have kicked in locked doors at the dept. during an attempt to take video film of cruel experiments taking place there.
(Donations to Animal Aid Cambridge Relief Fund, c/o Anne Hagger, 113, Hill Row, Haddenham, Ely, Cambs.)

ASSEMBLING WITH INTENT

On October 26th eighteen people were sent for trial by Knutsford (Cheshire) Magistrates accused of assembling with intent to commit burglary and causing £13,000 damage during a raid on ICI torture labs. on April 29th organised by the Northern Animal Liberation League. Two of them also face charges in connection with the rescue of a beagle from the labs.
(Donations to NALL, 10, Great Ancoats Street, Manchester 4)

WREXHAM AND WRECK SOME MORE

Six alleged ALF members have appeared before Wrexham Magistrates charged with various offences including damaging meat lorries and vans, the premises of a meat co. and Boots the Chemists. One of them is also charged with threatening to break the windows of shops displaying circus posters. All are on bail awaiting trial.
(Donations to ALF SG)

SEALL CULL

19 activists have been committed on bail to the Crown Court on charges of conspiracy to rob. This follows the carrying out of 3 co-ordinated raids (organised by the South Eastern Animal Liberation League) on October 28th against premises connected with vivisection in Hampshire in which damage was caused and documents taken.
(Donations to Wickham Defence Fund, c/o BARG, Students Union, Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middx., UB8 3PH)

DEWHURSTS DAMAGE

Three alleged ALF members have appeared in court at Warley (West Midlands) charged with causing damage to vehicles at the Dewhursts Butchers depot at Smethwick. Two others are charged with conspiracy to commit criminal damage. All five are on bail awaiting trial.
(Donations to ALF SG)

VIVISECTION KENNELS ATTACK

A man was remanded in custody charged with arson following an incident in which five vehicles were damaged by fire at Cottage Patch Kennels near Fareham, Hants. on November 8th. The kennels supply dogs for vivisection.
(Donations to ALF SG)

DUKE BOX JURY?

Two animal liberation activists John Curtin and Terry Helsby, currently in Bristol Prison awaiting trial in connection with attempted digging-up of fanatical hunter the Duke of Beaufort, would appreciate letters. Please write to them (individually) at HM Prison Bristol, Cambridge Road, Horfield, Bristol. Their prison numbers should be mentioned on the envelope. Terrys is F17287 and Johns is F17288.
(Donations to Bristol Defence Fund, c/o BCM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX)

MARKET MARKERS

Three animal liberation campaigners are on bail on charges connected with the spraying of slogans at Ross-on-Wye cattle market and causing £100 damage to a tractor belonging to the market on December 19th.
(Donations to ALF (SG)

JAILED FOR DOG RESCUE

Animal rights campaigner Hilly Beavan has recently been released after serving a one month prison sentence for her part in the rescue of 17 dogs from vivisection at Cambridge University in 1983. She was also ordered to pay £500 costs.
(Donations to Laundry Farm Defence Fund, c/o Town and Country Building Society, 47, Regent St., Cambridge)

ARSON CHARGES

Four animal liberation activists are currently in prison awaiting trial in connection with an arson attack on the admin. offices of a Leeds vivisection lab. in which files and a computer were damaged.
(Donations to ALF SG)

McDONALDS 'RAIDERS' IN CUSTODY

Two activists have been sent to Ashford (Middx.) remand centre charged with going equipped to cause arson at the McDonalds HQ in North London on January 19th. They have had bail refused and may be in custody for several months before their trial comes up.
(Donations to ALF SG)

ALSO EQUIPPED

Two Sheffield activists were arrested on January 2nd and charged with going equipped to cause damage (paint-sprays, hammer etc.) They are currently on bail.
(Donations to ALF SG)

WINDOW WRAP

A Leeds activist is at present on bail charged with smashing butchers shop windows to the tune of £1100.
(Donations to ALF SG)

UNILEVER

42 people are on bail facing conspiracy to cause damage charges after last years raid on the Unilever vivisection lab. in Bedfordshire by the Eastern Animal Liberation League.
(Donations to EALL Defence Fund, c/o Doorway Bookshop, 18, Victoria Road, Northampton)

ARSON CHARGE

An animal rights campaigner has been committed for trial charged with causing damage by fire, following the burning of an empty battery unit.
(Donations to ALF SG)

JAILED FOR COCKSPARROW RAID

Andy Horbury has been sentenced to two years imprisonment after being convicted of conspiring to steal and conspiracy to cause criminal damage in connection with a raid on the notorious Cocksparrow fur farm in which thousands of pounds of damage was caused and thirty silver foxes rescued from their cramped cages. His co-defendant Mandy Barrett was acquitted. The judge, at Warwick Crown Court, said that he was treating him leniently because of his young age! Please write letters to:
Andy Horbury, C54255, HM Prison, Winson Green Road, Birmingham B18 4AS.
(Donations to ALF SG - mark envelopes 'Andy Horbury')

EQUIPPED FOR ARSON

Four people from Sheffield are on bail awaiting trial on charges of going equipped to cause arson at a vivisection establishment at Wetherby, Yorks. (Donations to ALF SG)

CAT RESCUE CHARGE

Animal Liberation campaigner Marcus Claridge has been charged with burglary following a December 29th raid on Perrycroft Lodge, Colwall, Herefords. - an establishment which supplies cats and dogs for vivisection. 20 cats were rescued in the raid. Marcus is currently on bail.
(Donations to ALF SG)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Vegan Society, which has been a great help in getting vegan diets sorted out for the imprisoned activists. Note to all activists: To be properly entitled to a vegan diet in prison you have to be a member of the Vegan Society. JOIN NOW! The Vegan Society, 47, Highlands Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 8NQ. £3 a year (£1.50 - unwaged).



"Yes, no doubt about it, Sarge . . . looks as if they've made a clean getaway."

Punch
28th November 84

Twelve people are currently in prison, either sentenced or on remand, in connection with animal liberation direct action - and well over 100 people are on bail awaiting trial.

This large number of arrests is little to do with clever detective work by the police or the setting up of special squads but is because of the massive increase in direct action in recent months. The law of averages dictates that the more action there is the more people will be arrested.

It is imperative that the rest of the movement give maximum support to those activists either in prison or awaiting trial.

It is also essential that people are not deterred from direct action by the arrest or imprisonment of others. Every arrest and every prison sentence must lead to an increase in the action rather than the opposite. We must show the animal abusers and the authorities that we will not and cannot be defeated.

The special police squad set up to 'hunt down' animal liberation 'extremists' and the vicious prison sentence handed out to Andy Horbury indicate a new offensive by the state and the judiciary against our movement. Our response must be more and more attacks more and more damage, more and more animals rescued. There can be no longer any excuses for not taking action. It is total war. Us and them. Armageddon The forces of light matched against the forces of darkness. Andy Horbury is the first of many this year who will be locked away for the crime of being a decent human being. One day, in the new world, where animals and human beings live in harmony and in freedom, we will remember the courage of Andy and all the others who gave their freedom so that dreams might become reality.

The special squads and the vicious sentences represent the last desperate cries of a dying monster.

Tomorrow belongs to us.

Luke Skywalker

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