Read the review of HLS tactics - page 4

NO COMPROMISE!

The Militant, Direct Action Newspaper of Grassroots Animal Liberationists and Their Supporters

The following companies severed ties with Huntingdon Life Sciences in 2001: Servier (1/15), Citibank (1/17), Merck (1/18), TD Waterhouse (1/26), Credit Suisse First Boston (late January), Merrill Lynch (2/4), Barclays Bank (2/7), Winterflood (3/28), Kleinwort Dresdner Wasserstein (3/28), British Biotech (3/30), RW Johnson (early April), Charles Schwab (4/10), Hargreaves Lansdown (4/24), Allied Irish Bank (5/3), Tate and Lyle (8/8), Aplin and Barrett (early September), Intercare (early September), B & C Nutritional Products Inc. (early September), and Oracle Partners (10/18)!

Ed. note: Please read the following not only as an extensive list of accomplishments to be proud of (which it is), but as a list that can be outdone and surpassed to ensure that 2002 is THE YEAR TO CLOSE HLS!! Get active. Play your part. Make history. CLOSE HLS!!

the YEAR in HLS

January

3rd: HLS Non-Executive Director, Joseph L Dowling III, resigns and informs SHAC the past few years at HLS have been "very hard" and he wants to put that time behind him.

26th: SHAC (Stop Huntington Animal Cruelty) campaigners meet with Stephens Inc. representatives in NYC. They submit evidence of two HLS exposes post-Stephens Inc.'s 1997 investment, and offer to arrange meetings with scientists and financial advisors who will denounce HLS on both fronts. Stephens declines.

29th: The Royal Bank of Scotland refuses to extend, for a 4th time, the loan that is keeping HLS afloat. Only Stephens Inc. will loan them US $33 million to remain open. Protests, civil disobedience, phone blockades, home demonstrations, office occupations, banner hangs, wheat pasting, internet attacks, rooftop demos, and underground actions begin against Stephens and continue to this day.

February

11th: 81 UK protesters arrested after allegedly gaining entrance to HLS customer Bayer's offices and smashing windows, overturning cabinets and destroying machinery.

27th: Animal Liberation—Tactical Internet Response Network shuts down Stephens Inc. website.

March

13th: Activists travel to the Augusta National Golf Tournament to protest golfer and puppy killer Warren Stephens.

21st: Stephens Inc.'s Las Vegas Investment conference is besieged by three days of protests, constant media coverage, and police who turned the area into a militarized zone!

22nd: HLS releases 2000 year-end results showing largest loss thus far.

April

March 31st - April 2nd: National Weekend of Action at HLS, New Jersey—200 protesters besiege the lab; 14 beagles are liberated; HLS worker greeted by smashed windows and overturned car; Stephens Inc. and HLS file a Federal RICO lawsuit against SHAC and individuals.

9th: 10 activists barricade themselves inside the UK executives' offices of the Bank of New York for upwards of 5 hours.

WWAIL: Stephens offices disrupted and occupied in Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Atlanta, and protested across

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2001 Year-End Direct Action Report

North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office

by David Barbarash, January 12, 2002

Introduction

The North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office (NAALFPO) exists primarily to provide information to the media about the philosophy and activities of the Animal Liberation Front in the United States and Canada. We serve as a repository for illegal direct actions taken against animal abuse businesses and industries, as well as providing a voice for the activists who undertake these actions and who wish to remain anonymous, identified only by their affiliation to the non-violent Animal Liberation Front.

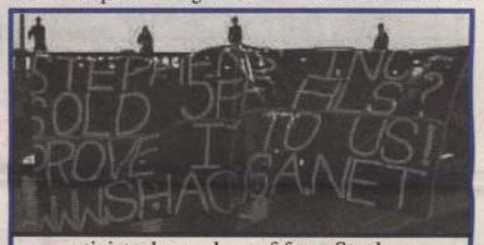
The physical connection between the NAALFPO and the ALF and other direct action groups is non-existent. There is no direct communication or links between the ALF Press Office and the activists who engage in illegal direct action.

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VICTORY: Stephens Divests!

In 2001 the campaign to close Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) honed in on public enemy number one - HLS's largest investor and primary financier, Stephens Inc. Since January 2001, when Stephens bailed HLS out of bankruptcy, the animal rights movement worldwide recognized Stephens as the major financial supporter of HLS and treated them accordingly.

Since Stephens came onto the radar, after they were discovered as HLS's "secret" backer only days after they loaned the lab $33 million, they've felt the heat of the animal rights movement. Their website was shut down in an electronic civil disobedience action by the Animal Liberation Tactical Internet Response Network, activists followed Stephens CEO Warren Stephens to an exclusive golf club in Georgia to expose him as a puppy killer, they followed the company to an investment conference in Las Vegas to sabotage the event, Stephens offices nationwide were occupied during World Week for Animals in



activists demand proof from Stephens

Laboratories 2001 and again in Chicago a few months later, and stink bombs were released in Stephens offices in Austin, Texas, and Seattle, Washington - Stephens promptly closed its San Francisco and Seattle offices after occupations and stink bombs. Offices and executives have had to bear a National Tour of Stephens offices, office disruptions, phone and email blockades and paint attacks, Stephens execs have had 7AM home visits, protests at the train stations from which they travel to work, had their homes stickered and wheatpasted, had signs put in their yards revealing them as animal abusers, had their communities flyered informing their neighbors of their dirty work and received Halloween and Christmas Day home visits, and over 300 activists converged in Little Rock October 27-29th,literally bringing the city to a halt, and protesting the homes and headquarters of Stephens Inc.

The campaign to close HLS also took on the Bank of America, one of Stephens Inc.'s most significant business affiliates. The bank has had to endure banner drops, disruptions, protests, phone blockades, national days of action, and over 30 windows smashed by the ALF. The target was clear: Stephens Inc. and anything and everything they touch. The strategy was set: Siege mentality.

Company by company, the world's biggest financial institutions, including Citibank, Merrill Lynch, HSBC, and Charles Schwab, succumbed. to the pressures of an all-volunteer grassroots campaign. They simply couldn't stand the pressure any longer. Everywhere they turned the animal rights movement was there. Every time they picked up their phone or opened their email, animal rights activists were on the other end. Every day they went to work they had to wonder if activists would storm the offices, disrupt the day or even barricade themselves inside.

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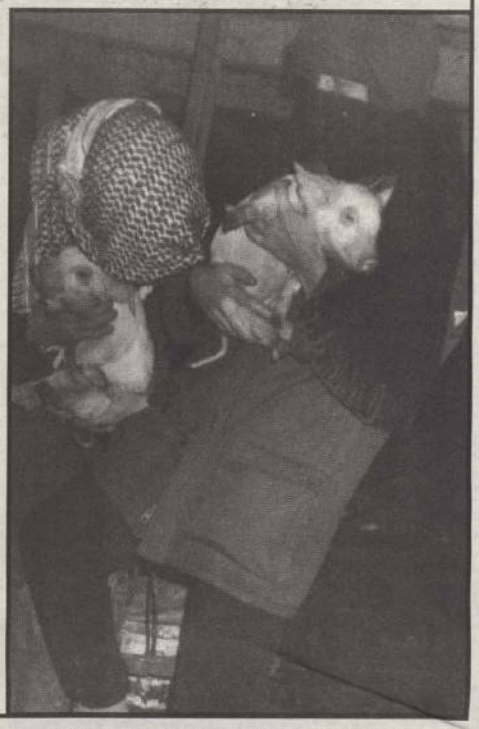
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NO COMPROMISE

No Compromise is dedicated to unifying the grassroots animal liberation movement by providing a forum where activists can exchange information, share strategy, discuss important issues within the movement, network with each other in an open and respectful environment and strengthen the grassroots.
Subscriptions are $15 ($10 for students/low-income people). Checks (donations are always welcome, too!) should be sent to:

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Dear NC readers,

It hardly seems as if it's been almost a year since the last issue of No Compromise was published, but it has indeed been that long and for that, we offer our apologies. For those of you who are new readers, we welcome you and to those who are returning, we would like to say thanks for doing so.

We would also like to say a sad farewell to former No Compromise steering committee member Rod Coronado. Rod has been forced to resign his position with NC as a condition of his probation. He was even admonished for recently attending an Animal Defense League meeting! Happily Rod's sentence will soon be completed and he can return to exercising those limited freedoms so many of us take for granted.

As we begin 2002, No Compromise will be changing its own tactics a bit. Instead of focusing primarily on news stories and supplementing them with articles that serve as activist resources, we have decided to switch gears a bit and focus on the latter. We hope that by doing this, No Compromise will be a more useful tool for animal liberation activists. We will continue to bring you news, but we hope that you also visit our website (www.nocompromise.org) on a regular basis in order to read the latest news as it happens.

To kick off this somewhat new format, this issue's Focus section [pp. 19-24] concentrates on issues that individuals, groups and the movement alike are facing, including identifying and dealing with bad dynamics within groups, elitism, oppression within our ranks and movement building. In addition, we have a breakdown for those interested in becoming involved with politics [p. 19] and a brief overview of civil suits [p. 16].

This has been a very long but very exciting year for the grassroots animal liberation movement. At the forefront has been the campaign to permanently close Huntingdon Life Sciences. In many ways, this campaign has revitalized the movement in the United States by providing a substantive groundwork for national and regional demonstrations against the notorious animal testing laboratory and its chief investor, Stephens Inc. This issue we have included an overview of the tactics used against Stephens Inc. [p. 4], as well as a timeline for the HLS campaign [front cover].

This issue also introduces a new regular feature, the "Group Focus." As we have chosen to eliminate the "Group Update" section of the Trenches directory, we have instead decided to devote an entire article to an individual group each issue. In it, we will highlight their most recent achievements. We are proud to kick off this feature with Washington DC's favorite (and only) grassroots animal rights group, Compassion Over Killing [p. 18].

Of course, we also have articles about everyone's favorite darlings, the Animal Liberation Front. They were extra busy this year, with trips to research labs, breeders, executives' homes and animal factories. To celebrate, we are presenting "30 Years of Direct Action," which highlights the first 30 years of underground direct action [p. 31], tracing back to the legendary Band of Mercy.

2001 was also a year of tragedy in which we lost lives. A protester was killed by riot police at the G8 Summit last summer, and our own anti-vivisection freedom fighter, Barry Horne, died while he was on hunger-strike in prison in the United Kingdom [p. 15].

Over the past year, many things have changed. Unfortunately, one thing that has stayed the same has been the continuation of suffering that our non-human counterparts are forced to endure each day. The cries of the animals urge us ever onward. Until the last animal has been liberated from human tyranny we can not afford to rest.

We leave you with the words of Barry Horne: "If you do not act then you condone. If you do not fight then you do not win. Do not waste time talking about it, drinking down the pub for it, eating veggie burgers for it. Go out there and win it."

Until All Are Free,
NC Steering Committee

DEADLINES FOR NEXT ISSUE
Features, Commentary and Letters - May 21
Trenches and News - May 28
In Your Mailbox - Mid-July

Interview with Robert & Mark, Denmark

The following interview was done with Robert and Mark after their release from Danish prison. In November 2000, they were sentenced to ten months in prison for conspiracy, and an attempt to mink liberation. They claimed their innocence in the courtroom but the judges found them guilty. On the 16th of March 2001 the two were put on a plane to Holland, were they live, not to return to Denmark or Scandinavia in the coming five years.

Mark: on November the 4th we were being sentenced to ten months. We were glad we knew what we had to do but our lawyer strongly advised to appeal the sentence. She found it an outrage to be sentenced on the evidence that the police prosecutor brought up. In fact there was no hard evidence at all.

Robert: some witnesses saw a Dutch car near a mink farm before the farm was raided. The next night two farms more were visited by the Danish ALF. A total of 13.800 mink were liberated from the death farms. The Danish police were eager to arrest people and started to search in the Danish Animal Rights scene. They found out that we were staying in Copenhagen with friends who have a legal A.R. group called Aenima and so decided to observe our car. Wasn't there a change to avoid arrest?

Mark: We shouldn't have gone out to visit a mink farm that night, basically. It sounds cynical but it is kinda true. There was really big media coverage of the mink liberations and we knew that the police were on it, but we didn't expected to be under surveillance.

Robert: Together with our Danish friends we watched on television the mink run free and talked about it. Since they have no car we decided to go to the other side of Denmark to visit a farm so we could obtain information on how the farm was run. if animal welfare rules were broken and if we should come back to take video-footage. Instead we never came that far because we were arrested when we got out of the car.

Interviewer: What can we learn from your arrest?

Robert: Don't drive your car near an institute of animal abuse, before an attack. In prison we have read many animal rights/liberation literature and they all say to be really careful considering the planning of illegal activities. There are a certain number of rules that people who plan animal liberation activities should follow and I totally agree with those rules. Everybody who engages in animal liberation activities should inform him/herself to the utmost before even go out to localize a suitable target. This is really important!

Mark: I truly believe that if you take all the precautions there are to avoid arrest your cell will be very successful and more important for the animals, the continuity of your cell will be a fact. People who engage in Animal Liberation should always be alert and simply follow the rules. That is stay anonymous as long as possible and take your fuckin' time. I know the omnipresent animal abuse can be so frustrating that you want to attack all the industries at once but you simply can't. Besides, you can be so much more successful in what you are doing when you take your time. When there are many actions in a certain area, you can pretty much assume that police, farmers and security companies are on extra alert. When you take your time their attention will fall back and changes are open again.

Interviewer: Do you think legal Animal Rights activities go hand in hand with illegal activities?

Robert: Definitely! I totally support all activities that will lead to the ultimate goal of Animal Liberation. Although, through reading and thinking and looking at tactics that have been used, I see more effect in confronting the oppressors directly than for example then a onetime leafleting at a Macdonald's restaurant. But that has also to do with the different countries. Like in Denmark you see a total absence of sympathy for the animals. Fur shops even sell dog and cat fur and the streets are crowded with people wearing mink, fox and sealskins. There you first have to make the public aware while, for example in Amsterdam, there are almost no furs and a few shops so blockades, as they happen in the u.s. would be better as a tactic.

Mark: I think legal Animal Rights activities are very useful. Not only to do the work that can be very frustrating but also because it is used as stepping stones for the more direct actions. People get in contact with other like-minded persons and discuss and read, for them, new a.r. literature which gives them new insights and ideas. People who see the suffering and abuse of animals often want to help but don't know how. Direct Action seems to them something that they are not capable of. While all the actions that take



place are executed by people just like them. I see that a lot of people take it step by step. It's a process. And I think it is really important to see not only militant youth demonstrate, but also people who have jobs and families.

Interviewer: In Holland the Dieren Bevrijdings Front (Dutch A.L.F.) has claimed a lot of arson attacks against the meat industry. Do you think animal lives are saved this way?

Robert: As I read in the Dutch Support Group Magazine, the goal of the D.B.F. is to liberate animals and do economic damage to the industries that are connected to animal abuse/murder. In the eighties the Dutch A.L.F. has rescued animals out of laboratories. In the more recent past twelve fur farm raids have taken place. And indeed the Dutch A.L.F. has been on an intensive arson campaign against various meat companies, doing a damage more than 50 million guilders! The latest arson attack was against three meat trucks from the second biggest pig killer in Europe, DUMECO. The fire spread to the buildings because the trucks were parked at the place where they unload their cargo of death.

Mark: The newspapers stated that tens of millions of guilders damage was done. The slaughterhouse will not be operative for the next 6 months. When you liberate animals the aspect of giving freedom to animals is very clear. In an arson attack the lives of animals are not directly saved but a lot of damage maybe for the worse. Maybe the ani-

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IN THE TRENCHES ... Your Guide to Grassroots Animal Liberation Organizations

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Direct Action News from North America



the country. Shortly after, the San Francisco office announces its closure.

May

12th-13th: Anti-HLS Days of Action in New Jersey, including a raucous Mother's Day lab protest and home demos.

14th: ALF hacks website of Primate Products (HLS supplier).

17th: Seattle Stephens office, 3 other floors are evacuated, and 5 city blocks are closed off after a stink bomb is released. Shortly after, the Seattle office announces its closure.

24th: Rooftop demo held at Yamanouchi (HLS customer).

June

7th: Activists lock down at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter (22 million shares) UK offices.

8th: HLS worker's car windows smashed.

13th: ALF and ELF smash over 25 windows, glue locks, spray paint slogans, and glue ATM machines at Bank of New York.

14th: Activists cancel HLS's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and hold roving demos at HLS's New York City financial backers.

15th-16th: Long Island Days of Action against Bank of New York.

21st: UK Bank of New York director receives rooftop home demo—at 7AM.

July

2nd: Bank of England (UK government) provides HLS with bank account, as no other institution will do so.

5th: Five cars are driven to the gates of HLS in the UK and activists handcuff themselves underneath, locking HLS workers in at 4PM.

12th: RICO suit credits the anti-HLS campaign with over 2.5 million dollars in damage.

13th: Regional protest against HLS and its New Jersey affiliates. HLS worker's home doused in red paint.

24th: Bank of New York president's yacht sunk.

August

1st: Highly confidential documents pertaining to Bank of New York's biggest customers is leaked to SHAC.

2nd: UK activists storm the offices of 3 HLS affiliates.

7th: Shell (HLS customer) has its windows smashed by the ALF.

17th: SHAC launches campaign against Stephens business affiliate, Bank of America.

27th: Shell postpones "open house" after learning of UK campaigners' plans to invade the open day, disrupt it and then occupy the site. Activists hold lock down and rooftop demos at two other UK Shell locations, closing one for the day.

September

12th: Activists successfully squash grand jury convened to investigate April HLS liberation.

20th: Stephens office occupied in Chicago.

28th: Activists discover and disrupt top secret UK meeting called to discuss the pharmaceutical industries' fears about animal rights activists. The meeting was so top secret, those involved would not commit details to paper.

October

16th: HLS loses last U.S. Market Maker and is removed from the Over The Counter Bulletin Board and placed on the Pink Sheets. HLS announces it will move its finances from the UK to the US.

24th: ALF smashes over 30 Bank of America windows.

27th-29th: National Weekend of Action against Stephens Inc. Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas. Oct. 29 is held as an International Day of Action with events worldwide.

31st: US Stephens executives and UK HLS workers receive Halloween home visits.

November

5th: UK activist barricades herself inside HLS.

9th: HLS pleads guilty to a company law breach for not holding an AGM.

13th: HLS conferences disrupted 3 times in one day—twice in the UK, once in the US. Chicago Stephens exec gets a surprise home visit at 7AM, setting off a number of similar visits around the country.

14th: HLS fails to complete UK/US transaction. Deadline extended.

15th: Stink bomb released in Austin, Texas office. The "Provisional HLS Campaign" newsletter is dispersed by anonymous activists stressing the importance of direct action in the campaign. 3 SHAC UK activists are imprisoned for 6 months—to rest and come out fighting—while HLS and Stephens continue to tire in the face of the animal rights movement over those 6 months.

27th: SHAC kicks off a US National Tour of Stephens Inc. offices. ALF takes credit for paint attack on NYC Stephens office.

28th: Little Rock police announce Oct. 29 protests cost city $250,000. Mayor states the costs should be paid by Warren Stephen. Seattle Bank of America office targeted with stink bomb. Building is sealed and locked down for 3 hours and 5th Avenue is blocked off.



29th: HLS fails to complete UK/US transaction for second time. Deadline again extended. New and improved www.stephenskills.com site launched.

December

5th: ALF rescues 30 beagles and 10 ferrets from HLS breeder Marshall Farms.

9th: Despite post 9/11 increased security, NYC Stephens office receives 2nd paint attack.

17th: HLS fails to complete UK/US transaction for third time. Deadline extended to 2002.

25th: Charlotte Stephens execs receive Christmas home visit. Major rally at HLS's gates in UK.

2002

SHAC declares Stephens Inc. HLS's Achilles heel and

Review of HLS Tactics

So, what tactics are making the campaign against HLS so effective? On March 6th, 2001 the Research Defense Society of the UK (a pro-vivisection group) warned its members:

The following tactics have been used by animal rights extremists campaigning against HLS and similar companies in the last three years. Repeated use of several tactics against one individual is not unusual.

1. Demonstrations at your home or place of work, including verbal abuse using a loudhailer.
2. Abusive graffiti, posters and stickers on your house, car and around the area you live.
3. Invading offices, damaging property and stealing documents.
4. Chaining gates shut or blocking gates with cars to trap staff on site.
5. Physical assaults on yourself and your partner, including spraying cleaning fluid into your eyes.
6. Smashing all the windows in your home when your family is at home.
7. Flooding your home with a hose attached to an outside tap and pushed through letterbox or window, while you are away from home.
8. Vandalising your car (gluing the locks, slashing tyres, pouring paint over it).
9. Sledgehammer attack on your car – while you are still inside it.
10. Firebombing your car in your drive, firebombing sheds and garages.
11. Bomb hoaxes requiring evacuation of premises.
12. Threatening telephone calls and letters (threats to kill or injure you, your partner and children).
13. Abusive telephone calls to your home, at all hours of the day and night, and to your neighbours, relatives and friends.
14. Abusive letters and cards to your home, and posted through the letterboxes of every house in your neighborhood.
15. Email 'bombs' to attempt to crash your computer system.
16. Ordering goods and services in your name and address (e.g. mail-order goods, deliveries of gravel, rubbish skips, car-towing, etc.)
17. Placing hoax free ads for (non-existent) cheap goods using your name and number, so you get numerous calls from would-be buyers.
18. Telephone blockades: repeat dialling preventing you from using your telephone.
19. Arranging for the undertaker to call to collect your body.

Direct Action News from North America



encourages everyone to join a relentless and international campaign forcing them to divest! 2002 is the year to CLOSE HLS!!

VICTORY! STEPHENS DIVESTS!

continued from front cover

The were woken up to late night phone calls, activists outside with bullhorns and sometimes the sound of breaking glass. They didn't get to punch out for the weekend and go home as activists staged constant, and sometimes 24-hour, home demos. When they went for the mail they received plates, magazine subscriptions and sex toys. When they traveled – activists were there. When they held meetings or conferences – activists were there. And it was made very clear that the only way to make it stop was to divest from HLS!

The formula is there. It's time to apply it without holding back! SHAC needs everyone across the country and around the globe to get involved and play YOUR part in closing HLS. This campaign has revolutionized the animal rights movement and we have the opportunity to close one of the world's largest animal-testing labs. Doing so will not only save 500 animals every day, but it will speak volumes about what this movement can accomplish. HLS will close; the only question is when. Play your part to make it soon so we can move on and save more lives!

In the year that Stephens kept HLS open 180,000 animals died. We cannot let this continue. The animal rights movement is all those animals have and we need to act like it! Be quick. Be creative. Be relentless. Get active, make history, CLOSE HLS!

Contact SHAC-USA for resources and information. Check the website daily for updates and inspiration from around the world. Send us your upcoming events and event write-ups so we can share them with campaigners worldwide.

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OPERATION BANKRUPTCY

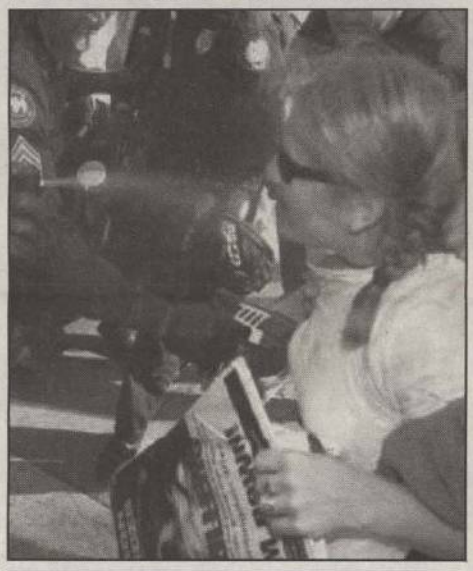
SHAC Announces Operation Bankruptcy! A national campaign to smash HLS by turning the screws in ways HLS never could have imagined.

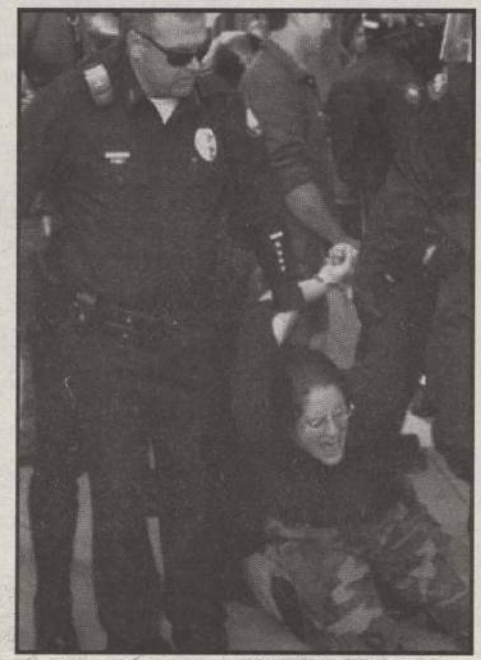
Insurance is something every company MUST have in order to stay in business. The mere threat of this facility being cut from the lab will cripple staff morale and scare off potential employees. Insurance companies always have backdoor clauses and can drop coverage of companies and individuals if it is in their best interest to do so. If HLS loses its insurance provider it will have to scramble to find another one - and one that will almost certainly make HLS pay higher premiums.

In order to operate the lab facility in New Jersey, HLS must rely upon other outside companies to provide them with such services as food/catering, office supplies, waste removal, lawn services, security, etc. All of these companies are making animal cruelty possible at HLS and should be treated no different than the abusers themselves.

Every service that we can cancel for HLS means they must spend time and money (which they have neither of) to locate replacements - that invariably will come at a higher cost.

For more information on the campaigns - background info, addresses, literature - check out www.shacusa.net - it will be constantly updated over the course of the week with new information and resources, so check back regularly. Join in on the campaign and help close HLS for good!





NEWS BRIEFS

RIVERHEAD, NY- On January 5, 2001, animal rights activist, Andy Stepanian, was sentenced to 90 days in jail after a Superior Court Judge broke his own promise to sentence him only to community service after his conviction for breaking a Long Island fur store window.

WASHINGTON DC- It was reported that on January 6, 2001, animal rights group, Compassion Over Killing, held an in-store protest at Neiman Marcus. After a salesperson discovered the group handing out fur cards to customers in the store, she asked them to leave. At this point, loud chanting ensued and a security guard was called to escort the activists out of the store.

MILWAUKEE, WI-In the late afternoon on January 13, 2001, police had to push back several dozen masked, anti-fur protesters after they tried to enter the Airport Sheraton to picket the 2001 International Mink Convention. Last year, 14 anti-fur activists were arrested and jailed after similar demonstrations in Milwaukee and Sheboygan. All charges were later dropped.

NEW JERSEY- An ADL-NJ activists was arrested during the protest at Huntington Life Science laboratory on January 17, 2001 while attempting to deliver a challenge to debate to HLS's Director of US Operations.

WASHINGTON DC- At about 5pm on January 20, 2001, three activists entered the DC Neiman Marcus to educate the public on the horrors of the fur trade. Two went to the fur department and proceeded to chant anti-fur slogans. After they had been escorted out of the mall by security guards, the third activist, wielding a megaphone, continued the protest in the fur department. He was also escorted out. The next day, after handing out fur cards for some time in the store, another activist was spotted by a security guard who asked him to leave. At this point, the activist began chanting loudly and left the store.

SALEM, OR- ELF and ALF activity in Oregon over the past two years including arson and vandalism, have prompted the Oregon Legislature to consider stiffening the penalties for such crimes. Lawmakers began work on January 24, 2001 on two bills focused on property damage and other acts claimed by the ELF and ALF.

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA - Activist and environmentalist, Frank Ambrose, was arrested early morning on January 25, 2001 by state conservation officers and charged with "Timber Spiking" for an incident claimed credit by the underground Earth Liberation Front (ELF). The charge is listed as a class d felony which can carry up to a 3 year prison sentence and a fine.

LOS ANGELES, CA - There was an in-store disruption staged at the Neiman Marcus in Beverly Hills on January 27, 2001. An hour or so after the regular Saturday protest, 4 activists went back to Neimans and began to pass out anti-fur flyers in the fur department. When approached by security and asked to leave, the activists unrolled posters and began to chant anti-fur slogans while being escorted out, gaining the attention of every person in the store at the time.

WASHINGTON DC- In the middle of the day on January 28, 2001, 19 people did an in-store protest at Neiman Marcus, complete with signs and loud chants. That lasted just over a minute before they were escorted out. At the scheduled protest later in the day, there were about 330 protesters, taking up the entire block. By the end of the protest, three glass doors had been smashed and one door

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NEWS BRIEFS

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was ripped off the hinges. While no one was arrested for those incidents, two people were later arrested during confrontations with police.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH Animal rights activist, Jeremy Parkin, who was charged with three felonies regarding an alleged mink release at a local fur farm, went to his arraignment on February 7, 2001 and had all of his charges dismissed by the judge.

CALIFORNIA- On May 8, 2001 the state Supreme Court struck down a controversial practice by jurors who deliver a verdict based on their consciences and not the acts of a case.

CALIFORNIA- It was reported that on May 9, 2001, Viva! USA won their campaign to get Trader Joe's to stop selling duck meat. Viva! campaigners around the country have been working to get Trader Joe's to dump duck meat since September.

LOS ANGELES, CA- It was reported on May 11 that a vegan who says he was denied a job because he refused to take a mumps vaccination made from chicken embryo is appealing a ruling dismissing the heart of his discrimination lawsuit.

MADISON, WI- A national research watchdog organization filed the largest official complaint in U.S. history against 50 nationally known laboratories that perform animal experimentation on June 14, 2001. The colleges, including Harvard, the Salk Institute, University of California, Johns Hopkins and Princeton, deliberately withhold information from government oversight agencies, and abuse primates during experimentation by denying food and water and confining them to restraint chairs.

WASHINGTON DC- It was reported on June 28, 2001 that members of Compassion Over Killing locked-down to Neiman Marcus. The two activists plastered the doors and windows of the foyer to Neimans with anti-fur posters and successfully blockaded the entrance for 70 minutes.

McLEAN, VA- Animal rights activist for across the country held an in store protest at Neiman Marcus on July 1, 2001. Between 45-50 protesters walked through the store while chanting and holding signs until they were escorted out by security.

VIENNA, VA- Actor James Cromwell was among six animal rights activists arrested at a Wendy's restaurant on July 3, 2001. The protesters were taken into custody, but all charges were subsequently dropped.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA- After a two and a half-hour standoff with police the five anti-fur activists who had locked themselves across the entrance to the SF Neiman Marcus store were arrested and taken away to SF County jail on July 7th, 2001. The protesters were released after sending three days in jail.

DALLAS, TX- Animal rights activists, Megan Lewis, began a ten day jail sentence on August 9, 2001. This sentence was stemming out of charges related to obstructing the business of Neiman Marcus.

WASHINGTON DC- Just after 11:00 a.m. on August 17, 2001, two activists from the animal rights organization Compassion Over Killing entered the office of the general manager at the D.C. Neiman Marcus, and proceeded to

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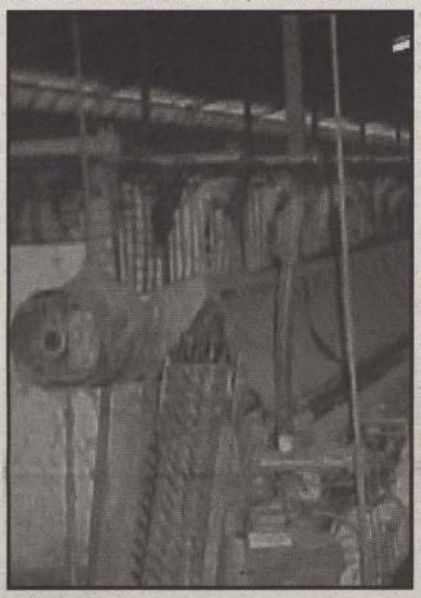
HOPE for the hopeless

An Investigation and Rescue at a Battery Egg Facility

by Miyun Park, Compassion Over Killing

The drive out there transported us more than just geographically; we sped away from downtown Washington, D.C., to the rural area of Maryland's Eastern Shore, where beautiful countryside is marred by the presence of countless factory farms. Open fields flanked the road, littered with this or that animal abuse institution: long, metal sheds reflecting the light of the stars dotting the clear, country sky.

As we got closer to the facility, the talking and laughing in the car stopped. We were all nervous. We had no idea what we would find, what horrors we would encounter.



A couple of weeks earlier, Compassion Over Killing (COK), a grassroots animal rights organization based in D.C., had received an anonymous tip that animal cruelty was a routine part of business at International Standard of Excellence (ISE), a major egg supplier with facilities up and down the East Coast. We immediately sent a letter to ISE's corporate headquarters in Galena, Maryland, and requested a tour of its Cecilton, Maryland, facility. To this day, we have yet to receive a response.

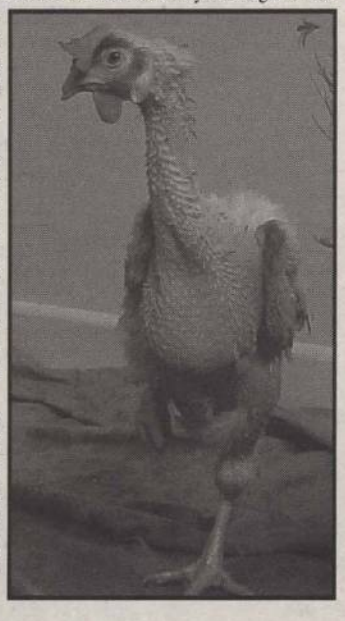
When our request was ignored, four COK members-Suzanne McMillan, Lance Morosini, Paul Shapiro, and myself-decided to investigate the factory farm on our own.

So we found ourselves driving past the entrance to ISE, parking nearby, and getting out of the car. Did we have everything? Head lamps; video cameras; still cameras; flashlights; extra batteries, film, and video tapes; surgical masks and several pairs of latex gloves; paper, pens, and tape measures; water bottles; extra clothes and shoes.

Everything had been sterilized before we left and sealed in clean, plastic bags. We wore coveralls to protect our freshly-washed clothes from contamination and carried extra shoes to change into. We practiced stricter biosecurity than the workers, but felt the need so ISE wouldn't be able to assert that we brought any outside contaminants into the sheds, threatening the lives of the 800,000 hens housed there-ironic since the 92,000 animals confined in each of the nine sheds had already been sentenced to life on death row.

We ran along a tree-line, trying to remain inconspicuous. The air was thick with the smell of feces and disease, and the stench grew exponentially as we neared the facility. After waiting and watching for what felt like hours, we approached the nearest door and found it unlocked. Within a few seconds, we were stripping off our coveralls, changing our shoes, and pulling out our gear. We were ready to begin documenting the egregious animal cruelty inflicted by ISE for egg industry supporters.

When we entered what we learned to be Shed 9, we stood at the foot of stairs leading up to the hens, one floor above the manure pit. After stashing our coveralls and shoes, adjusting our lights, and preparing the equipment, we cautiously walked upstairs. The sheer enormity of the shed was incredible. Each of the nine sheds measures nearly the length of two football fields, and when standing at the end of one row with all of our lights pointing in the same direction, the hundreds of cages faded into darkness. We walked down random aisles, documenting the conditions the animals are forced to live in without any reprieve. Originally, we had thought this initial visit would be purely investigative, but we quickly realized we would have to provide on-site assistance to many birds.



Due to the very nature of battery cages, the egg-laying hens are in dire situations. The batteries are long rows of wire cages measuring 24-inches wide and 17-inches deep (about the size of a folded newspaper), stacked one on top of another, reaching four tiers high. Each bird is crammed into a cage with up to ten others. In cages with 9 to 11 hens, each four-pound animal with a wingspan of 30 to 32 inches is given about 40 square inches of floor-space, which is about half a piece of letter-sized paper. The severe overcrowding of the animals deprives them of simple movement without disrupting their other cellmates, freely stretching their wings, exercising at all, or engaging in any normal chicken behavior. The hens spend nearly their entire lives in these metal cages.

These unyielding wire batteries cause many hens to become caught by their heads, necks, wings, and legs, in the bars of the cages, immobilizing them without access to food or water. The desperation of the stuck hens can't be described. When we untangled the head and neck of a hen and removed her from the cage, she was so weak she couldn't hold up her own head. We offered her water and waited anxiously, as she remained immobile. Then, suddenly, she threw back her head and swallowed, in pure joy and relief. It

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Direct Action News from North America

The Plight of Oregon Primate Center Monkeys

by Matt Rossell and Leslie Hemstreet

Abuse Exposed

The Oregon Regional Primate Research Center (ORPRC) at Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) has been taking a well-deserved beating in the media during the past year as a result of two whistleblowers, a primate technician and a USDA inspector, coming forward at an In Defense of Animals press conference in August 2000.

Painful evidence of animal cruelty includes video footage of ORPRC's electro-ejaculation procedure, in which technicians electrocute the penises of fully conscious male monkeys to obtain semen samples.

Other video, taken secretly, depicts monkeys driven mad by isolation and maternal deprivation, attacking their own bodies and inflicting serious injuries.

More than a dozen abnormal behaviors result from housing monkeys alone in cages little more than two feet by two feet for their entire lives. Bored and lonely, monkeys in labs pull their hair out, smear and eat their feces, and circle and pace neurotically awaiting the next experimental procedure.

USDA in Collusion

Dr. Isis Johnson Brown, Oregon's former USDA inspector, quit in frustration because her superiors refused to support her efforts to uphold the Animal Welfare Act. She stated: "The USDA inspection system is comprised of a 'good old boy' network that blatantly defies federal laws that, even if they were enforced, are too ineffectual to protect the animals. More than once, I was instructed by a supervisor to make a personal list of violations of the law, cut that list in half, and then cut that list in half again before writing up my inspection reports. My willingness to uphold the law during my site visits at the Primate Center led to me being 're-trained' several times by higher-ups in the USDA. I recognize the system is not set up to protect the animals but instead the financial interests of the research labs."

Criticism From Within

ORPRC administers inhumane care by any standards—including those of primate researcher Carol Shively, who was hired by the OHSU to review their programs at ORPRC. Shively called electro-ejaculation "inhumane" and criticized the lack of social housing—more than 1,200 monkeys are housed in isolation. Dr. Shively stated: "The consensus of the scientific community is that these monkeys are dependent upon their social relationships for their physical and psychological well-being." She also stated that depriving primates of social housing causes pathological behavior such as pacing, self-aggression, and hair plucking to the point of nudity.



That's what happens to socially evolved animals when they are singly housed. These behaviors are entirely preventable by providing social housing.

"Model Institution"

So what does the Oregon Primate Center have to say in its defense? OHSU Provost Leslie Hallick calls their Primate Center a "model" for the industry. If Oregon is a "model," what does that say for the other seven Regional Primate Research Centers—and all the other primate labs? Maybe that the Oregon Primate Center demonstrates the standard neglect and inhumane treatment found nationwide.

Capuchins Freed!

Through local campaigns and with the help of criticism from local media, we were able to free 22 capuchin monkeys. They were released to zoos where they are breathing fresh air, getting produce, feeling the sun, and, best of all, living together in groups for the first time in more than 20 years.

Call to Action

Through coordinated grassroots action and a coalition of national advocacy groups, we can look to the day when these horrific experiments are put to an end and all of the animals are retired to sanctuaries. Here's some things you can do.

• If you would like to start a similar campaign in your area or want to use information and images from this campaign, please contact Matt Rossell or Leslie Hemstreet at primates@aracnet.com

• You can also write your representative (House of Representatives, Washington DC 20515) and senators (Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510) to request a congressional investigation into the ethical practices of all eight federally funded primate centers nationwide.

• Overseas members should contact the US Ambassador at the US Embassy in the capital city of their country of residence.

Please tell them that the whole world is becoming aware of the waste of US taxpayer dollars and the suffering of wonderful animals at the Oregon Primate Center! Let them know that you think the public deserves access to all information about what's going on inside Oregon's publicly funded Primate Center, and that additional oversight is necessary to improve conditions internally and eliminate ludicrous and redundant research.

NEWS BRIEFS

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place mink pelts (complete with heads) and anti-fur literature throughout her office

SAN FRANCISCO, CA- Three animal rights activists were sentenced to six months in jail after refusing to take probation on September 24, 2001. The protesters were convicted of five misdemeanors, including conspiracy, after they locked themselves to the doors at SF Neiman Marcus store. The three activists ended up doing the time on home detention.

ITHACA, NY- NYCAD and Farm Sanctuary launched their campaign on October 1, 2001 to make Ithaca a veal-free city. They are asking restaurants to sign pledges that they will not serve veal, and eventually will be introducing a city council resolution to ban veal

OHIO- It was reported that on October 18, 2001 investigators from the Ohio animal rights organization Mercy For Animals rescued 34 sick and injured hens from Buckeye Egg Farm and Daylay Egg Farm, Ohio's two largest egg producers.

SAN JOSE, CA- Two animal rights activists plead guilty on October 17, 2001 in federal court to firearm charges. Matt Whyte and Peter Schnell admitted to possessing 18 Magic Re-Light candles, 11 plastic one-gallon containers and gasoline.

WASHINGTON DC- COK celebrated an early Thanksgiving this year by serving vegan versions of traditional holiday fare to local homeless men and women. On Sunday, November 18th, COK activists served about 30 plates of Tofurky, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and cranberry sauce to homeless people in Franklin Park

SAN FRANCISCO- It was reported on December 16, 2001 that 13 people were arrested for blocking the doors of Neiman Marcus during CAFT-SF's third annual sit-in. They were all released within a few hours. All charges have been dropped.

SEATTLE, WA- Seattle activist Jon Batchelor was taken back into custody at a hearing on extradition to Virginia on January 2, 2002, on felony charges of aggravated assault on an officer and escape which stem from the Animal Rights 2001 conference. He still remains in custody in Virginia.

SAN FRANCISCO - A U.S. federal appeals court ruled on January 14, 2002 that the environmental activists may proceed with a civil rights lawsuit against two California sheriff's officers accused of swabbing anti-logging protesters' eyes with Q-tips dipped in pepper spray. The three-judge appeals court panel found "it would be clear to a reasonable officer that it was excessive to use pepper spray against the nonviolent protesters" under the circumstances alleged in the lawsuit, and therefore the trial should proceed.

SAN FRANCISCO - Notorious animal researcher, Steven Cheung, was sued for having peaceful demonstrators arrested outside his house. The complaint alleges false arrest, abuse of process, and violation of civil rights.



IN THE TRENCHES ...

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ducks out of water

Most of us are used to seeing ducks near our rivers and ponds. These aquatic birds are now being factory farmed in sheds in places like Indiana and California. Their flesh is sold in stores across the country, including Whole Foods and Kroger. Today's duck industry is as cruel as the chicken and turkey industries. Duck represents a minor sector of the poultry industry compared to chickens and turkeys. According to the latest figures, approximately 24 million ducks were slaughtered in 1999 and the number is increasing.

Ducks, like other animals raised for food, are excluded from the federal Animal Welfare Act. There are no U.S. government standards for how these animals are housed, fed or treated on farms. According to the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS), almost all farmed ducks are raised indoors. They are aquatic birds, yet are denied water (a fundamental requirement). Many ducks in the U.S. are forced to drink from nipple drinkers - a pipe with holes that dribble water. Viva!'s footage shows desperate ducklings struggling for water. They are unable to preen properly and have difficulty keeping warm. Without water, they can develop eye problems that result in blindness.

Many duck farmers burn or cut off the ducks' upper bills without painkillers. This is done to prevent feather pulling a behavior caused by the stress of living in extremely crowded and unnatural environment. This mutilation can lead to constant pain and makes normal eating difficult. Both companies investigated by Viva!, Maple Leaf Farms and Grimaud Farms, perform this procedure.

Ducks who supply eggs for hatching are forced to molt through starvation. Food is withheld until the ducks lose almost one third of their body weight. About half will shed most of their primary feathers. Some will die. This cruelty is legal and is designed to produce an extra egg-laying cycle.

Just like other birds in food production, ducks are not required by federal law to be stunned before slaughter. However, for commercial flocks, electrical stunning is used. Some researchers think that rather than rendering birds unconscious, electrical stunning may simply cause paralysis while inflicting severe pain. Additionally, every year about one million ducks are not stunned properly. These birds are known to be conscious when their throats are cut. USDA data shows that thousands are still alive when they are submerged in the scalding water to be de-feathered.

Viva! investigated farms around the country and recorded instances of poor duck welfare, including dead and sick birds who could not walk. At one of the Maple Leaf Farms facilities, we found a duck whose wings were caught in the mesh floor. He was on his back squawking, struggling to get up. A Viva! investigator had to use considerable force to free him. Most of the ducks at Maple Leaf Farms were in filthy conditions.

An investigation of Grimaud Farms showed Muscovy ducks with a significant portion of their bills cut off. The birds were in filthy conditions and some had difficulty walking. One of the sheds was in total darkness; the heat and the smell of ammonia were unbearable.

Viva! has coordinated two national events on behalf of the ducks since September. Events took place in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and other cities. In this short amount of time, Viva! has already been quite successful. Earth Fare, a grocery chain on the East Coast, dumped duck meat by Grimaud almost immediately after they heard of our efforts. Trader Joe's imposed a moratorium on all duck meat in their stores. Whole Foods made a corporate decision not to sell duck meat from Maple Leaf Farms (although they continue to sell Grimaud).

Viva! also released a statement in support of the liberation of approximately 250 ducklings from the Duck Laboratory at Cornell University. The ducks were victims of experiments that would benefit the factory farming industry.

What you can do:

• Ask your local grocery store managers to stop selling duck meat.

• Let corporate offices know how you feel:

John Mackey, CEO
Whole Foods Market
601 N. Lamar Blvd, Suite 300
Austin, TX 78703
512-477-4455

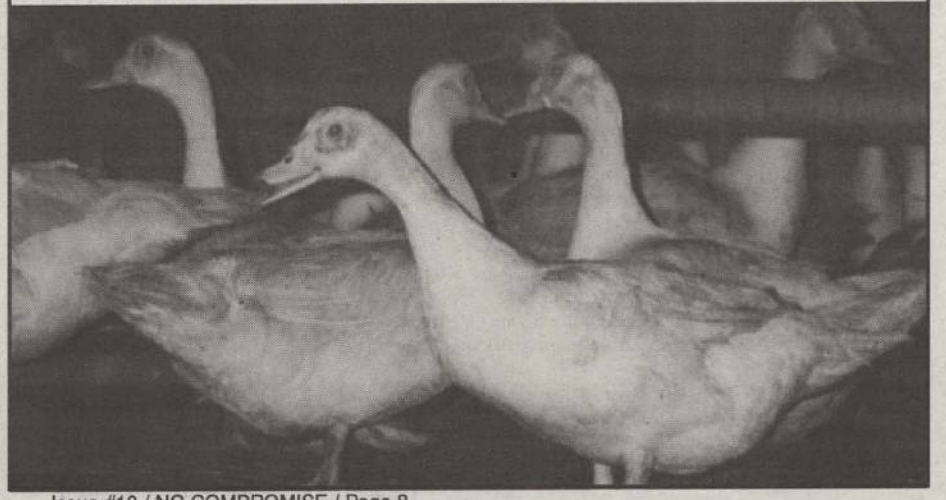
Lee Scott, President
Wal-Mart
P.O. Box 116
Bentonville, AR 72712
800-925-6278

Dave Dillon, President
Kroger
1014 Vine St.
Cincinnati, OH 45202
800-632-6900

Steven Burd, President, CEO
Safeway
5918 Stone Ridge Mall Road
Pleasanton, CA 94588-3229
800-SAFEWAY or 925-467-3000

Order our free Ducks Out of Water pack and check out our web site, www.vivausa.org. Viva!, P.O. Box 49023, Atlanta, GA 30359; 404-315-8881; info@vivausa.org.

Grimaud Farms, Linden, CA. De-billed Muscovy Ducks. Part of the upper bill is amputated, causing pain for all their short life.



Direct Action News from North America

Yellowstone Bison Campaign

by Festus

The last wild American bison continue to be harassed, captured, and slaughtered by the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL), National Forest Service, and National Park Service. Although it has been a mild winter in the Yellowstone ecosystem, over twenty bison bulls migrated out of the park in January. They have spent the winter grazing along the Madison River bottoms and at Horse Butte, a traditional winter range for Yellowstone bison. If not for the deadly, military style tactics of the DOL, these bulls would have had an easy, peaceful existence.

On February 14th, after several unsuccessful attempts to haze the bison back to the park with snowmobiles, DOL brought out their helicopter. The copter flew as low as 10 feet above the wildlife rich river bottoms, firing explosive rounds, running a siren and hazing the bulls two miles back into Yellowstone. It then proceeded to Duck creek where it hazed six bulls that were near the border, but had never left Yellowstone, about two miles into the park. The major irony of this operation is that none of the bison were in areas that are grazed by cattle.

Peace and quiet along these corridors is vital for the survival of elk, moose, bald eagles, trumpeter swans, wolves, and many other wildlife that winter here. The disruption caused by the DOL helicopter, with Yellowstone National Park's approval, threatens all of the wildlife in the area at the most critical time of year.

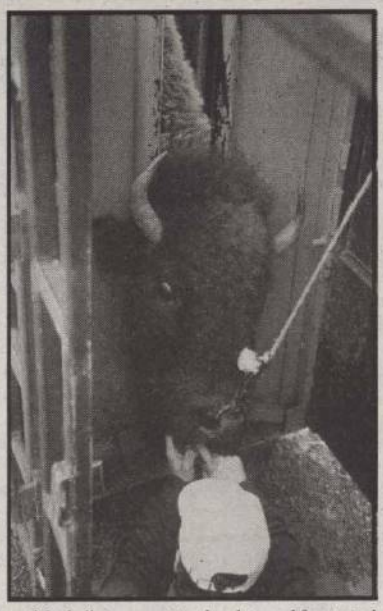


After a month's hiatus, in which the bison quickly returned to their previous location along the Madison, the DOL flew their death machine again. On March 14th, the copter rounded up fifteen bulls on the Madison River, and attempted to push them into the Horse Butte capture facility. As the copter approached the butte with its quarry, Buffalo Field Campaign volunteers moved into position.

Utter chaos reigned at Horse Butte for the next four hours. When the snow settled, seven bison had been captured, seven volunteers arrested, and thanks to their efforts, eight bison had escaped the trap. Knowing they had saved eight bulls from likely slaughter made the sacrifice a sweet one. Unfortunately, two of the captured bulls tested positive for brucellosis antibodies, and were sent to slaughter. The other five were tagged and released, all having suffered wounds during the capture and testing process that threaten their survival.

The next week DOL returned, and attempted to capture three bulls at Horse Butte. In an awesome display of true power, one of the magnificent bulls wallowed right in front of the DOL agents, stood up and flipped sand in their direction with his horns. The bulls then turned and ran up the butte, quickly disappearing over the ridge. With frustration evident on their faces, law enforcement officers arrested two protesters who had allegedly crossed an arbitrary closure line on Forest Service land.

The following day, DOL flew its helicopter over Duck creek and Cougar creek and was able to capture seven bulls that had left the safety of the park. One protester was arrested at Cougar creek for allegedly disrupting the operation.



Three of the bulls were sent to slaughter and four tested negative, were released the next day, obviously traumatized.

When DOL returned to Horse Butte, though, they found that a tripod had been erected on the access road to the capture facility. Despite 24-hour security along the road, one volunteer occupied a platform thirty feet up in the blockade. He was removed with a cherry picker late in the day and arrested, but was successful in keeping the bison at Horse Butte from being captured. On Friday of that week, which had been planned as a "week of action" to end the slaughter, BFC held a rally at the Gallatin National Forest office in West Yellowstone. Decked out in costumes representing the many species that live in the area, the ralliers demanded an end to the deadly activities of the DOL on Forest Service land. Two people were admitted to the office, without costumes, to talk with District Ranger Stan Benes. Benes, however, could only offer up a list of the usual, lame excuses as to why he is powerless to change the status quo. The question still remains: Why do Montana cattle interests hold so much power over the National Forest Service and Yellowstone National Park?

On Sunday, fifty people attended a prayer ceremony hosted by the Ehnamani Sundance Church. We gave thanks to the First Maker of All Things and asked for strength, for protection of the bison, and for the enlightenment of those that would continue the reckless slaughter. Over seventy people who gained valuable experience in the field, helping to end the slaughter of the last wild bison attended the "week of action."

April brought a new threat, as hundreds of pregnant females and calves began to head west towards Horse Butte. A month and a half of hazing operations ensued, with newborn calves forced to walk seven miles to Yellowstone from the butte.

While BFC abhors this harassment, especially of newborns, attempts to disrupt the hazing would only put more stress on the animals. BFC will stand by its commitment to this incredible herd. Every day in the field the bison teach us valuable lessons, and amaze us with their beauty, grace and power. Our family continues to grow in numbers and in strength. BFC is the only group working in the field to document and stop the indiscriminate slaughter of America's last wild bison.

Contact BFC at:

PO Box 957
West Yellowstone, MT 59758
Buffalo@wildrockies.org

Check out our website, where you can download video of the latest events at:
http://www.wildrockies.org/buffalo/

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Web: www.animal-liberation.net/barry/

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Help No Compromise!

As an all-volunteer steering committee (who are all also active in the movement in other areas), we struggle to get each issue out to help you help animals. We would like to do so much more like produce resourceful booklets for activists, provide assistance to grassroots groups, encourage alliances between the national and grassroots animal rights factions, as well as increasing our distribution and outreach. Please help No Compromise be the best that it can be by making a generous donation today! Send your check or money order to:

No Compromise
PO Box 1440
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1440

Direct Action News from Around the World

INTERNATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND - On April 15, the day after the national animal rights convergence, 10 chickens were rescued from Pauatahanui's Golden Gate Poultry farm during a daylight raid. Around 50 activists from several countries gathered to demonstrate outside the farm, and it wasn't long before the chickens were free. There was police presence all during the protest, but they were totally unaware of the liberation until the media questioned them for a response to the raid.

STEINOLSA, GERMANY - It was reported via an ALF communiqué that on April 22 an arson attack was carried out at a currently empty mink and fox farm in the area. Along with the fire, 400 new cages and two buildings were also attacked with butyric acid.

SURREY, ENGLAND – On April 26, hunt scum Joseph R. Wilkinson pleaded guilty to assault and criminal damage for punching a 58-year-old woman that was out monitoring the Surrey fox hunt with her camera. The woman was there to monitor the death of the foxes, but she witnessed the death of a horse that collapsed during the hunt. On seeing the woman, Wilkinson punched her in the face, requiring that she get stitches to her split mouth. The court gave Wilkinson a measly 1-year conditional discharge and a fine of just 500 pounds.

AVESTA, SWEDEN - On May 3 a successful night time raid liberating 40 Chinchillas and 21 chickens from the Karl Bengs chinchilla farm was reported. The action was claimed by the Swedish ALF and was the second action that has happened on this farm to date.

LONDON, ENGLAND – Reuters reported on May 10 that eight animal rights campaigners chained themselves to the railings of the London offices of the Bank of New York. The action was carried out as part of the worldwide campaign spearheaded by Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) to close down Huntingdon Life Sciences, Europe's biggest drug testing laboratory. The activists targeted the Bank of New York because of its huge involvement in managing shares of Huntingdon Life Sciences in the United States.

BAWNBUE, IRELAND – On May 16, a farmer was sentenced to 3 years in jail for injecting cattle with Slurry in order to give them TB and claim slaughter grants. The animals were found suffering terribly with huge swellings, some half the size of a soccer ball and seeping pus. The slurry was taken from the floor of his milking shed, and when the lumps started to form, he simply cut them open with a knife.

NETTETAL, WEST GERMANY – A communiqué was received stating that on May 20, the ALF carried out an action on a mink farm near the Germany/Holland border. 300 cages were destroyed during the action, 150 of them being new and going to be installed in the farm. Along with the cage destruction, 700 breeding cards were stolen, and there were holes cut in the fence so that several mink running freely around the farm at the time could escape.

TAUPO, NEW ZEALAND – On May 29 Graham Walker was sentenced in the Taupo District Court for shooting his friend, Jon Lynch, while they were out hunting. For over 20 seconds Walker kept what he thought was a deer in his sights but was surprised, after shooting the "deer," that this was his friend. He got five months periodic detention and was ordered to pay $2000 reparation to Lynch's family.

SON, HOLLAND – On June 17 the Dutch ALF (DBF) attempted to burn down Ballering Export, a meat processor at the Ekkersryt, Son. The DBF reported in a communiqué to the magazine Ravage that at least one truck was burnt down in the action. Ballering Export claims it is the largest pig

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Message from the Animal Liberation Front Support Group Holland

As I started to write this article an envelope crashed on the floor of a Dutch activist magazine containing a message from the Dieren Bevrijdings Front, claiming an arson attack, on the night of June 17th, on a slaughterhouse in a town called Son. Damage to the company was estimated at 800.000 guilders due to the loss of two new meat transport trucks, which were loaded with mutilated corpses of hundreds of pigs.

The DBF stated that their intention was to entirely destroy the slaughterhouse, by starting the fire at the trucks parked in the loading docks. They learned this method from another ALF cell who did destroy 1/3 of a



different slaughterhouse on the night of March 25 by igniting the trucks in the loading docks. The damage done at the slaughterhouse of Dumeco in Boxtel was estimated at more than 25 million guilders. The owner of the former kill-factory told the media that it would be out of order at least half a year. The latest attack and the one in Boxtel can be regarded as one of many victories the Dutch ALF has accomplished in the last three years.

An intensive arson campaign against transport companies and slaughterhouses was launched in 1998. to let the industries know that they will never be tolerated. Belgian and Dutch activists successfully carried out more than 35 direct actions against the meat industry and fur farming industries since than. In Holland, no arrest have been made and the police only found one empty red jerrycan with a black lid on it, stating they found a red jerrycan with (as you can guess) a black lid on it.

The media reported on the attack at Boxtel because it was so big but also because Holland was under the curse of Foot and Mouth disease. Headlines in the national serious newspapers reported the arson attack in one breath with the spread of the disease, the sad conditions in which the animals live their lives, and the public outcry to the government to take action and change these conditions so the timing was right. As I said before, most of the time the Dutch ALF uses arson to take out the killing machines. As most of the ALF cells use the same incendiary device, it will be hard for the police to link actions to one another.

Cells have stated in their press releases that they use a soft plastic bottle with the top removed, filled with gasoline and oil. The detonation is a piece of firework, a stick (not incense but sparking cold fire which is harmless so little children can hold it in their hands.) that burns slowly to the bottle where it makes contact with a piece of newspaper soaked with gasoline. This paper will light up when the stick is almost burned igniting the bottle with gasoline which will be the beginning of the end for the target.

On the 4th of February, near the town of Ven-Zelderheide, 600 mink cages were trashed as well as several water vole traps elsewhere in the country. The last mink liberation dates from last fall when several hundred mink were liberated just before their execution. On political level though, the farmers are confronted with a minister of agriculture who wants to ban fur farming. Question remains if the full government will accept this. A lot of liberal and Christian parties have serious doubts and a lot of influence so we have to see if it will be sooner or later that they are forced to close down.

On a positive note, Dutch activists have found a common goal in closing down the Biomedical Primate Research Centre. Different groups are focussing on strategies and demos are held frequently at the site in Rijswijk. It all started about two months ago, when a media freak entered the premises of the centre and videotaped the primates trapped in small cages in the breeding facility. Aggressive employees let the reporter know he was uninvited but the broadcast on national television resulted in a lot of negative publicity for the centre. A committee advised the minister of Agriculture to abort all tests on chimpanzees. This resulted in the release of some chimps. Of course the centre made sure that when the baby chimps left the centre the cameras were rolling. At this moment it is still very unsure though where the rest of the animals will go and the centre has already announced that they want to keep at least 25 chimpanzees. The freedom for some of the chimpanzees is a victory we celebrate while our hearts are with the 1500 other primate brothers and sisters still trapped under the vivisectors knives. The fight has just begun!!

Our thoughts, love and strength go out to Barry, Mel, Dave, Jeffrey and all the other prisoners of war ... UNTIL ALL ARE FREE ... ALF-SG HOLLAND.



Second In A Series


Michael Petrelis

PROSECUTORIAL WITCH HUNTS ARE NO CURE FOR AIDS CORRUPTION!


David Pasquarelli

FREE HIV-POSITIVE WHISTLE BLOWERS MICHAEL PETRELIS & DAVID PASQUARELLI

A public statement from Michael Petrelis of the AIDS Accountability Project and David Pasquarelli of ACT UP San Francisco

January 22, 2002 • Day 55 • From the San Francisco County Jail

The following is an open letter to the community from imprisoned HIV-positive activists Michael Petrelis and David Pasquarelli. Both men are held on an outrageous $1.1 Million bail.

On January 23, 2002, in San Francisco Superior Court, the preliminary hearing resumes regarding the dozens of felony and misdemeanor counts of criminal threats, stalking, harassment and conspiracy leveled against us. These untrue accusations are the result of a phone/fax and email zap we allegedly participated in to bring attention to AIDS corruption and to resist recent calls by health officials to quarantine AIDS patients.

In anticipation of the conclusion of this hearing, we feel it is important for us to address several key issues surrounding our case and relating to problems plaguing America's $100 Billion AIDS industry.

Terence Hallinan's Trumped Up Charges Can't Hide Rampant AIDS Corruption

Once again, we categorically deny accusations that we issued threats or engaged in terrorist activities. We reject untrue allegations that either of us ever threatened physical injury to any of our accusers or their families.

Indeed, we assert that San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan is biased against us. He is using his position as a public figure and the power of his office to demonize us and illegally silence our right to free speech. Speech highly critical of this City's bloated AIDS industry. Speech that is resulting in national attention focused on rampant AIDS corruption in our City. Speech that has literally places millions of taxpayers' dollars for AIDS funding under intense public scrutiny.

Of utmost concern to us: SAN FRANCISCO'S HIV AND AIDS STATISTICS DON'T ADD UP!

We have been on the front lines of critically analyzing local and national HIV, AIDS and sexually transmitted disease (STD) statistics in order to validate the necessity of alarming calls for more federal funding directed to San Francisco. What we have uncovered is that no matter how you slice it, HIV, AIDS and STD numbers in this City don't add up.

Health officials continually terrify the gay community and the public at large with alarming estimates and projections that HIV and STDs are skyrocketing. Yet, these officials simultaneously admit when questioned, that they don't keep track of the total number of tests their clinics administer. Furthermore, they reluctantly acknowledge they are spending substantially more money to target gay men with more tests – despite their refusal to track precisely how many tests are performed.

By radically increasing the number of STD tests performed on gay men and deliberately covering up the total number of tests administered annually, local health officials are violating their duty by deceiving the public and needlessly alarming us. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) is guilty of statistical sleight of hand by demonizing gay men in a continuing campaign that depicts us as diseased and dangerous.

Despite years of questions and skepticism about this City's HIV, AIDS and STD statistics, the San Francisco Chronicle refuses to mention lingering doubts or quote community activists who criticize the numbers. Rather than investigate the legitimacy of statistics from DPH and the University of California San Francisco (UCSF), the Chronicle merely regurgitates the numbers, no matter how convoluted the method used to concoct them. Then broadcasts anti-gay alarmist news stories to the public and other global media outlets.

This kind of incessant government funded public propaganda undermines the gay community's self-esteem and well-being, damages our health, and leads to unfounded public fear of homosexuals, increased harassment and anti-gay violence.

As if to make up for failing to challenge DPH/UCSF's numbers game, a recent issue of The Chronicle featured a lengthy excerpt from a recent Rolling Stone article exposing the unreliability and deep confusion over projections alleging an HIV pandemic in South Africa. When will our City's dominant daily newspaper wake up to the fact there is growing concern and uncertainty over official estimates and projections of San Francisco's HIV and STD rates?

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND AIDS CORRUPTION ARE OUT OF CONTROL

Five years ago, after the late AIDS activist Steve Michael of ACTUP DC contacted us about growing problems and profiteering from the AIDS Rides on the East Coast, we encouraged The Chronicle to examine concerns related to Dan Pallotta's marketing company that produces these bicycle marathons. The paper continually ignored our pleas to report on AIDS Ride corruption with an investigative and skeptical eye. It wasn't until two weeks ago that The Chronicle finally featured a front page critical story about the embarrassing lawsuits Pallotta filed in Los Angeles County to maintain his monopoly over the bicycle fund raisers and to stop other groups from staging them. This is the most recent example of egregious greed and is just the tip of the iceberg of AIDS profiteering and corruption.

In San Francisco, executive directors and paid staff of local AIDS groups stack and control the federally funded community HIV Prevention Planning Council. This Council, convened by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), was originally intended to provide AIDS patients and community activists input over the appropriation of federal AIDS funding. Sadly, with the invasion of this Community Council by well-financed AIDS industry careerists, accountability has flown out the window. As with the Ryan White CARE Act Council, conflicts of interest rule supreme as AIDS leaders get paid to divert more taxpayer funds into their ineffective organizations and their own pockets.

Similarly, the San Francisco Department of Public Health's AIDS Office, which is supposed to provide oversight and fiscal accountability to these councils and the City's non-profit HIV agencies, is riddled with former employees of these agencies, as well as those presently employed by UCSF. This revolving door of employment at the AIDS Office greatly hinders effective, honest fiscal accountability. With more than 100 employees at the AIDS Office, 50 members on the HIV Prevention Planning Council and another 50 on the Ryan White CARE Council (all appointed by the Mayor), one wonders exactly what the Mayor's AIDS Czar gets paid to do all day.

Meanwhile, the world of AIDS, Inc. was rocked recently by federal audits of HIV prevention groups by Health and Human Services Inspector General Janet Rehnquist. CDC funded HIV prevention agencies across the country are nervous about auditors scrutinizing their books and conducting performance evaluations. These audits were initiated after we brought a formal complaint to Congress and took out a full-page ad in a Capital Hill newspaper, demanding to know how HIV groups spend federal grants.

Finally, the federal government noticed the greed grab called the AIDS gravy train and is taking action. For example, an FBI investigation into a North Carolina AIDS agency uncovered serious abuses of federal funds. Investigators returned 10 federal indictments against the agency's leaders, according to the Associated Press Wire Service. Activists expect more indictments to be handed down soon.

Still, even though profits from AIDS Walks and other fund-raising events are in serious decline and states are cutting back public funds for AIDS, it is services, not directors' salaries, that have been cut. If the people running AIDS organizations are so concerned about drops in revenue and the impact the decreases will have on AIDS patients, why don't they voluntarily reduce their high salaries – like the $250,000 annual salary of San Francisco AIDS Foundation Executive Director Pat Christen?

DON'T LET THE D.A. COVER UP AIDS CORRUPTION WITH PROSECUTORIAL MISCONDUCT

In October 2000, we participated in a non-violent protest with a dozen other demonstrators at the headquarters of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) to publicly display our strong objections to an obscene and offensive ad campaign the non-profit placed in gay newspapers. Funded with taxpayer dollars, the ads accused gay men of spreading AIDS and not caring about it, by featuring the profane and accusatorial headline, "HIV Infections Double – Who Gives A Fuck?" Our point at the protest was simple. Imagine the justifiable uproar if such an outrageous headline targeting African Americans was featured in a publicly funded campaign by a Caucasian run organization.

In April 2001, five months after this nonviolent protest, the District Attorney's Office issued warrants for our arrest. They arrested us, along with two other demonstrators, on charges of disturbing the peace, unlawful assembly and participating in a riot. We were put through the system after voluntarily turning ourselves into the police.

Then, in September 2001, Hallinan's office brought more charges against us for the same protest. This time, prosecutors alleged, in addition to the other counts, we had disrupted the functioning of a business. Thanks to the wisdom and fairness of a San Francisco Superior Court Judge, these dubious additional charges Hallinan's office attempted to pile on, were denied.

While Hallinan's office waged war on us in 2001, he conspicuously turned a blind eye to prosecuting other similar demonstrators who were more politically well-connected. For example, at the end of May 2001, more than 200 supporters of Willie Brown protested what they deemed were racist stories attacking the mayor. Their target? The San Francisco Chronicle. Among the angry demonstrators was SFAF federal lobbyist Ernest Hopkins, who staged a noisy picket and rally using bullhorns. These protesters entered The Chronicle's building, shouted at employees, and hurled stacks of newspapers and protest signs all over the lobby.

Number of arrests by Hallinan: *Zero.*

Number of restraining orders sought by the Chronicle: *Zilch.*

Public accusations of terrorism: *Zip.*

This example and numerous others like it point to an unethical political and legal double standard that rules the San Francisco District Attorney's office. We must also point out that the investigating San Francisco police officer who over-charged our case with serious felonies that prohibit any plea bargaining, is Lt. Lea Militello. This officer made quite a name for herself in the early 1990's when she tried to infiltrate and monitor ACTUP and Queer Nation. Activists argued at the time that Militello had one preeminent agenda – persecute protesters and deprive them of their rights to freely protest government policies.

It is our contention that Militello, a lesbian, is not an impartial investigator. She has a history of animosity against ACTUP and an axe to grind against us, since we are high profile direct action activists. We charge that Militello's motives are suspect, her investigation tainted by bias, and her evidence distorted and highly questionable.

FREE PETRELIS AND PASQUARELLI NOW!

We express our deep gratitude to the hundreds of friends, family members and supporters concerned about our health, well-being and civil liberties who have come to our aid in this time of need. We thank you for your love and support. Since January 26 is Michael's 43rd birthday, we would welcome birthday cards to cheer him up.

While being unjustly imprisoned on a $1.1 Million bail for advocating truth an end to AIDS corruption has been stressful and scary, we must applaud the enlightened approach that San Francisco Sheriff Michael Hennessey has implemented in the County Jail. These include educational programs, vegetarian meals, a dental clinic, the Forensic AIDS Project and comprehensive discharge planning to assist inmates.

However, despite these advantages, we miss our freedom and sincerely hope we will be released soon. A bail fund called The Direct Action Civil Liberties Fund has been established to help us regain our freedom. We ask that you donate to the bail fund so we can get back to our lives and work on the outside to prove our innocence. We remain hopeful that $ 1.1 Million can be raised if supporters contribute what they can to the Fund. No donation is too small or large.

Please make a contribution today and ask your friends and family members to do the same. You can find The Direct Action Civil Liberties Fund website at **www.daclf.org**, where you can donate by using a credit or debit card. Or, send a check payable to "DACLF" to the address below.

Now, more than ever, is the time to support our right to free speech. Please do not allow our civil liberties and those of all protesters to be shredded in San Francisco – America's most progressive and tolerant city.

ACT UP San Francisco
1884 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
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Web: www.actupsf.com
E-mail: actupsf@hotmail.com

Letters and cards of support can be mailed to:

Michael Petrelis
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San Francisco County Jail
425 7th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

David Pasquarelli
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San Francisco County Jail
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San Francisco, CA 94103

Direct Action Civil Liberties Fund
Suite 100, PMB 101
100 First Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Web donations: www.**DACLF**.com

Direct Action News from Around the World

INTERNATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

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slaughterhouse in Europe, where weekly 4000 pigs are slaughtered.

LONDON, ENGLAND – On June 20 it was revealed that the British government is to change its whaling policy and support a new Revised Management Scheme that will be voted on by the International Whaling Commission's members next month. The RMS is a totally flawed scheme with no methods of monitoring and policing the slaughter, and is basically aimed at appeasing the whaling nations that obviously protest at any restrictions to their slaughter.

LIMERICK, IRELAND – Around the beginning of July it was reported that activists from the Irish Animal Liberation Front liberated 30 hares the night before a hare coursing meet was to take place.

RIJSWIJK, HOLLAND – On July 3, activists successfully blockaded the entrance to the Biomedical Primate Research Center (BPRC). For 4 hours the activists kept over 100 employees from getting into the Center, resulting in 6 activists being arrested. The activists vowed to continue their actions until all the animals in the lab are free. The BPRC houses some 1600 animals including chimpanzees and rhesus monkeys.

NEER, HOLLAND – On the night of July 20 acuvists liberated 2,000 mink from a farm that imprisons some 17,000 mink. Many of the mink were recaptured but over the last 3 years, approximately 30,000 mink have been liberated from farms in Holland.

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA – It was reported on July 29 that anti-hunt activists attacked and burned duck hunting hides in Lake Reeve, South Gippsland. The media captured activists hurling petrol bombs at the hides and followed them to another location where they smashed signs of the Sentosa game park.

CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND – On the August 3, activists entered a battery farm and freed 5 broiler chickens. The activists were accompanied by a small media team consisting of two hosts of one of New Zealand's most popular shows. The show was mysteriously pulled from television and the station denied it was anything to do with the raid, but after a couple of weeks it did finally get televised.

VALKENSWAARD, HOLLAND – Just before August 24, activists liberated nearly 17,000 mink from the Maastrichterweg. The damage is estimated to be at least US$40,000. In Holland, there are 191 mink farms holding 2.8 million mink. Although chinchilla and fox farming will become illegal in the next 5-7 years, mink farming is left to continue its US$124,000,000 trade in blood.

TERUEL, SPAIN – On August 30, unknown activists smashed 80 yards of fence at a mink farm 200 miles east of Madrid. Around 13,000 mink escaped through the fence, which totaled around a third of the mink on the farm.

ROSKILDE, DENMARK – In August, it was reported that the DBF attacked a fur shop, smashing windows and hurling paint bombs onto the coats inside. Around 40 items were destroyed by the attack and the shop had to stay closed for a month. There was also another attack by the DBF on the same shop on October 1.

SVENLJUNGA, SWEDEN – On September 23, animal liberation activists used fire bombs to destroy several vehicles of Svenljunga Mink during their 75th birthday celebrations. The action destroyed three trucks and one car at the farm causing around US$28,000 dollars worth of damage. The attack signals the start of trouble for the

Polish Animal Rights Movement and Direct Action - Some History and Present Situation

by Wardancer

The message of animal rights reached Poland in the 1980's with group called Animal Liberation Movement. In that time in Poland there was no visible distinction between legal actions and illegal ones. ALM openly advocated using direct actions in their paper Animal Liberation (later renamed Skowyt- meaning Scream).

After few years of activity ALM lost its impact and finally only few dedicated activists remained. In the 1988 new group was founded--Animal Liberation Front. First it started as typical direct action cell, but then they moved more into propaganda and legal actions. When the idea of Animal liberation became popular, new chapters of FWZ (Animal Liberation Front in Polish) started to be active all over Poland. Many of them still openly used minor sabotage actions, such as very popular destroying of circus advertisements which, together with demos outside circuses and propaganda actions caused great financial losses to those businesses. Soon only few circuses remained.

Many members would claim publicly that they used only legal means of action, while in secret they were doing sabotage all the time. We blocked toilets in McDonald's, paintbombed expensive billboards of companies involved in animal abuse. We harassed animal murderers with night phone calls, smashed windows in fur shops, butchers etc. But main area of activity was at this point legal actions. Soon a clear split between legal and illegal fractions occurred. In the meantime FWZ was disbanded as members began to resent the complete dictatorial control of its founder.

Even today many people blame him and few of his friends of destroying a movement which was able to mix legal means with some minor direct action. We considered this unique tactic as our success. But not everyone had the same idea about that. After the fall of FWZ there was a lot of apathy in the Polish animal rights movement.

Only 2 or 3 years ago new direct action groups emerged. This time they were completely secret and directed at more serious sabotage which couldn't go anymore hand in hand with legal demonstrations. We witnessed first fur farm raids. Many animals were either freed or painted with harmless dye, which saved their lives at least for a little while and caused serious financial damage to the owners. A new website was created to support the growing ALF activity: www.animal-liberation.pl.

There is also a growing legal contingent to the AR movement in Poland. At the same time the "Small sabotage" tactic is being used more and more around the country. This tactic is very good because nearly everyone can throw a paintbomb on the billboard of McShit or something similar. The punishment if an activist is caught engaged in this kind of activity is only a fine. This is also good training ground for people who want to take part in future in more serious attacks. And good way for others to do their part without too much risk.

The Polish AR movement still has a very long way to go. Our growth is still too slow and we would like it to be much faster. But we can see some effects of our activity and more people are joining us. Even when they are not into Direct Action (not everyone is able to do so), they are very supportive. We don't have too many of those liberal-reformist dumbasses who want only reforms and are constantly moaning about how some direct action "ruined everything" (although few are still left).



Some of the 40 animals liberated from Marshall Farms, one of HLS's breeders, December 2002. See more on pp. 14, 28, 31 and 35.



U.K. Fur News Update

The Bill passed in November 2000 to ban fur farming in England and Wales is at last having some impact. Earlier this year a few of the remaining 13 mink farms decided to close, some of them having been the focus of intense local campaigns or on the receiving end of ALF attacks.

The actual ban has yet to come into force—the wording of the Act states that it cannot come into force BEFORE January 2003, and the government has yet to set an actual date by when fur farms will be banned. This means that some farmers will continue to breed and kill animals for their fur for at least another couple of years, while the government claims to be acting on animal welfare by banning the trade. Compensation for the farmers is still being negotiated and provisional figures are due to be published very soon.

Anti-fur activists scored another court victory recently when they were acquitted of "aggravated trespass" after they were filming evidence of breaches of regulations at a mink farm. After a trial lasting several days, the magistrate agreed that their intention was not to disrupt work at the farm but to gather evidence for a possible prosecution. While the campaigners were in police custody following their arrest, their car, parked near the farm, was totally destroyed by fire. No one has been charged with the attack.

In London the campaign to close Hockley's fur shop remains strong and the injunction that is supposed to prevent protests at the store is being fought by campaigners and is due to reach trial later this year.

Direct Action News from Around the World

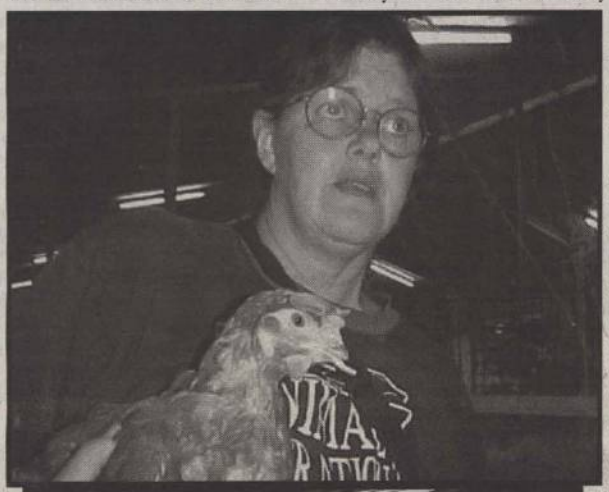
New Zealand Battery Hen Rescue

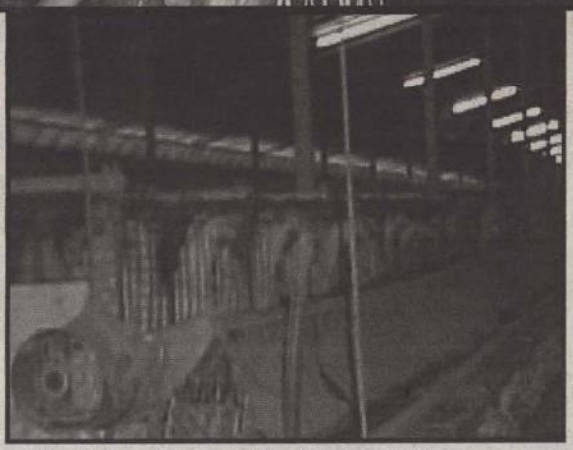
Farm raided in broad daylight

Ten battery hens have been liberated from a New Zealand factory farm during a protest on Easter Sunday. The hens were liberated from appalling but typical battery farm conditions of Golden Gate Poultry, just north of the capital city Wellington.

Activists openly admitted on national television to rescuing the animals, three months later there have still been no arrests. Extensive footage of inside the sheds was also broadcast, showing dark cramped cages and distraught injured hens. The Poultry Industry Association and Golden Gate poultry farm repeatedly refused to comment except to say the birds were about to go away for a 'rest period'.

The liberation was the culmination of the Animal Liberation Convergence, a three day animal rights conference. It took place during what was anticipated to be a fairly restrained protest, due to the heavy police surveillance at the conference. We expected to find the farm lined with police by the time we got there.





It wasn't - in fact the farm appeared as a ghost town, bar the thousands of hidden hens. Because the farm was between jurisdictions, and bad police communication, there were no boys in blue in sight. It was half an hour before two unaware policemen turned up, regarding a traffic complaint that some of the protesters were to close to the road. After it was politely explained to the police that, "there were new people at the protest who might be scared by them, could they go away please?" The police actually did. They left telling us to keep off the road.

By this stage the first rescues had already begun. In stark contrast to the bright sun outside, inside the sheds it was dark and it stunk. The air was heavy with dust and feathers. The hens were three to a cage; most were severely de-feathered, with up to 90% feather loss. Other injuries included raw skin, foot and leg problems, and extreme de-beaking. Wild kittens were found inside one of the sheds; the floors piled with chicken shit; cages dusted with cobwebs.

Small cage doors made it difficult to bring the hens out, despite their bodies being tiny from lack of feathers. Carefully brought out of their cages by holding hands firmly over the wings and chest, one can only imagine how painful it would be for them to be pulled out for slaughter at end of laying period - typically done by pulling them out by their feet.

Once out of cages and wrapped in spare items of clothing (old pillowcases are good but we hadn't brought any) they calmed down immediately. All hens rescued suffered a range of injuries and featherloss, and were taken to a vet before going to their new homes.

Like all good protests, this one was fluidic. There were about fifty people in total, all with varying degrees of protest and animal rights experience. While small groups of people explored the farm itself, documenting, investigating sheds, opening cages, others were lining the front of the farm with large banners, chanting, making noise. And these groups changed people moved between the zones of protest freely and frequently. For many people there it was the first time they had been inside a battery farm, so even in the respect that a many people gained first hand experience of factory farming, the action was successful.

By the end of the protest fluorescent green "I am an animal torturing bastard" stickers covered the farm, the farmers doors and windows, farm signs, and the happy, ceramic chickens which graced the front lawn and entrance (the farmer's idea of a sick joke?).

By the time the police realized the true extent of the day's action the last of the liberated hens were well away. Annoyed at arriving too late to stop any liberations, the police tried unsuccessfully to arrest people for the stickering instead.

The rescue was a joint effort between New Zealand activists and the Australian Action Animal Rescue Team.

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DIARY OF ACTIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

company that has, until now, thought they had nothing to fear.

Australia

Dec. 10, 2000 MELBOURNE - The Action Animal Rescue Team, Australia's only animal rights group dedicated to farmed animals, frees 19 battery hens from Nature's Dozen Egg Farm, an enormous factory that imprisons 120,0000 hens.

2000 VICTORIA - A group of seven activists from Unit 14 and Animal Avengers torches duck hunting hides with home-made petrol bombs. The activists towed a dinghy with plastic bags full of petrol for several kilometers through knee-deep water until they reached the hides. After pulling the hides apart, they set them ablaze with rolled-up newspapers and petrol. Moving on to the Sentosa Game Ranch, protesters smash a sign advertising the park with sledgehammers, saw off its legs and push it to the ground.

Austria

Nov. 2000 Butyric acid attack on fur salon Rauter.

Nov. 11, 2000 INNSBRUCK - The ALF attacks several restaurants, squirting butyric acid into the keyholes, preventing them from serving their traditional November 11th meal: dead geese. Damages are substantial and prevent the restaurants from operating for the day.

March 3, 2001 INNSBRUCK - The ALF carries out a butyric acid attack on the exotic-meat restaurant "Weltenbummler," which serves kangaroo, ostrich, and crocodile flesh. The activists leave a message at the door claiming responsibility and explaining their reasons.

Belgium

May 26, 2001 - Two fields of genetically manipulated coleseed, owned by Aventis, are destroyed in hopes of stopping the spread of GGO's in the environment and in our food supply.

Brazil

Oct. 1, 2000 BELO HORIZONTE - The ALF visits two McDonald's restaurants and four butcher shops, gluing locks and spray painting the slogan "ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT."

Canada

Dec. 11, 2000 VANCOUVER, B.C. - As part of a continuing campaign of economic sabotage against animal abusers, the ALF plants incendiary devices under three trucks at Ferry Meat Market, 1502 E. Hastings. At least one truck was damaged and towed away at a loss of $60,000. Previous attacks include an April 1989 firebombing of three Vancouver meat stores.

Dec. 25, 2000 BURNABY, B.C. - The ALF plants incendiary devices under seven meat delivery trucks at the Burnaby Company Supreme Meat Distributors (1725 MacDonald, 604-299-0541). The extent of the damage is unknown. An anonymous communique received by the ALF Press Office warns, "The war is just getting heated up. No one who profits from cruelty is safe."

Feb. 19, 2001 COURTNEY, B.C. - The ELF claims responsibility for pouring turpentine on the Crown Isle Golf Course, on a Vancouver island resort. In a letter sent to the local paper, the ELF letter claims the golf course was targeted to protest its destruction of green space meant for animals and

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people. The actions have been occurring since August 2000.

Denmark

May 2001 AARHUS - The ELF claims responsibility for an arson attack at the University of Aarhus Institute of Microbial Biology/Institute of Genetics and Ecology. Several classrooms and laboratories are destroyed.

Eire/Ireland

Dec. 30-31, 2000 CO. LIMERICK - The ALF claims responsibility for the release of over 30 hares from the Edenderry Coursing club, disrupting a planned, two-day coursing event. The raid follows an October 22 action at the Edenderry Coursing Club, Co. Westmeath, when more than 30 hares were released from an enclosure and the ALF slogan was spray-painted on the club's main gates.

Jan. 29, 2001 CO. MEATH - The ALF visits a coursing field, littering it with glass and tacks, forcing cancellation of a planned coursing event. The action means the land will have to be plowed and can not be used in the short term for animals, and it deters other farmers from giving fields to coursing clubs.

July 2, 2001 CO. LIMERICK - The ALF liberates 30 hares the night before a big hare coursing meet.

England

Dec. 25, 2000 LONDON - The ALF attacks two butcher shops in North London, smashing the windows of a Tottenham shop and gluing the locks of a Wood Green shop.

Jan. 5, 2001 KENT - Acting to stop hound hunting in the region, the ALF liberates 55 beagles from Wye Beagles kennels. The liberators broke into the kennel compound by cutting through the heavily chained and padlocked entrance with bolt cutters.

June 8, 2001 SURREY - In memory of activist Gary Woodland, ALF activists raid the University of Surrey's Experimental Biology Unit at Manor Farm, smashing into the farm animal unit to rescue six turkeys and six hens from a future of torture and death. After moving the animals to safe, loving homes, activists later return, circumventing the elaborate security system to take extensive information and damage buildings, inside and out.

Finland

Nov. 17, 2000 KARSTULA - 2000 blue and silver foxes are dyed with henna, and breeding cards are stolen. Damages run into hundreds of thousands of Finnish marks.

Nov. 2000 LOHJA - Shell gets four massive display windows smashed.

Nov. 2000 HELSINKI - Three windows smashed on a fur store.

Nov. 2000 NUTMES - At a dairy farm, more than one hundred plastic-wrapped feed containers are slashed, exposing the feed to the air and destroying it. Later the farmer receives a threatening letter signed by EVR.

Dec. 2000 - IISALMI - A fur farm storage building used for pelting and storing pelts is burned to the ground. With at least 400 pelts inside, the building are also destroyed in the

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Civil Disobedience Against The Meat Industry

by Karolina Linden & Johan Jaatinen

In the early morning on August 5th, three members of the Swedish group Bye Bye Meat Industry broke into a slaughterhouse in the town of Skovde, Sweden and dismantled killing equipment. This act of civil disobedience carries a possible sentence of four years imprisonment.

Ida-Lovisa Rudolfsson of Stenungsund, one of the three activists, is just about to begin studying art at a college in a small Swedish town. Ida-Lovisa thinks that the struggle for a vegetarian society should be a high priority for all animal rights activists.

It is simple to become vegetarian nowadays, and animal rights organizations should focus on encouraging people to change their diet.

The group Bye Bye Meat Industry is part of a Swedish animal rights coalition that has performed several acts of civil disobedience during the last three years. The group protests against the industrial slaughter conditions, and wants to focus on how animals are treated in today's world.

When it comes to purchasing meat, it is easy to reach the target group. For once, the power to decide really is in the hands of the people.

The group chooses to work with civil disobedience and accountability because they think that it is easier that way. Ida-Lovisa is not afraid of facing her sentence even if it means going to jail, but she will not pay any penalty to the slaughterhouse.

"Paying them money would be like saying 'I am sorry,' and I do not regret taking action."

The group has gained a lot of publicity in Swedish newspapers and radio. Hundreds of leaflets have been handed out, posters have been set up in several Swedish towns, and the web page www.byebyemeat.com has been set up to spread the word. Bye Bye Meat Industry encourages others to take action against the meat industry, and they are grateful for any small donation given.

The Surge Comes!

In Russia the number of activists engaged in Earth and animals protection is growing every year, connected to the development of the alternative youth movement. The methods of these radical groups do not differ very much from those used by Earth Liberation Front and Animal Liberation Front. Destroying of machinery, smashing windows, inscriptions on the walls of offices and so on.

The actions organized in 1996 in Perm may be considered as the beginning of economic sabotage in Russia. Then a car was blown up and the forests intended for being logged were spiked. The group "Radical protection of Forests" claimed responsibility.

Actions in the different Russian regions have increased over the last few years. The most interesting actions were carried out in the South of the country.

During 1999 the show-window of a firm store of the corporation "Siemens" was smashed twice, breaking down a luminous advertising. In July and in September 2000 on the logging sites five logger cars were incinerated. In October the group Ecological Revolutionary Alternative accepted the responsibility for these actions, and later organized a sabotage action against the authorities of the city of Sochi. They called in a bomb threat. The international office was paralyzed for nine hours while police searched for explosives, finding nothing.

Activists engaged in protection of animal rights carry out regular actions against the companies occupied with producing and distributing animal products. The different protesting inscriptions cover the walls of buildings, offices and shops. Street advertising promoting such products is painted over and torn in pieces.

All this is evidence of the fact that Surge of anger is coming and very soon the quantity and the quality of such actions shall be increased. Now, everyone saying that there is no movement using economic sabotage methods in Russia is wrong. The Surge comes!

Contact: liberation@euro.ru
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IN THE TRENCHES ... Your Guide to Grassroots Animal Liberation Organizations

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ELP Announcement, November 6, 2001

Dear friends,

As you may have already heard, Animal Liberation Prisoner of War Barry Horne died yesterday. He died from liver failure as a result of a hungerstrike.

ELP used to list Barry simply as "serving 18 years for various anti-vivisection arsons and attempted arsons." But people have started to ask ELP what were these arsons about? To understand that you need to look back to the events of the early 1990s.

In the 1980s there was an animal rights campaign against Boots the Chemists. This campaign effectively came to an end when Boots managed to persuade almost everyone it was an animal friendly company. However this lie was blown apart in the early 1990s when the ALF raided one of Boots' two laboratories and rescued animals from their torture chambers. This action was quickly followed up with an Animal Liberation Investigation Unit (ALIU) investigation and rooftop protest at the same vivisection lab.

barry HORNE



These two high profile actions sparked a massive campaign in Britain against Boots the Chemists. Local groups across the country campaigned against Boots, which had suddenly taken on the public face of vivisection.

Practically everyone did their bit in the war against Boots. Local groups picketed Boots and encouraged boycotts. Direct actionists targeted Boots with everything from roof top pickets, sit-ins and trolley runs, to illegal economic sabotage.

Then in the early part of the mid-'90s a series of high profile arsons attributed to the Animal Rights Militia (ARM) occurred. Each arson on average caused over £1,000,000 damage. Incendiary devices were planted in Boots stores, Boots subsidiaries like Halfords (which sells bikes and car parts), a DIY store (which I can't remember the name of), and also inside other targets like the chain store "Edinburgh Wools."

One of the most famous of these arsons happened on the Isle of Wight where incendiary devices were planted in animal abuse stores all over the island. The island's fire brigade was stretched to its limits and could not extinguish the fires before a great deal of destruction occurred. An estimated £3,000,000 damage was caused to the Isle of Wight Boots store alone.

In the mid-'90s Barry Horne was arrested in Bristol. He had been targeted by the police and spotted planting incendiary devices inside some animal abusers' stores in Broadmead, Bristol. The police also found other incendiary devices on his person.

Once arrested for the attempted arsons in Bristol, police across the country tried to match Barry to other animal rights arsons. Hampshire Police (who police the Isle of Wight) were very keen to clear up the Isle of Wight arsons and started to suggest that Barry was responsible for these arsons.

At his trial the police claimed that Barry was the only person suspected of the Isle of Wight arsons (a blatant lie as the cops had arrested over 50 people in their investigations into the fires), and they also said the Bristol incendiary devices were identical to the ones used on the Isle of Wight.

At the end of a short trial in which Barry admitted attempted arson in Bristol but denied the Isle of Wight arsons, he was found guilty of both attempted arson (Bristol) and actual arson (Isle of Wight). He was sentenced to 14 years for the Bristol attempted arsons and 18 years for the Isle of Wight arsons.

However, prison bars and harsh sentences are never going to stop people from caring. And inside, to try to get the then newly elected Labour Government to honor their manifesto commitments to holding a Royal Commission into the use of animals in experiments, Barry started a hungerstrike. This hungerstrike was only called off when the Government gave assurances that they would look at the issue of vivisection. However they reneged on these assurances and Barry restarted his hungerstrike. It is unclear why his second hungerstrike came to an end, but it is believed the Government had offered him some sort of negotiation. Again they lied.

Barry then carried out a series of other hungerstrikes, the last one proving fatal. It has been reported that this latest hungerstrike was in protest at the Government's disastrous handling of the Foot & Mouth crisis in Britain.

Following Barry's death I am sure that the media will try to paint Barry as a fanatic. A human hater. This is far from the truth. He was just a man who cared passionately for the animals and who believed that politicians should honor their pledges.

When I was inside, Barry was one of the first to write to me to offer his support and to remind me to stay strong.

Barry was full of compassion and commitment for the animals. He died the way he lived his life, fighting for the animals. He will be deeply missed and his death will reinvigorate the struggle he stood for, animal liberation!

HELP NC!

As an entirely volunteer-run organization, No Compromise is always looking for help in several areas. Right now, our biggest needs are in the areas of distribution, outreach, fundraising and advertising.

Distribution: This includes contacting potential new distributors, as well as maintaining relationships with existing distributors. We would like to have volunteers from various areas of the country to help out with making sure their local bookstores, record shops and infoshops are well-stocked with the latest issues of No Compromise. We ask that you volunteer for distribution if you are interested in volunteering a set amount of time each month with NC.

Outreach: Outreach includes individual outreach and group outreach for our "Trenches" directory. We know that more grassroots pro-direct action and pro-A.L.F. groups exist: we just have to find them! Outreach would also include contacting potential subscribers, recruiting more volunteers and promoting the website (www.nocompromise.org). Outreach volunteers can donate as little or as much time as they would like.

Fundraising: Thinking of planning a benefit? Have ideas to help NC raise money? If so, please help us fundraise!

Advertising: We are looking for individuals who would be interested in dedicating time to soliciting advertisements to be placed in NC, obtaining free (or very cheap) ad space in other publications for No Compromise and asking webmasters to place the No Compromise banner on their websites.

If you are interested in helping with any of these projects, please contact **nc-info@nocompromise.org**!

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blaze. The damage is estimated at approximately one million FIM (=over £100 000 or US$150,000).

Jan. 2001 LOHJA - Display windows of fur store "Suokorpi" are smashed two nights in a row.

Feb. 2001 LOHJA - Display windows of Suokorpi are smashed yet again. Suokorpi subsequently announces it has stopped selling fur.

Feb. 20, 2001 TAMPERE - Three display windows of a furrier are smashed.

Feb. 10, 2001 TAIPALSAARI - For a fourth time, activists dye 40 foxes with henna at Karri Konsti's fur farm. The foxes are released into a surrounding farm area in order to mix up the breeding. To further the economic damage, cages in six sheds are completely destroyed. Activists report horrible conditions: most of the animals had no water or water was completely frozen in the metal drinking cups.

Summer & Autumn 2001 TURKU - Local McDonald's outlets, fur stores, Shell gas stations, and advertisement billboards are attacked.

France

Jan. 20-21, 2001 NORMANDY - Animal liberation commandos free nearly 400 mink. They leave behind painted slogans of "NO TO THE FUR TRADE" and "GIVE THEM BACK THEIR FREEDOM."

Germany

Oct. 13, 2000 DUESSELDORF - Butyric acid is squirted into the pockets of one fur at Karstadt and one fur at C&A.

Oct. 23, 2000 HAMBURG - Cement is poured into the tracks of the gates and locks are glued at a dog collection and killing site.

Oct. 24, 2000 SOELLICHAU - Approximately 700 mink and four hares are liberated from a mink-fox-hare farm. Mink are transported out of the farm and freed in a nearby, suitable area, and the hares are taken to new homes.

Oct. 28, 2000 DORMAGEN - At least one hunting platform is destroyed. The owner has offered a 500 DM reward for information about the perpetrator(s).

Nov. 2000 - Ten chickens are liberated from a chicken farm.

Dec. 2000 BERLIN - Three windows are smashed at a fur shop on Warschauer Street in the tenth attack against the shop. Following the attack, the shop closes permanently.

Dec. 2000 BERLIN - Fourteen windows are smashed at a Burger King and three windows are smashed at a McDonald's on Warschauer Street. In Wiesenweg, three windows are smashed at a butchery, and in Frankfurter Allee, 12 windows each are smashed at two other butcheries.

Dec. 3, 2000 - Two fur wearers are secretly squirted with butyric acid

Jan. 1, 2001 - Several turkey chicks are liberated from a turkey farm in south Germany.

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Civil Suits in a Nutshell

Here it is: the over-simplified instructions for filing your own civil suit. Obviously, it doesn't tell you everything and can't possibly be correct for every jurisdiction. But hopefully it will serve as a guide and demystify the process. Everything won't be perfect, problems will arise, and mistakes will be made. It is a learning experience that even new attorneys go through, but the learning process is quick, so keep at it.

STEP ONE: Try to Get an Attorney

It's worth spending a day making some phone calls to get an attorney. In personal injury cases, attorneys take many cases on contingency, meaning he or she takes a share of whatever you get. Typical fees are one-third to 40%, plus costs. But you'll save yourself a lot of time, and in most cases the 60% to 67% you get will be more than the 100% you would've gotten without an attorney. This article assumes you've made some calls but, for whatever reason, you can't get an attorney to take your case. Even then, you might be able to get an attorney, for a relatively small fee, to assist on a task-by-task basis, such as assisting you in drafting or responding to various documents.

STEP TWO: Decide Whom to Sue

It's always good to do this first, because the information will be easiest to obtain at the outset. So, get the full names of all persons involved (while you're at it, collect and keep information on potential witnesses). For most types of claims, the employer is responsible for the torts (a tort is a wrongful act with a legal remedy) of its employees committed while within the scope of employment. The concept of "scope of employment" has gotten fairly broad in recent times, so when in doubt, sue the employer. You should also consider suing the individual even if the employer is liable.

STEP THREE: File a Notice of Claim if Suing a Government Entity or Employee

If you are suing a government entity and/or employee, first file a "Notice of Claim" as soon as possible (there are strict deadlines, often within six months or less). The government entity should have information on how to file a Notice of Claim. You may have to make a few calls, but for cities, try city hall or the city attorney; for counties, try the county attorney's office; for states, try the attorney general or the treasurer's office; and for the feds, try the agency involved as well as the Attorney General's Office. For most activists, we are probably talking about law enforcement officers, so be careful. You may be able to file a formal "complaint" with the law enforcement agency, but this will not necessarily substitute for the Notice of Claim.

Once you receive the forms from the government entity, follow the instructions and complete the Notice of Claim. Make a copy for your files. Then either hand-deliver the original and get your copy stamped or initialed, or mail the original by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the proper address (usually the address is on the form).

If you are suing a private party you don't file a Notice of Claim.

After you mail or deliver the Notice of Claim, you ought to receive acknowledgment of their receipt of the Notice within a couple weeks. If no acknowledgment is received, follow up.

Next comes governmental delay. Before you file a lawsuit, some jurisdictions may require either that a period of time elapse or that your claim be denied. If you are lucky, your claim will be denied quickly. Every so often, call the person handling your claim to try to get a decision.

STEP FOUR: Select a Court

You begin a lawsuit by filing a "Complaint" in a court. So, the next step is to find the court. There may be several options. You may have four or more choices, such as: (1) a general state/county court, (2) a lower level state/county court, (3) an even lower level state/county court for "small claims" actions (which may just be a subdivision of one of the other courts), and (4) federal court.

"Small claims" courts are low-cost and procedurally-easier for non-lawyers, but of course there is a fairly low limit on damages. However, you may want to try this first to get your feet wet. You can call the courts to find out the monetary limits of each one. It is also a good idea to go to the courts – they probably have pamphlets that provide the various monetary limits, tell you how to file a complaint, and let you know the filing fees.

Your case may go to federal court one of two ways: (1) (a) complete diversity of citizenship (no plaintiff resides in same state as any defendant) and (b) amount in controversy is $50,000 or more; or (2) the lawsuit raises a "federal question," such as whether your rights guaranteed under the Federal Constitution were violated.

As a rule, the state/county courts will be easier for non-lawyers, and maintaining a "federal question" throughout the lawsuit can be tricky if you are unable to include the individual employee as a defendant, so you may want to try the state/county courts the first time. As for which county, your best bet is to file in the county where the incident happened.

STEP FIVE: Draft a Complaint

A. Caption

A picture is worth a thousand words, so our first suggestion is that you view a pleading document to see how your state sets up its cover page. Cover pages can even differ from attorney to attorney. Here are written instructions as how to basically set up the cover page (often referred to as the "caption page").

Across the top of the Complaint, you type the name of the court in which you are suing. Under that, make two columns. The left column contains the name, address, and telephone number of each plaintiff. Under those names, you put a "v." and then you list each and every defendant and each defendant's address. In the right column you put "Civil Case No." and leave space for the clerk to insert a case number. Under those columns, you put "COMPLAINT".

You can join any plaintiffs and any defendants in the same case if there is a common occurrence. Also, if you have any additional claims against a party who is properly included in the main suit because they were involved in that common occurrence, you can file those additional claims against that party whether it's related or not (though it could get severed).

Subsequent captions on any pleadings after the Complaint need only have the names of the first plaintiff and the first defendant, each followed by "et al." if there are multiple plaintiffs/defendants. The case number must be inserted.

B. Body of the Complaint

Then, you have a sentence that says something like: "Joe Vegan, Plaintiff pro se, files this Complaint against the above-listed defendants and states:" Underneath, you begin to explain what happened, one numbered-sentence at a time, double-spaced, hitting the "Return" key after each numbered sentence (okay, you can lump together a couple sentences if they are part of the same thought). The first sentence or two should show that the court has jurisdiction to hear the case, such as that the events occurred in the county, the damages exceed the minimum jurisdiction of the court, there is a federal question (if in federal court), etc. The next few sentences will provide some general information that applies to the entire complaint, such as: "At all times herein, Officer Krook was an employee of NYPD and acting within the scope of that employment," or "Bloody Furs, Inc., is a corporation existing under the laws of this State," or just some background information leading to the wrongful conduct of the other party.

The rest of the complaint should be broken into separately numbered "counts" (e.g., "Count I – Assault & Battery;" "Count II – False Arrest/Imprisonment"). Begin each count with a numbered sentence that reads something like "Plaintiff incorporates all prior paragraphs by reference as if fully set forth herein." Then you explain in more separately numbered sentences that you were falsely arrested, etc. Your last numbered paragraph in each count should say something like: "As a direct and proximate cause of this false arrest, plaintiff suffered substantial physical, mental, and economic injuries." Then, at the very end of each count,

Working Undercover or The Spy Who Shagged OHSU

Some people search for a career. My career actually found me. While employed as a security guard at Boys Town Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, I stumbled across the feline victims of Edward Walsh's botched surgeries. This eventually led to a job as an investigator with PETA. After a long campaign, the kitten experiments were stopped.

With PETA, I spent a month raising the tent at Walker Brothers Circus, monitoring the failing health of two elephants, Lota and Liz, who were suffering from tuberculosis. I participated in the anal electrocution of 500 innocent wild foxes on Dan Aschelman's fur farm in Illinois to document their cruel demise on video. I spent a day pushing blood down the drain on the kill floor of an Omaha slaughterhouse and have been behind the scenes in almost every type of factory farm imaginable.

Independent of any animal rights group, my last job was working as a primate technician for more than two years trying to improve the quality of life for monkeys at the Oregon Health Science University's Oregon Regional Primate Research Center. With the help of In Defense of Animals, my partner and I are still working to help them.

"I could never do that."

This is the most common thing I have heard from other activists when they catch wind of my undercover animal abuse investigations. In fact, I have heard it so often that I've spent a good deal of time trying to figure out what the hell is wrong with me. I have worked in some of the darkest animal abysses and chosen to participate in acts I absolutely abhor.

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you have an unnumbered paragraph that states "Wherefore, as to count X, plaintiff claims special damages of $xxx,xxx.xx (special damages are out-of-pocket expenses of which some jurisdictions may require specific mention), compensatory damages of $xxx,xxx.xx, punitive damages of $xxx,xxx.xx, costs, post-judgment interest, and for such other and further relief as this cause requires, against the defendants, jointly and severally, and demands judgment for relief."

C. Signature

After the final count, you put "Respectfully submitted," sign underneath (blue ink is best so you know which is the original), and under your signature type your name, address, and telephone number. You may also have to sign a declaration under oath such as: "I hereby affirm under the penalties of perjury that the contents of the foregoing complaint are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief."

D. Jury Demand

Under all that, if you want a jury trial, you sign a jury demand. You put a heading "DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL" and under that write "Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all issues raised herein," and sign.

STEP SIX: Fill out Summons and Case Information Report

These are easy. Get blank Summonses and a blank Case Information Report from the court clerk, then fill in the blanks and check the boxes. (In some jurisdictions, the clerk may complete the summons for you).

STEP SEVEN: File Complaint, Summonses, and Case Information Report

Bring the Original Complaint, copies of the Complaint (one for each defendant, two extra for the court, one for you), an original Case Information Report plus copies, and an original summons for each defendant. Also bring a stapler, a two-hole punch, and enough cash for the filing fee. Go to the clerk, get sent home because you did something wrong, and go back again with everything right. Ask the clerk to stamp your copies and keep them for your records. Deadlines apply (usually 1 to 3 years after the incident).

STEP EIGHT: Serve a Summons, Complaint, and Other Initial Documents on Each Defendant

After filing everything, the clerk will return to you your file-stamped copy of everything and one copy for each defendant. These documents (called "process" for some reason) have to be served on each defendant. Depending on the jurisdiction, there may be more than one permissible way to serve process, but the best way is by hand-delivery. In most places any adult who is not a party to the lawsuit can complete service of process. For most defendants, don't use the Sheriff or police as servers -- retain a private process server or have a confident, reliable friend do it. The server needs to hand the papers to the defendant and state that the documents are a "summons and complaint." If the person "refuses," then immediately place the process somewhere in the presence of the person. Write down the day, time, place, and a detailed description of the person. It's also good to confirm with the person his or her name.

For government entities, call in advance to see who accepts service –they should tell you. Otherwise, check the rule of civil procedure in your jurisdiction dealing with service of process. For corporations, you can serve either a significant corporate officer or what's called a "registered agent" – get the name and address from the state agency that regulates corporations and businesses (check the blue pages of the phone book).

Serve the government entity very early, follow up with a phone call once an attorney is assigned, and see if they will accept service on behalf of any employees sued. Meanwhile, try calling the general counsel's office for the specific agency with which the person is employed. Also, try serving at the place of work and/or hire an investigative agency to find the person's home address.

Don't delay and be persistent and creative. Have the server take notes of all his or her efforts, because if you need to ask the court in writing for an extension of time to serve anyone, you will need to show all your efforts to date.

The server needs to promptly fill out and file an Affidavit of Service of Process. It's a form with the "Caption" at the top, followed by the title "Affidavit of Service of Process," followed by numbered sentences indicating that the person is 18 or over and not a party to the suit, describing the time, place, and manner of service, and describing the person served (include any dialogue indicating that the person is the defendant). The person then signs and prints his or her name, address, and telephone number under a declaration under oath (see language above). Once everyone is served, your lawsuit is underway.

Be sure to photocopy the proofs of service and save these copies in your files. The original proofs of service along with a short cover letter asking the court to file them in the case file for your case (specify case number and title of case) certified mail return receipt requested to the court where you filed the original complaint. You do this because it is not uncommon in pro se cases for one of the parties to claim they never got some document. This is insurance against that possibility.

STEP NINE: Exchanging "Discovery" Information with Defendants

Once the lawsuit is underway, "discovery" begins (if in small claims, there may be no discovery, although you can subpoena witnesses and objects for appearance at trial). "Discovery" is the process whereby each side gets documents and information from the other side. Discovery materials are not filed with the court. Instead, you file a "Certificate of Discovery" that lets the court know that you did something.

There are several modes of discovery: interrogatories, depositions, requests for inspection, and requests for admissions. You use discovery to get information, to limit the evidence that the other side will be able to present at trial (you object if they try to present something that you asked for but they failed to disclose), and to build your own case. Discovery of a witness can be used at trial to impeach (contradict) that witness's trial testimony, and discovery of an adverse party can also be used as substantive evidence even if the party does not testify. To get portions of discovery of an adverse party into evidence, before your case is closed you ask the judge to permit you to read those portions to the jury (if there is no jury, you can usually just give the judge written copies of the discovery portions you will use, but you have to make sure you refer to stuff in your summary judgment and closing arguments (which you should do any way) because the judge will not actually read

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CIVIL SUITS, *continued from page 17*

In Honor of Jeff Luers: 23-year jail sentence for an act of compassion

by Josh Harper

On June 6th a Eugene based newspaper, The Register Guard, reported that a man who killed a woman while driving drunk received a 10 year jail sentence. The man was given the sentence because the judge saw him as having no concern for the lives or well being of the other drivers on the road.

Six days later, the same newspaper reported that my friend Jeffrey Luers, also known as Free, had been sentenced to 22 years and 8 months for causing a few thousand dollars worth of fire damage to some sport utility vehicles. This disparity in sentencing is one we should expect from a society whose values are so predominantly capital-centric. Even though the judge admitted that Free had taken precaution against harming people, the value of those trucks has become more important than the value of life itself. Free is now 22 years old. He will spend more time in jail than he has already spent on earth.

The fire Free was convicted of setting was an act of compassion. The gas guzzling monstrosities known as SUV's slaughter more animals each year than the fur industry, emit fumes that harm the well being of plants and animals alike, and take us further down the path of a world without green spaces. As forests, grasslands, and other wild areas fall to make more room for parking lots and freeways, is it any wonder that people are beginning to attack the auto industry?

I've known Free for about 4 years. In that time I have seen him do amazing things. His dedication to the protection of wilderness is almost without peer. He has lived much of the time I have known him outdoors, constantly protecting forests and the animals that live in them. When ever we saw each other he would tell me about his latest arrest, jail time, or the harassment he was undergoing for his beliefs and actions. It seemed like it was never ending, but he never stopped. Even from behind bars he has stood strong and continued to urge others to go on the offensive for mother earth.

I know for sure that even if Free serves every day of his nearly 23 year sentence he will get out and continue fighting. He values life too much to ever give in and become part of a culture gone mad. While he is stripped of his freedom, it is up to us to continue fighting. His sentence cannot become a deterrent to us. If we quit protecting animals, wilderness, and each other out of fear of reprisal then we are cowards. Let Free's bravery stand as a testament to how hard our common will is to break. Don't give up, and dedicate your next victory to Free.

UPDATE: Jeff "Free" Luers was sent to the Two Rivers Correctional Facility in Eastern Oregon to serve his nearly 23 year sentence. An appeal is being filed, but until then, letters of support, checks or money orders for commissary (envelopes, paper, stamps, fruit, etc.) publication subscriptions and other reading materials (direct from the publisher or amazon.com) can be sent to:

Jeffrey Luers #13797671, Two Rivers Correctional Facility, Umatilla, OR 97882 USA

(Please be aware that he has been assigned "Threat Group" status, so BE SMART about what you send! If you are unsure if what you want to send may be damaging to him, you can send it to PO Box 50263, Eugene, OR 97405, and his close friends will 'screen' it for him.)

Don't forget to include your name and return address on the envelope AND the letter, as he will only receive the letter. Letters must be written on clean paper with ball-point ink or typed. He is allowed to receive xeroxed material if it isn't copyrighted, color xerox art and photographs.

Compassion Over Killing

Established in the spring of 1995, Washington DC's Compassion Over Killing (COK) has grown into a major voice for the animals. Unlike national groups who call DC their home but head up broad national campaigns, COK was created to focus on issues in the immediate DC area. They have concentrated their efforts on local targets, often as part of nation-wide. With the support from national and grassroots groups and participation from dozens of volunteers, COK has succeeded in creating their own space and building a solid reputation for animal activism. As the only local grassroots group in the nation's capitol, COK has managed to capture the activist community and public's attention with their originality, well-planned actions, and tireless perseverance.

COK's first demonstration was a silent picket outside Roy Rogers. They had not yet adopted a logo, and the writing was in blue magic marker with "Compassion Over Killing" written at the bottom. In contrast, now their signs are the work of professionals with each proudly displaying the COK logo.

The internal makeup of Compassion Over Killing has also matured. COK is currently structured into four levels: the board of directors (which consists of four people), the department heads or "core group" (which is inclusive of the board), the department volunteers and the general volunteers. Founder and Campaigns Manager Paul Shapiro told me one of the most valuable lessons he has learned in regards to organizing and running a group is being able to delegate responsibility to others. Because of this, COK is divided into nine departments with eleven department heads, who meets semi-monthly to update each other on their progress and talk about their future plans. In addition, core members submit bi-weekly reports to the board of directors in order to ensure that each department is constantly active. Luckily, they haven't run into a problem of department heads not pulling through on their responsibilities.

Even with a structure as complex as COK's, it is still almost entirely a volunteer organization. Right now there is only one full-time staff member at COK and all of the rest of the activists are volunteers. Paul explained his frustration with the limitations of being almost entirely run by volunteers. "There are so many wonderful, dedicated activists involved with COK who could do so much more if they were able to devote themselves full-time to the organization. Instead, activists have to perform COK activities mainly in evenings or on weekends. If even only a couple of these activists could work full-time for COK, there's no telling what we could accomplish."

In January 1998, Compassion Over Killing stopped protesting at Miller's Furs and joined the nationwide efforts against Neiman Marcus. Now, COK is one of the leading groups putting pressure on the corporation. "It's our hope that more people will take the NM campaign more seriously and stop diluting the movement's anti-fur resources on local, 'mom and pop' stores or other chains that have no national campaign against them." Compassion Over Killing designed the neimans.org website to describe the campaign in more detail. The website includes store locations, contact information for Neiman Marcus and participating activist groups.

For the Neiman Marcus campaign, COK has chosen to engage in smaller more frequent disruptions in the store (over twenty to date, in addition to a dozen civil disobedience actions). When asked why COK has chosen this route rather than organizing massive civil disobedience actions, Paul explained: "Engaging in smaller, more frequent in-store protests theoretically has many more benefits to larger, less frequent – albeit more disruptive – protests. This is because more disruptions occur, causing the corporate headquarters to hear about more incidents. Also, if you don't have a large pool of activists willing to get arrested, smaller in-store protests are great ways to escalate above traditional protests without a great risk of arrest. Finally, smaller in-store protests require virtually no organizing whatsoever, in contrast to the extensive amount of planning required by larger actions."



Compassion Over Killing is also very active in promoting veganism and educating the public about factory farming. Perhaps their most successful action to date was a recent rescue during which eight battery hens were taken from the International Standard of Excellence (ISE) egg facility (see story on page 6) by four COK members. "[The] open rescue we just engaged in was the most effective action the four of us have taken to date," Paul stated. In addition to the open rescue, COK has a factory farming exhibit that is displayed on the National Mall every Sunday, holds monthly vegan feed-ins in front of fast-food restaurants and has distributed "Proud to Serve Vegan Meals" decals to nearly twenty area restaurants.

COK was also the lucky recipient of a FaunaVision van, which drives around the city showing footage of the many types of animal exploitation and abuse.

Paul is proud to say that he doesn't regard COK as being elitist and that the organization has made efforts to increase racial diversity within its ranks. He has advice for those who may be interested in organizing their own groups: "If someone is starting a new group, I'd definitely recommend starting with more than one person. Leaving notices in local health food stores, or placing free 'volunteers needed' ads in newspapers are a couple good ways to find other like-minded people. An important thing to keep in mind is that there is always inherent trouble in a group where those involved are also each other's only social group. In such groups, when people stop being friends, the group is seriously in jeopardy. This isn't to say that we shouldn't be friends with the others in our groups. It's just a warning that the group needs to outlast personal gripes."

Compassion Over Killing has spent the past 6 years establishing itself as a commanding force in the animal liberation movement. It's a powerful ally for the animals and has given us a model of an exemplary organization, setting a new standard for grassroots animal liberation activism nationwide.



These are photos from COK's recent livestock auction undercover investigation. For more information, see www.cok.net. See more photos of COK in action on pages 33 and 39.

What Others Have to Say About COK

"COK is one of the most well organized and professional grassroots organizations in existence. It continues to innovate, reevaluate tactics and refine them." – *Justin Taylor, NC Steering Committee*

"I think COK is a great model for animal rights groups because they work on a variety of issues with their campaigns, make sure there is room for people to get involved, and combine educational events with more direct action oriented tactics ... I've been impressed with the respect COK has earned among peer groups. Everything they do keeps the animals in mind first, and that is obvious when you read about their events in the papers." – *Pulin Modi, Vassar Animal Rescue Coalition (VARC)*

"Compassion Over Killing has done things that other groups only talk about: rescuing animals, saving lives, and educating the public. Their campaign against ISE and the subsequent positive media received has set a new standard for local campaigners. I hope that they not only continue their work, but escalate it. I have faith that if they do, DC will become a very, very bad place for animal abusers." – *Josh Harper, Appropriate Response Media (ARMed)*



FOCUS

Becoming a Political Force

Recently on nationwide TV our president explained why he was limiting stem cell research. Research on a pack of human cells was somehow more ethically repugnant to our president than experiments on the lives of millions of sentient creatures: creatures that feel pain and know exactly what it means to be alive and struggle to maintain every precious minute of it.

How did we as a culture get into this predicament?

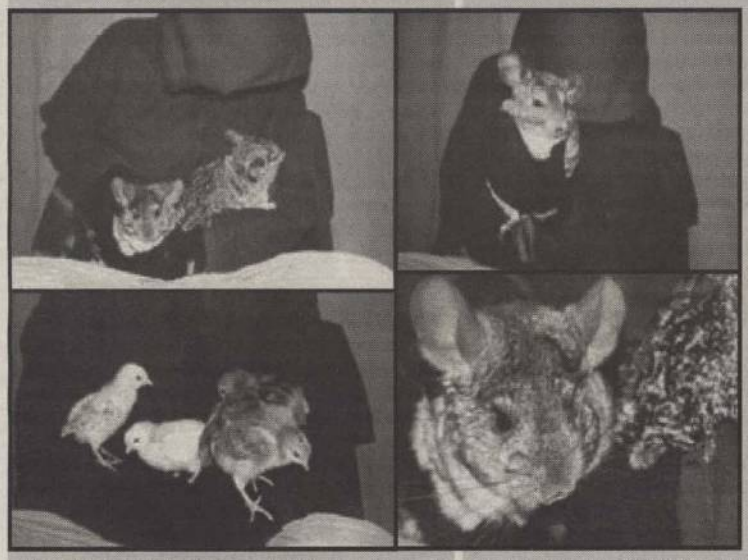
How did we as a culture get into this predicament? As an animal advocate, I am afraid I feel partly responsible, but I believe I share that responsibility with other leaders in the movement and with many others who assume they are working on behalf of the animals.

1972 was an interesting year. A young Australian philosophy student, Peter Singer, reviewed a book for the New York Review of Books that was bold enough to assert that animals should be afforded some of the same rights that, over the years, western thought had reserved only for humans. Six years later he was to publish a book, Animal Liberation, in which he further developed those ideas. The book was seen by many as the beginning of the modern animal rights movement. 1972 also saw the birth of another organization, the Christian Coalition.

Over the years the animal rights movement and the Christian Coalition used two very different approaches. The former began to hit the newspapers, radio and local TV shows with what has come to characterize our movement: spray paint on fur coats, lab break-ins, demonstrations, and media theatre. The early tactics of the Christian Coalition are harder to bring to mind, but I remember early complaints from other religious groups that there was an increasing number of Christian Coalition activists being elected to local school boards, and changing the curriculums in the school districts throughout the south. It wasn't long before issues of abortion and school prayer began showing up in national political speeches, first in the House of Representatives and then in the Senate. By Ronald Reagan's second term, Supreme Court Justices like Bork and Rehnquist and Scalia were beginning to talk like religious fundamentalists, and even the once powerful choice advocates who grew up during the earlier woman's rights movement were in retreat.

By 1994, the Christian Coalition was able to assure the election of Newt Gingrich to leadership as Speaker of the House of Representatives. Six years later, what is now termed the religious right elected a president and moved to hobble the very powerful medical science lobby, which the animal rights community had been helpless to slow, over stem cell research. Where we had vocalized the fraudulence of animal research for years without result, one presidential policy decision, as a favor to a political support group, was able to stop the medical research community in its tracks. And this dramatic political intervention was on an issue only peripheral to the religious right's goal of establishing the inviolate sanctity of the fertilized human ovum. Our present agenda? We are going to have a large demonstration outside the HLS laboratories.

Is there any more obvious example of the inferiority of our approach versus theirs? Can it be more plainly shown the effectiveness of their strategy-driven political agenda as compared to the emotionally-driven, media-infatuated, anarchistic efforts that characterize our strategy? If I were a suspicious person, I might wonder if our leaders weren't working for the medical research community, and leading us in the most counter productive direction possible. The temptation to abandon all hope of accomplishing anything for the animals would be stronger if only the animal advocates bore the burden of our failure to grasp the futility of our approach. But it is the lives of the innocent creatures whom we are trying to represent that command me to speak out.



So to those of you who so militantly proclaim your dedication to the cause of the animals at the barricades and in the streets, the streets where I to have bleed beside you, may I point out to you that there is another reality—a reality called the political process, a complex, challenging, sophisticated system that could easily absorb all of the cleverness, persistence, passion and vigor that any of us are capable of. It feeds on cooperation, anonymity, goal orientation, sophisticated planning, shared responsibility and sacrifice. It has worked for 200 years to achieve social change for thousands of interest groups from our two strongest political parties to Labor, Civil Rights, Women's Rights, and the environmental movement. This reality continues to work for those willing to embrace its discipline, to learn its lessons.

As a community we have not yet begun to attempt to take the process seriously. Those who are the most critical of it have never tried it. Twenty years dominated by a single approach and we still have no legal rights for animals. Do we really believe we are going to create a revolution of thought that will just melt away the defenders of American materialism? We thought that in the sixties for a while, until we were afraid that if we didn't stop our complaining and get in line we were going to be left out of the lottery. If you think you and your generation are any different, you are fooling yourself.

Political power is as reliable an ally as exists in history regardless of the system. To think we can accomplish our ambitious agenda without its power is naive. Talk revolution, talk massive demonstrations, talk societal paradigm shift, we will begin to make real progress when we begin to take part in the process that the founding fathers set up for the eventuality of change—individual citizens coming together in interest groups and acting politically to achieve their agenda. When we begin to "get it," when we begin to realize that we need to build a political foundation for the animals, will be the day we start down the road to animal rights.

Until then, we may have to be satisfied with the rights of stem cells.

Information about getting involved politically can be found on the website www.animalpolitics.com, or by contacting Animal Legislative Action Network, alan1@ix.netcom.com.

Within Our Ranks

by Kim Berardi

I have often been told that the only important thing about an activist is that s/he believes in and fights for animal liberation. To some, it doesn't matter what a person believes "outside" of animal liberation or what a person's actions may be "outside" of the movement. I would like to take some time to point out the utter ridiculousness of this claim. How can an activist's behavior be separated from the movement? It can't. The only space that exists "outside" of the movement is that which has been artificially constructed specifically for the purpose of making activists not accountable for oppressive behavior.

What do I see as oppressive behavior within the movement? Well, unfortunately there is a multitude of examples. Obvious cases may include instances when activists have raped or assaulted another person. Racial slurs directed at someone are another example. Even language not directed at an individual can be oppressive.

The grassroots animal liberation movement is primarily made up of white twenty- to forty-year-olds. Although there appear to be strong women within the movement, I have known of dozens of cases of sexism within individual groups. I have heard of scores of women who have left the animal liberation movement altogether because it is not welcoming to women (or men, for that matter) who may not be as physically assertive as others.

Is the grassroots animal liberation movement immune to hate, prejudice and the promotion of oppression? It would be logical to assume that a group of people that struggles for the complete liberation of non-human animals would be more aware of the oppression of humans in our society. Unfortunately, this is not true. Oppression is not only tolerated among our ranks but also perpetuated among its "leaders."

I often hear the old motto, "If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem." Animal liberationists apply this saying not only to animal abusers but to those who are knowledgeable about animal abuse but do nothing to stop it. I choose to apply it to activists who see oppression within our ranks and, like the public, do nothing to stop it.

One of the primary arguments I hear in favor of tolerating unacceptable behavior is that the movement is small and we need as many people as possible, no matter what their "other" beliefs may be. This is preposterous. The "take what you can get" mentality runs counter to what animal liberation activists fundamentally believe— otherwise, we would all be welfarists. This mentality is conveniently adopted as a mantra for those in positions of power in order to silence any dissent.

FOCUS

Another common defense brought up by perpetrators of offensive behavior is that those of us who "out" unacceptable behavior are trying to propagate "political correctness." We are accused of politicizing language and behavior in such a way that it is suddenly unacceptable for people to "just be themselves." This defense is also flawed. Language and actions have always been politicized. We do not commonly see this because those in power have already politicized language and behavior in such a way that their "slant" is considered the norm and thus, "apolitical." It is only when individuals or groups of people challenge existing power structures that their efforts are disapprovingly called "political." Thus the recognition of oppressive behavior magically becomes "political correctness."

Free speech is also brought up as a defense for offensive behavior and language. "Don't censor me" is the chosen battle cry. I believe in free speech and that people are entitled to speak about whatever they choose. I also believe that a community can choose its membership. Activists whose behavior is deemed unacceptable are free to form their own communities. Yes, Dr. Laura and David Duke are free to become animal advocates if they so choose, but we have the choice whether or not to include them within our own respective organizations.

So why is this "outside" space created? There are several conclusions one can reach about the reasoning behind tolerating oppression and hate within the animal liberation movement. The first excuse is ignorance, although that wears thin given the abundance of information available to animal liberation activists. Another conclusion is that people are apathetic to issues that they feel don't concern them. Those in positions of power have the privilege to decide whether they will become involved in "the issues of others."

Another conclusion—the one that I find most disturbing—is that those who tolerate and embrace oppressive behavior within our movement do so because they do not, on a fundamental level, understand what oppression means, even in terms of animal liberation. "The animals" are an abstract concept for them, beings who do not exist in reality, but only on the screen and printed page. Everyone—non-human and human animals alike—is less than real. To these people, fighting for animal liberation has become an empty motion.

As long as social justice movements exist, there will always exist those who harbor indifference, prejudice and hatred within our ranks. But by taking steps to recognize and out these unacceptable behaviors, we can work towards

Interview with Robert and Mark

continued from page 3

mals will be held in even more quarantine than before. They won't be seeing daylight anymore. This way a highly contagious disease like foot and mouth can't spread like it does now. Perhaps the transports will change so that only dead meat will be transported instead of live transports. And the animals will be murdered in the near vicinity. But it is definitely a human-centered solution to the problems.

Mark: I totally agree. The footage of these emotional farmers disgusts me. The only thing they care about is the fact that their breeding system disappears. The hypocrites will breed their stables full the first change they get. And the double faced consumers repulse me even more. Crying about the fact that all the animals will have to be killed. People are so fuckin stupid.

Interviewer: Is there anything more you wanna say to the people reading this?

Robert: Go out and do what the animals want you to do. It's not about us. Our lives are not that important. The importance is we rescue animal lives and claim victories over the industries of death. This fight will not end till all the animals are free!!

Mark: Read and find out all the information you can get about the adversary. We may have a hard battle to fight but the lives of millions of innocent animals are at stake. Learn about vivisection industry, fur farming and meat industry and find their weak spots. Remember the animals always. They need our help. If people like you and me who are into this so strong do nothing, then who does?

Activist Resources

Available from **No Compromise**, unless other source is noted in parentheses. See the Merchandise Order Form.

BOOKS

Free The Animals, Ingrid Newkirk
Earth First Direct Action Manual
Ecodefense, Dave Foreman & Bill Haywood (www.envirolink.org/bookstore)
Earth Force, Paul Watson (AK Press*)
War At Home, Brian Glick
Agents of Repression, Ward Churchill and J. Vander Wall
Animal Liberation, Peter Singer (www.envirolink.org/bookstore/)
Vegan: The New Ethics of Eating, Erik Marcus
Vegan Handbook, Debra Wasserman and Reed Mangels (AK Press*)
Animal Ingredients A to Z (AK Press*)
An Unnatural Order, Jim Mason
The Dreaded Comparison, Marjorie Spiegal
The Sexual Politics of Meat, Carol Adams (AK Press*)
Pacifism as Pathology, Ward Churchill (AK Press*)
The New Farm Vegetarian Cookbook (AK Press*)

DIRECT ACTION BOOKLETS

The Final Nail #2 (North American ALF Supporters Group, see Trenches, p. 39 or online: www.animalliberation.net/finalnail)
Memories of Freedom (NA-ALFSG - see Trenches, p. 39)
Against All Odds (NA-ALFSG - see Trenches, p. 39)
Keep Fighting: Three Interviews with Britain's ALF Press Officers
Animal Liberation Primer (NA-ALFSG, see Trenches, p. 398, or online: www.animalliberation.net/library/alprimer.html)

RESOURCE GROUPS

Vegan Outreach - 'Why Vegan?'; 211 Indian Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15238, Phone: (412) 968-0268, e-mail: vegan@veganoutreach.org, www.veganoutreach.org/

In Defense of Animals - Great graphic anti-fur posters, anti-fur cards, P&G flyers, etc.; 131 Camino Alto, Suite E, Mill Valley, CA 94941, Phone: (415) 388-9641, Fax: (415) 388-0388, http://www.idausa.org

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals - great 'WEARING FUR' and anti-McDeath stickers, graphic posters, etc.; 501 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510, Phone: (757) 622-7382, Fax: (757) 628-0784, URL: www.peta.com

The Fund for Animals - Neiman Marcus Flyers, hunting factsheets, articles and videos, etc.; 8121 Georgia Ave. Ste. 301, Silver Spring, MD 20910, Phone: (301) 585-2591, Fax: (301) 585-2595

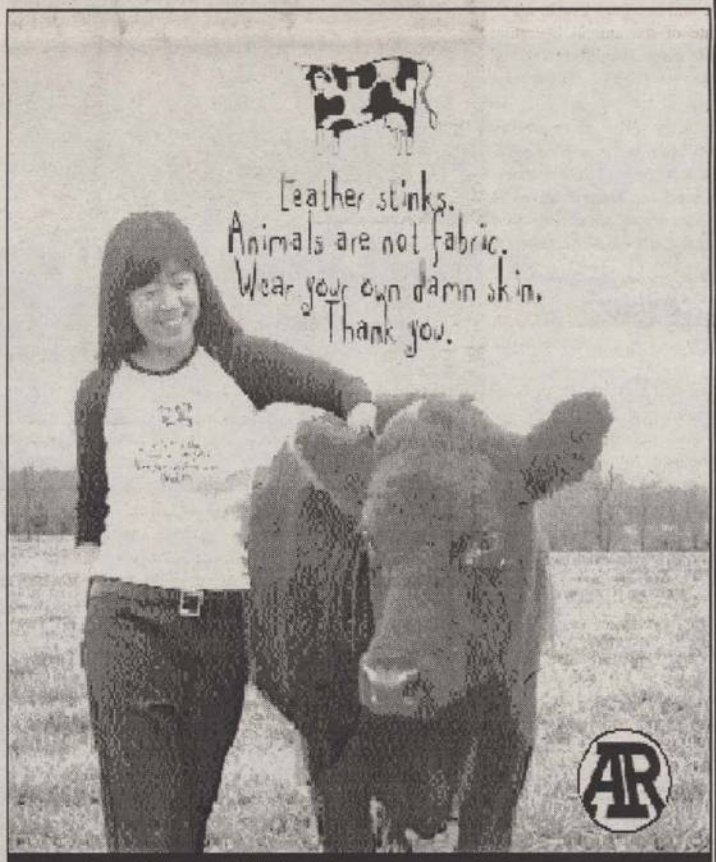
Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine - Nutrition and anti-vivisection info, a "Guide to Cruelty-Free Giving", etc.; 5100 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 404, Washington, DC, 20016 Phone: (202) 686-2210, x300, Fax: (202) 686-2216, e-mail: pcrm@pcrm.org, URL: www.pcrm.org

PUBLICATIONS

EF! Journal
Live Wild or Die - LWOD, POB 481 Tucson, AZ 85702 Amerika

For a list of useful web site links check out the Resources section of the **No Compromise** site: * AK Press - PO Box 40682, San Francisco, CA 94140-0682, (415) 864-0892, e-mail: akpress@org.org, URL: www.akpress.org

www.nocompromise.org



HELP NC
see pages 9 and 15

FOCUS

English Lessons

The UK is often referred to as the Mecca for animal rights. Many within our movement make a pilgrimage every year to England to try to separate the legends from the effort and strategy actually applied everyday to achieve their landmark victories. The stories are mesmerizing, if not intoxicating, for they are a testimony to the determination and dedication activists have shown in pursuit of animal liberation. The lengths they will go to and the ingenuity they have shown is unparalleled. Anti-hunt campaigners have dug up graves; the co-owner of the now defunct Hill Grove Cat Farm was chained to a post with a bag over her head; the Animal Liberation League has organized hundreds of people to participate in daylight raids on labs, freeing thousands of animals; and the actions and names of Barry Horne, Keith Mann, and Ronnie Lee are forever ingrained into the history of our collective movement.

US activists have visited the UK, participated in amazing actions and campaigns, and have come back to America invigorated and full of ideas. The UK serves as the model to many within the grassroots animal liberation movement. We often attempt to mirror in our own actions those of our comrades across the ocean. Whether our efforts are successful or not, or if this is even a good idea, depends on the context of the situation. Too often we hear from proponents of "strategic non-violence" that the UK is an inappropriate model for our movement to use. They would rather have us look to Gandhi, (half a century ago, in another part of the world, fighting a different issue and in a completely different political framework) for our movement to take its inspiration and tactical guidance. This could possibly explain why the attempts of "SN" organizations have been so fraught with failure.

I went to England and spent my time there attempting to figure out exactly what I could bring back with me to America to improve the state of the animal liberation movement. In doing so I had to assess the differences and similarities of our movements to establish what works and what will fail.

The basics are very apparent. The movement in America for militant grassroots activists is comprised predominantly of college-aged students. In the UK it is entirely the opposite. Most campaigners and those involved in animal rights on a whole, militant or not, are middle-aged men and women.

This, in my opinion, speaks to how seriously the actions and issues are taken. In the US protests organized by grassroots groups are often dismissed by the media, opponents, and so-called authorities as misguided idealistic young people. We are often told we will grow out of activism and that this is just a fad. Sadly this is often very true. In the UK those involved in animal rights activism did not hear about it on campus or at a hardcore show; they became involved and committed themselves because they care about animals. The actions and issues raised in England get much more credibility as a result of the age bias. The media and authorities are unable to write off those engaged in animal rights as going through a phase. The age difference also demonstrates, in my opinion, a fundamental difference in the movements—animal rights stateside often starts as or deteriorates into a fad or social scene. The turnover rate amongst committed campaigners seems to be a constant sore spot. Some of the big name activists most of us remember five years ago are no longer around, have completely changed their opinion on direct action, or have compromised their tactics by accepting national group jobs. In the UK it is uncommon for an activist at the forefront of the grassroots organizing to have not been involved for less than 5-10 years.

The social atmosphere for activism in the UK also facilitates the ability to be a full-time activist and to participate in direct action. The dole in England, the much more progressive British form of welfare, allows for activists to receive a weekly stipend of money to live on and housing benefits that pay for their rent. The dole only requires that activists sign-up for this service every two weeks. These programs provide for activists on a personal level. The other costs incurred in animal rights and running campaigns need not come out of one's personal banking account, but from the bottomless well of public support and donations campaigners receive when they set up stalls or tabling across the country. The UK is often been called a country of animal lovers and it shows in information stalls set up on England's high streets. Leaflets are cleared from tables and petition forms fill up quickly as regular folks from all walks of life stop, look at the pictures of mutilated animals with tears swelling in their eyes, and donate to what they know is effective hands-on activism.

Another element that benefits and differentiates our two movements is something that none of us have control over—the geographical size of our countries. The size of the battlefield does determine the tactics. Because England is so small they need not employ constant acts of civil disobedience and can instead organize large national demonstrations that range in size from 300 to 2000. In demonstrations of this size, activists are able to cause mass disruption, gain publicity, deliver a serious blow to the target, and achieve amazing feats such as daylight liberations and economic sabotage. The furthest anyone really ever has to drive would be roughly 4 or five hours. Having such a concentration of activists within a small area builds movement unity and aids in the development of a national focus.

The policing in England favors activism and progressive social change more so than in the US. Guns and weapons are illegal to own or carry in the UK and accordingly the police there do not carry firearms either. In demonstrations activists are routinely de-arrested as several other protesters will surround the police and take back their detained comrade. Most demonstrators show up to mass protests completely masked to make themselves indistinguishable. Masked protesters are able to slip into a large crowd after a scuffle with the police or security, or after some piece of property has been "modified." As we all know in the US, we are not afforded this luxury. We instead have to contend with an overzealous police force and FBI presence that would soon beat you, shoot you, or poison you with pepper spray. The policing of US demonstrations for a variety of social issues falls nothing short of proving the existence of the current police state.

Similarly when activists are arrested in demonstrations or actions, the repercussions and consequences fall short in severity of what US activists face (UK prison sentences are still extremely long and determined by politics, but seem a slap on the wrist compared to the US "justice" system fraught with human rights violations.)

Activists in England "nicked" in a demonstration can expect to spend a few hours in their own cell, are given a vegan meal, can read their own books and listen to a walk

continued on following page



ON TACTICS AND STRATEGIES WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

by Craig Rosebraugh anon@tao.ca

At an early age I learned that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. Additionally, the same logic told me that if my goal was indeed to successfully travel from point A to point B, then progress could only be made by actually heading in the direction of point B. To travel outside the direct line from A to B, or to head in the opposite direction would be counterproductive to the goal of reaching point B with maximum efficiency.

When this basic logic is applied to social and political movements, it is clear that the most productive tactics must be utilized in order for progress to be achieved. To engage in tactics which are not the most productive can mean sacrificing real progress and real success for complacency. So who is to decide which tactics are deemed the most productive? What role do each of us play in determining the answer to the question of appropriate and effective tactics and strategies? These questions signify a timeless debate over how best to bring about justice on earth.

One of the most beneficial contributions that can be made to this debate is stating what is known and what can be learned through historical precedent. This is true not only in general terms of historical social and political movements globally, but also specifically with the case of the animal liberation movement in the United States.

In my years of studying political and social movements around the world, it has become quite clear to me that there is a certain momentum and progression required if a movement is to be successful. Without a continuous but gradual increase in momentum, any movement is destined to lose effectiveness, support, and ultimate victory. What this translates into is that the easiest, least confrontational and perhaps least controversial attempts should be made first.

Gandhi's model followed by Satyagrahis in India and South Africa provides an excellent beginning to any social or political movement. His five stages for Satyagraha consisted of 1) Defining truth (realizing there is an injustice); 2) Communication of that truth (informing the oppressor or your opponent of their unjust ways and your objections to them); 3) Negotiation of the truth (trying to negotiate with your opponent); 4) Noncooperation (creating a wise progression of tactics, constantly increasing momentum—may include teach-ins, picketing, protests, boycotts, civil disobedience, etc.); and 5) Fasting (for Gandhi fasting, if performed correctly under supportive political settings, could prove to be the utmost form of personal devotion, i.e., self-sacrifice).

While I strategically and tactically disagree with Gandhi's adherence to his nonviolence principles and his naive optimism of world politics, I do feel the above five steps assist in illustrating how a successful campaign full of increasing momentum might progress. Once a particular stage in the campaign has been exhausted, it is detrimental to continue the momentum by adding new stages if the movement is to advance.

In the animal liberation movement in the United States, it can be honestly stated and factually supported that certain tactics and strategies on their own have been exhausted. The only logical conclusion that can be drawn from this observation is that this movement needs to employ new, more severe tactics, increasing radicalization for progress to become a reality.

While the modern animal movement in the United States has arguably gained a few minor successes, the decline of species in the natural environment and the millions upon millions of animals slaughtered for human convenience and profit annually can only be taken as a sign that this movement is losing the struggle. Why? While I do not profess to have all the answers, I am confident that two fundamental notions may hold the key to unlocking the door of progress and ultimate victory. The first subject matter deals with tactics, strategies, and the idea of momentum.

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man if they have brought one. If they are kept over night, remanded, or sent to prison, the Vegan Prisoner Supporters Group makes sure (and it never fails) that the prison feed and provide proof of their vegan meals and give prisoners access to cruelty free toiletries. Prison sentences range from a month to 18 years (the most ever handed out) for alleged arson campaigns, criminal damage, and liberations. These consequences seem a far cry from what US activists have to face if caught and convicted as sentencing guidelines can reach as high as 80 years for liberations.

The sacrifices willing to be made by those participating in direct action is a unifying bond between the two movements. Activists in England are inspired by the determination of ALF activists stateside considering the power of our adversaries and the repercussions they face if captured. Likewise, many of us in the US movement see heroes in activists like Barry Horne, Jill Phipps, Mike Hill, and Steve Worbey who have laid down their lives in pursuit of animal liberation. The support for direct action is another bond that both movements share. The grassroots is the lifeblood of above ground support for those in the underground risking life and liberty. A steadfast allegiance despite media slurs and state repression is a testimony to the strength of our convictions and our movement.

Despite the subtle, but important, differences in cultural mores and the size of the countries, a great deal can be learned from the UK animal rights movement. Tactics, focus, national cohesion and the sustainability of full-time grassroots activism are a few the many aspects of UK activism that are applicable in the US. Using England as a model, we can further strengthen the bonds and similarities that have already been borne between the two countries.

England may be about 20 years ahead of the US in achievements and strategy sophistication, but the pace, eagerness, and creativity flowing for the US movement has caught everyone by surprise from our activist friends in the UK who sing our praises, to the police we consistently beat to the punch, to our animal abusing adversaries that have been righteously targeted, exposed, and often closed down.

In the next feature piece for No Compromise I will expand on bringing British tactics to the United States. Using the Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty campaign as a case study, and as the only example of UK styled campaigning attempted in the US, the piece will document the successes so far and the possibilities to come.

Never before in US animal rights history have we so closely examined the tactics of both communities of activism, the application of various forms of methodology, and discovered the amazing potential that we have as a collective whole. The time for animal liberation is dawning.

Building a Movement

Taking the First Steps Towards Building a Mass Movement for the Animals

There is a considerable amount of concern for the well being of animals in the United States, and yet this has not translated into a strong movement for animal liberation. Instead, divisions over philosophy, strategy, and tactics have segregated animal advocates into distinct camps with very little intermingling. As a result, there is no over-arching movement for the animals but rather a series of smaller sub-movements that, for the most part, operate independently of one another.

Although there have certainly been some very important strides made for animals here in the United States, there is still much, much further to go. And if we're ever to have a shot at achieving a society where veganism is considered the norm, we need to find ways to come together as animal advocates, learn from one another and begin to build what could truly be considered a mass movement.



Facing Up To Our Privileged Status

Before we can begin to think seriously about building a mass movement for the animals, we must seriously look at what role each of us is realistically willing to play in such a struggle. As activists fighting for animal liberation we face a peculiar disadvantage. We are not members of the oppressed group ourselves. As a result we tend to lack a certain degree of dedication and commitment. Since it is not we ourselves who are facing torture and death on a daily basis, we lack the motivation and strength to consistently make this struggle the highest priority in our lives. Imagine for a moment if your friends and family were being tortured and killed, or your own life was in danger. Is there genuinely nothing more you would then be doing?

The fact of the matter is that most of us involved in the struggle for animal liberation are coming from a very privileged background. We are predominantly white middle class activists who just aren't ready to sacrifice that much of our privileged status. Our concerns about losing a job or an apartment, or even spending a bit of time in jail too often deter us.

Of course there is some merit to these concerns. Coming from a position of privilege can certainly have its advantages too. In some situations it can provide us with more power to affect a certain degree of relativistic change. This perspective is illustrated in Peter Singer's writings when he argues that from an ethical perspective, each of us should only grant ourselves those luxuries that are necessary to facilitate the greater overall good. For example, it may be considered justifiable to buy expensive clothes if they're necessary for a job that allows one to then turn around and put more money back into the movement.

Few, if any, of us genuinely live up to such a self-sacrificing ethic though.

Rather than dwelling on our own failings in this regard, we need to strive to be honest with ourselves about how much of our privilege we are genuinely willing to sacrifice. Failing to do this can lead to posturing, pseudo-militancy, betrayal of comrades, and an artificial division between activists who are ready to risk a bit more for the animals and those who lag a step behind. The fact of the matter is that none of us are perfect, so we must learn to find a balance wherein we are constantly challenging ourselves to grow as activists and overcome our limitations while not letting our own shortcomings and failures overwhelm us.

Overcoming Hierarchies and Divisiveness

In our society it is rare for a person not to care about animals, and yet most people do not extend their compassion to encompass all animals. They may have a dog they love, volunteer at a local animal shelter, aid feral cats, refuse to wear fur or eat veal and yet remain leather-wearing meat-eaters. As righteous vegan warriors it is all too easy to condemn these people as hypocrites, but to build a true mass movement for change we need to tap into these people's sentiments.

Even amongst members of the animal activist community very real philosophical, strategic and tactical differences exist. Long term activists repeatedly find themselves at odds over whether welfarist changes that merely lessen the degree of animal abuse are genuinely beneficial, if our movement should be part of a broader struggle against all forms of oppression, whether tactics such as arson do more harm than good, and much, much more. It makes little sense to argue that these distinctions should be set aside for the "greater good" when we are unable to even agree on what our broader objectives should be.

Despite our differences we do share a common bond. We are all trying to help animals. Because of this we should try to respect each other's positions and, to the extent that it's possible, work through our differences in a non-combative manner. Of course some differences will never be resolved. When this is the case we have to make a decision-is the disagreement so basic that we cannot work with a person or group, or is it something we can just agree to disagree on while working together on those goals we share.

Forging Strength from Our Differences

At first glance, the amount of arguing within our nascent movement appears overwhelming, and can easily leave one wondering how we could possibly build a mass movement with such major ideological differences. Dramatic differences of opinion are a fact of life though. They are not merely a normal part of every mass movement, but an essential part. It is these very differences that provide the requisite diversity to appeal to a wide range of people.

This diversity serves another important function as well. Despite the confidence that so many of us have that most of our choices about strategy and tactics are correct, we can't all be right. Having a wide range of ideas and types of projects ongoing makes it that much more likely that some of these efforts will be productive. But given that diverse backdrop, we also need to create a focus to make our efforts scale up and really create change. This can be done by identifying issues we can find broad common ground on amongst animal advocates, building campaigns around these issues, then using our victories to expand our movement.

Spice Up Your Merchandise!
animal liberation, A.L.F. support, vegan, anti-cop and anti-HLS buttons for sale!
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To a large extent the success of a movement is defined by its ability to capture the hearts of the public and arouse their sense of moral outrage about specific issues. The success of the movement then becomes seen as its achievements with those specific issues. The future of the movement is thus determined by the extent to which its members are able to use their victories as a foundation to build upon.

One key to doing this is trying to create a continuum wherein people can get involved helping animals in one way (e.g., volunteering at their local shelter), and in the process learn about the broader context of industrialized animal abuse and exploitation. We are not militant wackos, nor is our movement about simply acting out. We act up for the animals out of compassion and respect for all sentient life. We need to make sure we always keep this in mind and that this underlying ethic gets across to the public. Despite some arguments to the contrary, this should never be used as an excuse to avoid more radical action though. We need to keep gradually pushing the fringes of what's acceptable and finding new ways to maximize our effectiveness.

The kinds of successes we're experiencing now with the HLS campaign and the broad-based coalition of groups that have come together in the Neiman Marcus anti-fur campaign are a great testimony to the importance of focusing on issues the public can relate to. Now we just have to get out there, win these campaigns, and find ways to translate these victories into further successes and a true mass movement for the animals!

FOCUS

When Bad Dynamics Happen to Good Groups

Chances are, if you have been an active member of a grassroots animal liberation group for more than a few years, you have either witnessed bad dynamics within another group or experienced them within your own.

By the phrase "bad dynamics," I don't mean the periodic arguments that we are all bound to undergo, whether they are about the campaigns, tactics or structure of our organizations. Rather, they are differences—sometimes irreconcilable—that put continual strain on us and make it difficult to maintain productivity as an organization.

The Group that Plays Together Stays Together?

A natural tendency exists for members of grassroots groups to become socially close-knit, just as in any other kind of work environment. Even better, our common bond is not only a job, but also an ethic that is a fundamental component in our lives. We are not required to answer the question "Why?" as we do with day-job colleagues since we already know the answer. We share victories and jail cells; we see one another at our best and at our worst.

In maintaining close social relationships outside of the group with fellow activists, it is important to remember two primary dangers. The first is the risk of being or appearing exclusive to newer activists and those who may not fit in as well socially with core members. The second is the responsibility of dealing with the consequences of not always getting along while continuing to work for the animals.

I do not think that many people intend to be exclusionary, but when activists have gone through the same experience (like attending an exciting event or being arrested), it is easy for someone who did not have the same experience to feel left out. In addition, remember that everyone is on a learning curve with one's own experiences and different levels of knowledge. Using acronyms like "CD" or "A.L.F." can be unfamiliar to newer activists, and asking for clarification while in the presence of the entire group can be intimidating.

Members of a group should not be exempt from group guidelines just because have been involved for a longer period of time. For instance, if the group decides to reduce chatting during demonstrations then everyone should abide by this guideline. If a newer activist is criticized for speaking while someone else speaks without being criticized, then this is obviously problematic. Additionally, if newer activists follow the guidelines and see "more experienced" activists not following them, then it can cause frustration and tension. Even those who may not identify as being part of a "clique" may also exhibit exclusionary behavior, or may behave in a way that could be perceived as exclusionary.

The danger of not always getting along is self-explanatory. The social relationship between activists is fundamentally like any other relationship that you have in life. Some people may form life-long friendships, live together or even date or marry. On the other hand, people may not care for one another. Some of us would simply not be friends if it were not for the struggle. Simply put, we are bound to disagree and argue.

To compound the problem, our work is unlike that of a "normal" job. We are working to save lives and affect the consciousness of the greater populous by resensitizing the population to violence. In other words, the battles are more intense and the stakes higher. When we don't get along, we not only affect our own lives, but the lives of those for whom we are fighting. So how do we deal with bad dynamics once they have developed in order to save our organizations' productivity?

Citing the Source and Working on It

Bad group dynamics can be traced back to a variety of sources, from one individual, to the relationship between two or more people, to a combination of both. It is sometimes difficult for the group to trace the problem back to one particular source since everyone will have a very subjective view of the issues at hand.

More often than not, bad group dynamics can be fixed, or at least, vastly improved. As with most other social and working relationships, the key is communication. Most of us can communicate very well with vivisectors, furriers, factory farmers and other types of abusers, so why does it seem as if we are not able to communicate as well when it comes to resolving problems within our own ranks?

The most important factor is taking the time to address the issues. Just remember that these problems will most likely not go away on their own. Here are a few suggestions for handling bad dynamics not only before you are in the midst of the madness, but also before they even develop.

1. Create a Statement of Principles. This is something that can be done before a problem arises in order to avoid later conflict. A Statement of Principles establishes guidelines that the group can follow and by which the members abide. A few prime examples might be that abusive, racist, sexist, heterosexist, etc. behaviors or language would not be tolerated by the group, or that violations of the security culture of the organization will be cause for expulsion.

2. Schedule Social Time. Doing work that takes such an emotional toll on activists often causes smaller problems to explode. Take the time to schedule purely social activities like potlucks or outings for your group that won't require extraordinary decision-making. Often, minor differences can be resolved in these types of settings. In addition, these activities will provide more of a foundation for support for those members who may not be able to handle the emotional expectations and requirements of animal liberation work as well as others.

3. Think It Through. Being reactionary (speaking before you think) will only serve to do more damage. Think through what you see as problematic within the group. Do individuals exhibit behavior that serves to oppress others (sexism, racism, heterosexism, etc.)? Are meetings often dominated by those who are traditionally in positions of power? How are those who are not exhibiting these behaviors reacting? How are you reacting or contributing to these problems? If the behavior of an activist is destructive in your eyes, what could possibly be the motivation behind it? Will the group be able to operate in a productive manner if these problems persist?

4. Talk One-on-One: If you have a particular problem with an individual, approach her/him and try to work it out. Keep in mind that your relationship with one person can greatly affect the way that an entire group operates. Try to keep an open mind and remember that your actions and behavior may be seen as just as destructive by the other person.

5. Arrange a Meeting: A meeting may be necessary if you think that issues cannot be resolved talking one-on-one or if talking one-on-one fails. Remember that, in bringing these issues up with the group, you are involving all activists, whether they want to be involved or not. If you don't feel that these issues will affect everyone in the group, then consider talking to more individuals on a one-on-one basis.

Keep in mind that meetings like these can easily drag out and be frustrating to other activists (who may be unsure as to how the issues affect them personally). It may help to assign an objective facilitator, create an agenda to ensure that you aren't sidetracked, and set time limits on discussion time. (Note: if you are not the one who is scheduling the meeting and may not be fully aware of any problems within the group, have patience and listen to the concerns raised. If these issues are important enough for your fellow activists to raise, it is your responsibility as a colleague to offer your attention and input.)

Moving On and Growing Up

Talk is cheap unless you reach a conclusion, so make yours. Don't have unreasonable expectations. None of us are perfect and groups will never be perfect or as effective as we would like for them to be at all times. Conclusions are not always pretty nor are they easy. The group may decide that it is better to expel a member to maintain the integrity of the entire organization. You may personally decide that it is no longer possible for you to work with certain individuals, and if they continue to be a part of the group, then you must leave. All of these decisions are difficult, and some decisions may be avoided by establishing safeguards and guidelines to deal with these types of issues. No matter what you do, however, always keep your primary goal in mind: saving animals.

FINNISH ALF in the 1990s

touring the fur industry

The Finnish equivalent of the Animal Liberation Front, EVR or Eläinten vapautusrintama, was born in the early 90's. The first recorded direct actions date back to 1993, when the magazine Underground and the first Finnish ALF-pamphlets Vastarinta and Eturintama reported 25 actions against animal industries. Sporadic actions against fur stores and other targets had taken place earlier even in the 80's, but no group had claimed them. Nor were the initials EVR or ALF used. However, knowledge of the new forms of action was spreading by hand-copied ALF Primers and other pamphlets.

After 1993 action escalated with a speed nobody could have guessed. It is hard to verify how widespread the activity was in 1994, but according to the magazine Underground there might have been over 170 actions. In any case it is verified that dozens and dozens of fur stores had their locks glued, windows broken, and storefronts covered with painted slogans. In 1995 when the fur farm raids started, the confirmed number of direct actions was over 200, but the actual number may be a lot higher.

So from the start it was clear that fur farming and related industries were the main targets in Finland. That is understandable, as the country is one of the world's biggest producers of fur. The nation once had over 2000 fur farms, although the number has been dwindling a bit due to the recession in the industry and new laws. The pressure brought by the nearly 60 fur farm raids cannot be discounted, of course. A few fur farms have actually closed due to single or repeated raids, and the constant pressure ha surely discouraged many potential farmers from entering this insecure profession. The age pyramid of fur farmers is tilting on its tip, and more and more farmers are retiring without a younger generation to take over.

Altogether the years 1993 - 2000 saw a lot of action. In addition to actions against fur farming and fur stores, the ALF has liberated animals from vivisection laboratories, breeding facilities and farms 13 times. Unfortunately some of the animals have been recaptured by the police and returned to the warped hands of the scientists, even though the above-ground groups tried repeatedly to buy them or campaign for their release. They received much publicity but no help for the victims themselves.

Hundreds of actions have been made against meat and dairy industries, McDonald's outlets, and against hunting. In addition to this, other groups such as the ELF and some anti-fascist and feminist direct action cells have participated. During the years there have been about 1000 instances of illegal direct action.

This article centers however on the action against the fur industries, especially fur farm raids. It also deals briefly with the various forms of police oppression that the animal rights movement has seen, and the incredible myths that the industries, the police and the mainstream media have created to paint the picture of heinous "terrorists" that threaten the sanctity and security of this fine country.

The Beginning

The EVR burst into public consciousness in 1995, when two liberation raids were done at the heart of the fur

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FOCUS

2001 Year-End Direct Action Report

continued from front cover

except for when we receive untraceable communiqués from anonymous people after an action has occurred. The only real connection is one of a shared philosophy, that illegal direct action is sometimes necessary to further the goals of animal liberation—to directly save individual animal lives from places of abuse and suffering, and to inflict economic damages on businesses and industries who profit from the torture, killing, and abuse of sentient beings.

The guidelines under which the ALF operate are explicit in their position on, and definition of "violence." The guidelines state that "no animal, human or non-human, shall be injured or killed in the course of an action" and that "all necessary precautions are taken to avoid injuring life." Since the ALF first appeared in North America almost 23 years ago, liberating one cat and two dogs from the New York University Medical Center in March of 1979, there has never been a breach of these guidelines.

This report contains the totals for all illegal direct actions taken for animal liberation that occurred in North America in 2001. We have compiled this from information gathered from many sources, using the activists' own communiqués and claims of responsibility, as well as reports taken from local media and law enforcement. Information about actions was also gleaned from several email lists, web sites, and animal rights, environmental, alternative and radical publications.

Although we've taken great effort to research many sources, our list cannot be considered complete; it simply represents the actions known by us. Numerous actions, especially those where only minor property destruction occurred, typically are never reported nor claimed by anyone. Because of this, the figures and totals contained herein only represent a percentage of all the animal rights actions that occur in North America, though we are fairly certain all the major actions are listed.

This article represents approximately half of all actions taken in North America in 2001. The other half is comprised of actions taken in defense of the earth, and against genetic engineering and GMO crops. For a complete copy of this report, which includes the lists, totals, and statistics for all illegal direct actions taken in North America, please write to us at naalfpo@tao.ca or view the PDF online at www.tao.ca/~naalfpo/2001_Direct_Action_Report.pdf.

Further information on any action mentioned in this report, or to obtain the communiqués and/or press releases issued, please write to us. We welcome any corrections or additions you might have, as well as your suggestions on how to make this report more useful and informative.

Why Publish This Report?

Some might say that by publishing this report we are adding to the arsenal of weapons used against us by animal abusers and the destroyers of our planet, and various law enforcement agencies and as well as politicians. In their attempts to label us "terrorists" they will no doubt point to the numbers of actions listed, the damage totals, and the extent of illegal direct action across this continent. It is our view that these people are making their own lists regardless, and they're adding up their own damage totals, whether we publish this report or not.

We believe that there are more benefits for our resistance movements in publishing this information than otherwise. First, this report represents our movements' collective his/herstory; it is extremely important not only to us but to future generations as they look back on these times,

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Finnish ALF in the 1990's - Touring the Fur Industry

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farming region Pohjanmaa. Hundreds of foxes were set free, but unfortunately the raids were done in the breeding season, thus resulting in the death of a lot of young foxes.

The police captured later two young women after one young woman who participated in the raid went to the police with her information. Their long trial attracted a lot of attention and created a whole mythology of "animal terrorists" and "fox girls" practically overnight. According to the popular theory there was a sinister group of shady terrorist leaders with international contacts, who lured innocent girls to do their dirty work for them. This image was later immortalized into a movie (well of course). The trials shadowed the fact that two more raids took place during that year, showing clearly that there were more people on the move.

The first fur farm raids also revealed the full extent of action thus far. The media and the police could agree to keep things under wraps as long as there had been no large and visible actions (and faces that could be connected with them), but now the barrier of silence had been broken. A spokesman of the fur merchants' union told the mainstream media that in the first half of the year alone 1.5 million FIM in damages had been inflicted on fur stores alone. In years to come the silence was even harder to maintain, as aboveground magazines such as Muutoksen kevät started to report regularly of the actions.

The Worst Nightmare

The biggest shock was still to come for the fur farmers. In December 1995 the EVR made two incendiary attacks on fur industry facilities in Valtimo and Juankoski. Several buildings were burned to the ground, including offices, storehouses, and a farm feed processor. In their communiqué the activists declared that the "Worst nightmare" of the fur farmers had begun.

After these attacks the police started a rampage against anyone vaguely resembling an animal rights activist. The homes of at least ten activists were raided, personal items such as clothing and diaries were confiscated along with campaign material. Two activists were targeted especially harshly, as they refused to co-operate with the police in any way to protest against the apparent breach of their rights. One of them was jailed for 33 days in near-solitary confinement. Fortunately in the end both of the accused were acquitted and the police has to pay restitution for unwarranted actions.

Later on in 1996 police operations like this continued, as dozens of activists were tried at a collective "terrorist trial" that lumped together a wide variety of actions, often with practically no evidence at all. The public pressure on the police and the judiciary system was showing however, as people received ridiculously high fines and suspended sentences.

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Working Undercover

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Courage is not about being immune to fear. Courage is being scared but going forward anyway. Instead of saying, "I could never do that," ask the question, "How could someone like me do that?" If you want that question answered, read on.

No Superheroes or Heroines

So what is different about me than you? The answer is nothing. I, like you, have strong convictions, feel deeply, get depressed and angry, and have an open heart that is sensitive to oppression. The translation: it is exceptionally difficult for "animal people" to witness abuse. Some activists even refuse to watch videos because of their sensitivity. I can relate.

Meeting the victims, whether on a TV screen or face-to-face, is heart wrenching and difficult to get over. However, looking the animals in their eyes and making that connection galvanizes me to be their voice.

No Cloak, No Dagger

Forget the visions of Agent 007 stealthily infiltrating the enemy's stronghold, wooing the beautiful counter-spy while seizing the top-secret document—that's Hollywood. Working undercover is low paying, dirty, difficult and demoralizing—quite literally; the shit work.

I'm no adrenaline junkie, but over time I have raised my threshold for dealing with intensely stressful, watch-your-backside moments. The blips on the radar where my camera comes out of hiding are sparsely drizzled between long hours, days and sometimes weeks of mundane work.

The lows are bottomless, but capturing on video what I had been witnessing (and sometimes participating in) day in and out makes it all worthwhile. Animal abuse is happening out of sight and mind. Getting these horror stories into the light of day to educate the public and eventually stop the abuse is not easy but it works.

Help Wanted—No Skills Necessary

Never underestimate the stupidity of your enemies. It is a lot easier to get positions in animal exploitative industries than you might think. Job openings are common because these jobs are low paying and the abuse does not usually stop with the non-human animals. Most jobs don't require special skills or previous experience. In some cases my potential employer was shocked that I had an authentic social security card and ID. Some potential hurdles might include a previous arrest record for animal activism or employment with an animal welfare group. Surprisingly, I had both of these strikes against me but it never came up.

Undercover 101

There's no training, standard operating procedures or Cliffs Notes. It's about common sense, thinking on your feet, making mistakes, learning from them and, above all, having patience. The best two words of advice I picked up randomly from Douglas Adams in Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy: "Don't panic." During interviews, and the first few days on the job when I was in total shock, I reminded myself this is a normal feeling. Everyone gets stressed about a new job. Just being myself always got me through the rough spots. Investigating is not acting. It's about listening, being observant, and taking meticulous notes.

"Just the facts, ma'am."

The undercover part, documentation, is what happens mostly after the "work day" is over. I would keep little crib notes that I could flesh out later. This was the most tedious but most important part. I learned to record detail without emotion. I finally found it much easier to dictate my notes into a tape recorder. Every undercover investigator should befriend a court reporter for transcription. Mine was a lifesaver.

I can't overstate the importance of keeping a detailed diary of events, even if the same abuses are happening day after day. This detail is the backbone of any case made to official agencies where complaints will be filed.

Getting the Goods

Every situation is different and I would find creative ways to gravitate towards getting what I needed. It's mostly about waiting for opportunities and being prepared when the window opens. I would pay attention to my co-workers' habits and schedules and determine when to take risks accordingly. When will I be alone? Where are my co-workers right now? Calculating risks and taking the path of least resistance preserved my cover.

A general rule in my life that worked to my benefit is to try to get along with everyone. Being a good listener and being genuinely interested in other people's lives and jobs is key. Human nature dictates that people love to tell stories and talk about themselves. Eventually they reveal exactly what you need to know with only occasional directed questions.

Getting Busted

One day at the fox farm, my co-worker, who was supposedly sick, suddenly appeared in front of me. My heart was racing because I knew he had seen my camera. Externally calm, I told him my dad wanted to check out the farm and I was making him a tape. He bought it. Another lesson learned—always be ready with a plausible story if the worst case happened.

Smile, You're On Candid Camera

Lessons learned early on were about holding the video camera still, counting slowly to 20, before moving on.

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In Harm's Way

In October 1996 the fur farm raids continued regardless of the growing police oppression. A fur farm in Orimattila was raided two times in a row. In the first raid 150 foxes were released, but nearly all of them were recaptured. Later in the first henna dyeing raid, the group "Ruskanväri" dyed 150 - 300 foxes and removed 150 breeding record cards. This was actually the same farm whose owner would gain notoriety in 1997 by shooting at animal rights activists with a shotgun. Two more raids took place in December, when some foxes were dyed and breeding records destroyed. The new tactics were being honed and they were spreading.

Fur farmers didn't have a good year on other fronts, either. Aboveground animal rights groups organized massive demonstrations in Vantaa at the international fur auctions. For some time it seemed that the hundreds of people who descended on the "Fur Center" over and over again might actually stop some of the auctions. In December 1996 250 demonstrators managed to stop a bus carrying investors on their way to the auction. The bus was held still for 40 minutes, and its windows were covered with paint bombs. The police reacted with overt violence, wading through the demonstrators with batons and spraying mace indiscriminately. In the end the newly formed crowd control unit "Jouha" was released on the demonstrators, which made the demonstrations harder and harder.

Also in June 1996 a masked group of activists tried to storm the offices of the fur farmers' union, but met locked doors. Still they managed to spray-paint and trash their lobby and add to the siege mentality of the farmers. But this all was just the beginning. By the year 1997 it was clear that the EVR had thus far been only stirring and was wide awake.

Minks and Maiming

During 1997 there were 12-14 successful fur farm raids and a few attempts. Noteworthy is the fact that now some of the raids inflicted very serious damage, and hundreds of animals were released. Some smaller raids were done in the spring, but things really kicked off in the autumn. That is only natural, as the farms are most vulnerable when the time of the final slaughter is near.

The first big raid was in Parkano in August, when 500 mink were released and thousands of breeding record cards destroyed. Mink liberations continued in September in three locales, when altogether over 1000 mink were set free. These raids started a heated debate on the viability of mink liberations as a tactic. The mainstream media, nature conservation organizations, the Green party and practically anyone started spreading a new mythology: that urban activists, alienated from the Nature, were seriously endangering the Finnish birdlife by releasing into the wild domestic animals that "didn't belong" in Finland. Some aboveground activists tried to remind them that there are about 500 000 mink already in the wild, originating from the long history of fur farming, but to no avail.

News of their death was greatly exaggerated

The henna raids continued in November in Porvoo, when 600 foxes were dyed. It was actually interesting to see how the dyeing raids wouldn't receive no attention at all, simply because it would have been so much harder to badmouth them than liberations.

The promising year ended with a sad note. In Orimattila the fur farmer Markku Kuisma shot and wounded at a group of activists who has entered his farm. The farm had already been raided a few times, and apparently the sorry bugger had taken seriously the macho communiqués of masked and armed fur farmers promising to shoot at anything that moved near their farms. Instead of condemning the farmer of a clear attempted murder many representatives of the media rallied to his defense. Although they of course couldn't accept the use of violence, it was understandable that a besieged private person could snap under pressure and so on. A new myth was invoked: the myth of the private entrepreneur engaging in a legal, "democratically accepted" profession.

After Orimattila a new wave of police raids started. Offices of several magazines and grassroots organizations were raided and their archives copied and computers confiscated. The prosecutor gathered up an excellent example of fiction, blaming many of the recent unsolved fur farm raids on the accused five. Some of them were held in custody for days, even weeks. One young woman who was detained for a long time started a hunger strike to end this oppressive treatment, and the animal rights movement in Finland and abroad rallied to her side. The trial process of the Orimattila five lasted long, and in the end all parties got suspended sentences. Punishment for the fur farmer for shooting at human beings was conveniently forgotten for a moment. The activists received strict sentences considering that they hadn't done any damage at the farm, as first the shots were fired during their entrance.

"News of their death was greatly exaggerated"

After the Orimattila shooting the Finnish ALF was officially proclaimed dead. The police and the mainstream media claimed that they had proven that all/most of the fur farm raids were done by the "key individuals" they had captured. This new theory seemed to be confirmed by the fact that the early spring seemed to be a lot quieter on all fronts than before. But by the summer action against fur stores, highway construction, and Shell stations was again on the rise, and many animal liberation actions were made.

In June a storage building was torched at a fur farm in Vihti. The farm belonged to one of the most visible representatives of the profession, and a pioneer on the field in Finland. Her farm had been raided many times before, but this time damages soared and EVR was once again in the headlines. After that it never left them, as in autumn a string of large-scale mink liberations took place. In September 2000-4000 minks were released from a fur farm in Joroinen, then 4000 minks from Kirkkonummi. The mink debate heated up again, but this time more aggressively than ever. The EVR were branded public enemy No 1, as newsflashes showed images of hundreds of roadkilled minks near the farms. Many former supporters turned their backs on the movement after this. In a sense these raids signaled two things. The EVR was a force to be reckoned with, and it could recuperate quickly. But it also solidified the terrorist image that had been at least partly mellowed in earlier years, especially by footage showing liberations of beagles from a vivisection breeder, and also by the sympathy for the wounded activists.

There were 13 fur farm raids in 1998, and for the first time it could be confirmed that a fur farm was closed because of EVR action, as serious breaches of animal protection laws were detected at the Kirkkonummi farm.

An Incendiary Year

If one looks at the number of fur farm raids (9) in 1999, the year was a bit quieter than the last two ones. It is true that there were very few actions in any front that year, and it seems that the heydays of illegal direct action are over in Finland. At least for a while. But for the fur farmers the year was nothing but happy. In the spring and summer tactics shifted rapidly to the fiery front. In two incendiary attacks storage buildings were destroyed at two fur farms, resulting in huge damages. Another attack was attempted at a fur feed processor in Lehtimäki, but the devices used failed to ignite. The facility was used also as storage for furs on their way for retailers, so damages would have been very big.

In August the fur farm raids spread to a new region, when in a short time three raids were made at farms in South-Carelia. Later on a few mink liberations and henna dye raids were done around the country. During the same time the farmers were in the clutches of an unprecedented depression caused by the economic collapse of Russia. In March the fur auctions were hampered by a collective sit-in at the web pages of the Fur farmers' union, which added to their plight.

In the courts the old battles went on. In Tampere the animal rights movement tried to challenge the apparent breaches of demonstration rights by the police. A promising campaign against fur stores had been demolished by a battle of attrition: the activists were fined and arrested again and again without due cause. Pleas for justice never amounted to anything. Instead the trials against activists who were accused of liberating animals from farms and laboratories went better than expected. The trails were started by an unfortunate incident of squealing, but to everyone's surprise the convictions either were pretty mild or the charges were dropped.

EVR Revitalized

The end of the decade showed again some signs that the action against fur farming is on the rise. The year 2000 brought 13 very successful and highly effective raids. What's more, the whole situation has worsened for fur farming. Looming new legislation on EU level may yet seriously impede this foul industry. Many European countries have banned or will ban fur farming in some or all forms, and Finnish fur farmers are pretty much left alone in the political arena. Ironically the worst blow for the farmers was their own fault. A comprehensive report revealed that most of the farms hadn't fulfilled the obligations that the new laws had laid down for them. This made the negotiation position of the Finnish representatives in EU very hard. Just when they were claiming that Finnish fur farming was beyond reproach! The aboveground movement has awoken from a long slumber, too, and many farmers are besieged by constant demonstrations. The ground couldn't be more fertile for the EVR.

In the autumn Finland saw for example three large mink liberation raids. The raids were clearly very well planned, as a majority of the animals remained "at large". In a surprisingly devious twist of logic the mainstream media found a brand new way to badmouth the EVR. This time they blamed the activists for the deaths of hundreds of animals that the local hunters shot after the liberations. Similar argument was used when a farmer killed all of "his" breeding animals after the breeding records had been destroyed in a raid. The main TV news went so far as to show footage of the farmer walking by the cages and shooting the imprisoned creatures one by one in the head by a pistol.

In the autumn two largest-ever henna dye raids took place. In both of them nearly 2000 foxes were dyed and breeding records stolen. After this a new myth was once again created. Dyeing raids were branded animal abuse, as dye might be dangerous to the animals. Surprisingly no real evidence was brought forward to support this theory. The EVR cell behind the raid swiftly dismissed the claims of a local veterinary who inspected one of the raided farms. They published video footage that dismissed allegations of foxes chewing away their henna-soaked fur, plus showed serious breaches of law on the farm. The same farm was raided very soon again, when a storage building containing machinery and fur was torched.

Once more unto the breach

During its first years the Finnish ALF has managed to make insecurity a constant fact in the life of any fur farmer here. Practically all regions where animals are imprisoned for their fur have been targeted, showing that the farmers are simply not safe from harm anywhere in this country. The new decade has already started, as the first raid of 2001 was done already in February, much earlier than ever before. Of course future is always uncertain, but it seems that EVR will remain one of the biggest threats for fur farming in Finland.

Then again it is true that stopping farming will be harder here than in many other countries (with the exceptions of China and Russia). Finnish fur farming is not dependent on domestic sales, so the movement here can't do much to attack the demand. Also the fact that there are about 1700 - 1800 farms in Finland means that the government will be very reluctant to ban the profession, as it brings a lot of funds to rural areas. But this is of course why international solidarity is so important for the movement. By attacking all the links of the fur chain the animal rights movement can yet smash it altogether.



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that they understand that we did not remain silent, that we did not give up or stop at writing letters and signing petitions, or engaging in symbolic protest actions. Real resistance to animal abuse takes place on every level, and the following pages serve to document our struggle and our uprising.

Secondly, this report is published for us—for everyone who engages in resistance and direct action, and for all of us who support the non-violent struggles to destroy the machines of ecocide and animal torture. This report is about the work of brave and courageous warriors who risk everything, and gain nothing personally, except for the satisfaction of a job well done. From the smallest of actions, such as spray painting the local McDonald's, to the largest and most complex actions, such as multiple fires or liberating animals from labs, every action is important, and every action counts toward the furtherance of our resistance.

no animal, human or non-human, shall be injured or killed in the course of an action

September 11, 2001

Much has been said in the media by law enforcement and industry spokespeople about how the ALF (and ELF) have not stopped their actions in the wake of September 11, like so many other, more "respectable" organizations have done. The argument goes that since we are all in mourning over the terrorist attacks and the huge loss of life in New York, underground activists should abandon their aggressive tactics, because to continue their campaigns is disrespectful and tantamount to continuing terrorism on this continent. While the evidence actually shows an overall marked decrease in illegal direct actions following Sept. 11, the rationale used above remains faulty.

One simply cannot compare the events of Sept. 11 to the illegal direct actions taken by underground groups and individuals for animal liberation. Flying fully-loaded planes into office towers which result in massive loss of life and injuries is something that is on a completely different level than the actions described in this report. Aside from the obvious differences of philosophy between real terrorists and animal activists vis-à-vis the injuring or killing of life, the horrific actions we witnessed on Sept. 11 represent what real terrorism is all about, and what violent people are capable of doing. To compare this to the actions of people who work to save animal lives and our planet while explicitly not using violent means is, frankly, ridiculous. Furthermore, to label non- violent activists as "terrorists" is a slap in the face to everyone who has been killed or who is suffering as a result of Sept. 11.

While everyone is mourning the loss of life and the incredible pain, anguish and human suffering, millions upon millions of animals continue to be tortured and killed in horrific conditions and situations behind locked laboratory doors, inside factory and fur farms, and at numerous other places of abuse. One might suppose, and we had certainly hoped, that after the terrible events of Sept. 11 our society might have reached a new understanding of compassion for other beings, not only just our fellow humans. Sadly, that does not seem to have happened.

Since Sept. 11 there has been no ceasing of animal abuse, animal torture, and animal killing. The destruction of our natural environment in the name of progress or development and greed hasn't stopped. In the face of this continuous onslaught it would be irresponsible for animal and earth warriors to abandon their campaigns and actions at this time. In fact, it is imperative that direct action activists continue, and indeed step up their actions in this late hour on our planet. The non-violent economic sabotage campaigns must be maintained.

Finally, the evidence does in fact show that illegal direct actions dropped off following Sept. 11. Whether this was a result of a natural cycle or a result of other factors remains unclear, but it could suggest that underground activists are simply just like the rest of us - we are all human and we have all been deeply affected by the events of that fateful day.

Traditionally, with the various holidays in November and December, these months usually have increased activity by all types of underground activists, yet only three actions were registered in Dec. 2001. In fact, in all four months, September through December, the numbers of actions registered were below the yearly average.

Statistically, after Sept. 11, 18 animal liberation actions, or 25% of the total occurred, or one action every 6.2 days. Prior to this demarcation date an action occurred once every 4.7 days. The average rate for the year was one action every 5.1 days. We can clearly see that there was a 24% drop in illegal direct actions post-Sept. 11.

Some Definitions

In this report, the term "animal liberation" is generally used to define actions that have targeted animal abuse industries or businesses. Traditionally, this term has been used to define actions where animals have been taken out of research labs and placed into loving homes, but with the rise and frequency of mink release actions we believe a distinction needed to be made between a "release" and a "rescue" operation.

The term "animal release" is used to define actions where the activists have released caged animals into the surrounding wilderness area, or which have been relocated to another area and then released. Typically, this term is used for fur farm raids where mink have been set free from their cages. Only animals who have a fighting chance of survival are released. The term "animal rescue" is used to define actions where the activists have removed animals from places of abuse (laboratories, factory farms, etc.) and have placed them into homes or sanctuaries to be taken care of by people.

"Major actions" are defined as actions where either animals were released or rescued, fires were set, or significant property damage occurred.

"Anonymous" actions are those that are claimed, usually by letter or communiqué, by an individual or group who does not affix any name to themselves. They have claimed responsibility but they have chosen not to affiliate with any group.

Actions which are categorized as "unclaimed" are done so because no one has made a claim of responsibility for the action. Claims of responsibility include communiqués or letters sent to Press Offices, animal rights or environmental groups and publications, the media or the target. Spray paint left at the scene of an action which clearly denotes a recognized or obvious group is considered a legitimate claim of responsibility by the ALF Press Office. Every other action is classified as "unclaimed."

In the case of unclaimed fires, an analysis is made on the likelihood of the target being chosen by activists, and whether or not a cause for a fire has been determined. A fire which remains undetermined in origin or "suspicious" is included as an "unclaimed action" if it fits a political, geographical, or target profile.

Actions categorized as "unclaimed" in this article could possibly include some where no animal rights motive was present; we chose to err on the side of resistance rather than write off an incident because we couldn't prove it was an "action." For many reasons, some activists and groups choose to not make a claim of responsibility for their actions. Because of this we would be remiss to not include those actions in this report.

Numbers and Groups

There were 72 illegal direct actions taken in North America for animal liberation in 2001. Of these, 15 can be categorized as major actions (21%), with the ALF claiming responsibility for 12, almost all of them, while the ELF claimed 1. The ALF took credit for 35 of the 72 actions, just under half. 7 actions were claimed by anonymous activists, and 10 actions remain unclaimed.

18 actions were claimed by 5 other groups, with the Texas-based group The Frogs taking credit for the majority of those (14). The Frogs, an underground group operating in the southern tip of Texas, have carried out numerous acts of minor property destruction, and have declared their affiliation with both the ALF and ELF.

The following groups claimed responsibility for animal liberation actions in North America in 2001:

Animal Liberation Front
Animal Liberation - Tactical Internet Response Network
Bakers for Animal Liberation
Earth Liberation Front
The Frogs
Pirates for Animal Liberation
Santa and His Elves

89% of animal liberation actions occurred in the U.S. while only 6% (4 actions) occurred in Canada. Actions occurred in 15 states and the District of Columbia, 3 provinces, and in cyberspace. New York and Texas accounted for almost half of all animal actions, with each registering 17 (24%).

Regional statistics were based on the Associated Press' distinction of four regions—West, Mid-West, Northeast, and Southeast.

The Northeast region led the way for animal actions accounting for almost half (32, or 44%). The Western region was close behind with 28 actions (39%), while the Mid-West accounted for 7 actions and the Southeast region had only 2.

June was the busiest month for animal actions with 9, followed by January, February, and November which each had 8. The quietest months for Animal actions were September and December, which only registered 3 actions each. Actions took place on 64 separate days, averaging approximately one every 5.7 days, or over 5 actions per month.

There were 3 separate actions on November 25—two in New York and one in Texas. In Poughkeepsie, NY, the Olmsted Hall of Biological Sciences at Vassar College was spray painted by the ALF, who also paint bombed the exterior of a Stephens, Inc. building in New York City, while in Dallas, the Bakers for Animal Liberation used an empty lot outside a Stephens, Inc. building to spell out "Stephens Kills" with flour and water.

The longest continuous run of actions was a 5-day period, Nov. 22-26, when 7 actions took place in Texas and New York. Next in line was a 3-day period, Feb. 4-6, when 5 actions took place against 2 fur stores, a McDonald's, a Burger King, and the Ringling Brothers circus. Between Oct. 15-31, 6 actions took place, 4 of them major.

The busiest month for the ALF was January, when they took responsibility for 7 of the 8 Animal actions taken that month, hitting 5 fur and 3 meat and fish stores in the Northeast region.

Targets and Tactics

Of all animal rights issues, vivisection and animal laboratories were a priority for underground activists, with 34 target sites chosen. 9 research-related websites were attacked as were 8 animal labs.

The vast majority of the vivisection targets (26, or 76%) were chosen because of their links to the notorious animal research and testing company Huntington Life Sciences, against which a major international campaign is ongoing. Actions included 8 against

Stephens Inc. and 7 against the Bank of New York, 2 against the Bank of America, and 2 against HLS directly. Eight of these actions occurred between Oct. 24 and the end of the year, accounting for 5 of the 8 Stephens actions and both Bank of America actions.

Close behind vivisection was the meat industry, against which 28 actions were taken, including 3 each against Burger King, Dairy Queen and McDonald's. McDonald's targets were hit on 4 other occasions but not primarily for animal rights issues. Two actions were taken against Pizza Hut, and 1 each against KFC and Wendy's. 3 actions were taken against factory farms and 1 against a factory farming research facility.

Thirteen actions were taken against the fur industry with 10 fur stores and 3 fur farms targeted. 7 actions were taken against breeders/kennels/pet stores, while the circus and the BLM wildlife round-up were each targeted once. The 10 fur stores were all hit within the first 8 weeks of 2001.

There were 7 animal rescues and 7 animal releases in 2001 (one action was a combined rescue and release) for a total of at least 4925 animals liberated. Almost an equal number occurred in 2000, when there were 7 rescue and 5 releases. California and Iowa accounted for 3 actions each, while 2 occurred in New York, and one each in Illinois, New Jersey, Ontario, Texas, and Washington.

The ALF took credit for 9 of the 11 major animal release and rescue actions in 2001, while the ELF claimed one.

Included in the property of animal abusers damaged in 2001 were approximately 150 windows smashed, and 12 vehicles, including 1 yacht.

Animals rescued and released in North America in 2001 include the following:

3000 mink	44 beagles
1047 ducks and ducklings	28 rabbits
469 chickens	12 perch
200 horses	10 ferrets
50 geese	2 hermit crabs
62 pigeons	1 snail

Major Actions

There were 15 major animal liberation actions in 2001, or 21% of the total. Six of them occurred in the combined western states of California (4) and Washington (2), while the Northeast accounted for 4—three in New York and one in New Jersey. Iowa accounted for three, and one each occurred in Illinois, New Jersey, and New Mexico.

Four fires were set, plus one attempted fire. Two of those were claimed by the ALF—a $1 million fire against the Coulston Foundation in New Mexico, and an attack against 2 meat trucks in Long Island City, NY; one by the ELF—the BLM wild horse corral hay barn was burned near Susanville, CA after 200 horses were released; and one remains unclaimed—the $1.5 million dollar fire at a National Foods egg farm warehouse in Arlington, WA. Compared to 2000, fires set for animal liberation were down sharply in 2001—four compared to last year's nine.

There were 11 major animal rescues and releases in 2001, 9 of which the ALF took credit for. The ELF claimed one (the BLM horse release), and one was claimed by anonymous activists—the March 31 rescue of 14 beagles from HLS labs in East Millstone, NJ.

Two animal actions accounted for at least $2.5 million in property damage—the unclaimed fire set at the National Foods egg farm warehouse in Washington state in April ($1.5 million) and the ALF-claimed fire set at the Coulston Foundation's maintenance building in New Mexico in September ($1 million).

Property damage amounts for animal actions were either under $100,000 or over $1 million.

Most Impressive Animal Actions in 2001

On Oct. 16 the ALF released all the mink (approx. 2000) from Scott Nelson Mink Ranch in Ellsworth, IA. Three days later on Oct. 19 the same cell released 162 birds (ducks, geese, and pigeons) from research animal breeders Double T Farms in Glenwood, IA. Four days later on Oct. 23 they returned to the Scott Nelson Mink Ranch and re-released 800 mink which had been recaptured following the first raid. According to local media reports, Scott Nelson is shutting down his mink farming operation. These mink farm raids were the 71st and 72nd fur farm raids in North America since Aug. 1995.

Least Impressive Animal Action

On June 11 the ALF claimed responsibility for smashing 45 windows and four glass doors at retailer Bed, Bath & Beyond in Salt Lake City, UT. The ALF claimed in a Communiqué that there was a financial connection between BB&B and Stephens Inc., when in fact, there was none.

Most Impressive Simultaneous Actions

On April 28, as World Week for Animals in Laboratories was winding down, the ALF conducted simultaneous lab raids in California and New York. In Castroville, CA, the ALF raided ICRC Company and rescued 28 rabbits, while at the same time ALF activists raided the Cornell University Duck Laboratory in Eastport, NY and rescued 247 ducks.

Direct Action in 2002

The fallout from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks will be felt for many years to come in the animal rights and environmental activist communities. The American public, and to a slightly lesser extent, Canadians, are seemingly willing to lose a large chunk of their basic freedoms and liberties in exchange for extremely broadened police powers, at least if the corporate media and politicians are to be believed.

With the Patriot Act in the U.S. and Bill C-36 and related legislation in Canada having been enacted in the last days and weeks of 2001, people of all stripes are bracing themselves for the resulting increase in surveillance, harassment, detentions and charges that are sure to be coming in 2002 and beyond. Already one activist in New York has been charged under the new anti-terrorism laws, apparently for allegedly buying a can of gasoline. Prior to Sept. 11, U.S. state legislators were already preoccupied with drafting and passing specific laws to deal with illegal animal rights and environmental activism under the guise of fighting "eco-terrorism."

The impacts from all these new laws will, contrary to their stated intended purpose, not stem the flow of economic sabotage actions or animals being liberated. Activists involved with underground groups like the ALF and ELF will not be affected by these laws, or any attempts by law enforcement to shut them down. However, the people who will be affected will be everyone else—above ground activists and protesters, and citizens who exercise their rights to freedom of speech, assembly, and association.

By acting anonymously and in extremely close-knit groups of trusted associates, the ALF and ELF remain impervious to infiltration, and will continue to remain beneath the radar of police agencies. The only people these new laws will affect, indeed, any laws, are those who are known to police or who are actively involved with public protest activities. An anonymous activist who lives by the strict security guidelines detailed in ALF support publications and elsewhere will continue to evade detection and arrest. The effects of anti-terrorism legislation will be felt mostly by citizens exercising their basic rights and freedoms.

In 2002 there will undoubtedly be a sharp increase in grand jury subpoenas issued against activists to force testimony about their friends and associates. In 2002 there will undoubtedly be a sharp increase in incidents of police surveillance and monitoring of activists' homes, cars, and businesses. In 2002 there will also be an increase in activists being threatened with charges, or actually being charged, with the so-called crimes of expressing their support for the ALF and ELF.

However, in 2002, the ALF, ELF, and other underground groups and activists will continue to take action across this continent. It won't be old or new laws that shut them down, nor will it be the dramatic increase in potential fines and prison sentences facing them if caught—the activists involved in illegal direct action are already aware that they will face potentially extremely harsh sentences if caught and convicted, and that hasn't stopped them nor has it decreased their actions. The only way to stop the ALF and ELF is for our society at large to seriously deal with the issues which have brought these people to take such dramatic actions, and that does not seem to be happening very quickly.

The conditions that saw the birth of the ALF over 25 years ago in the UK have not lessened in 2002. Despite the small changes made by animal rights and welfare groups over the past few years, changes that essentially amount to the "larger cages" syndrome, the institutionalized attitudes of abuse and oppression toward animals remain entrenched in our society. The ELF was born, also in the UK, in 1992, and in the past ten years we have also witnessed increased and more aggressive attacks on the natural world.

While some mainstream animal rights and environmental organizations will give in to fear and intimidation and will lessen the intensity of their campaigns, or even cease some altogether, it will be now more important than ever for underground actions to continue. While the moderate groups adjust their strategies and tactics to fit into the New World Order police state, effectively muzzling their voices and lessening their already limited impacts and gains, it will be up to the underground to stay the course of fighting violence, oppression, and the terrorist attacks leveled against animals, humans, and our very planet. The old ALF slogan is even more important in 2002: If not now, when? If not you, who?



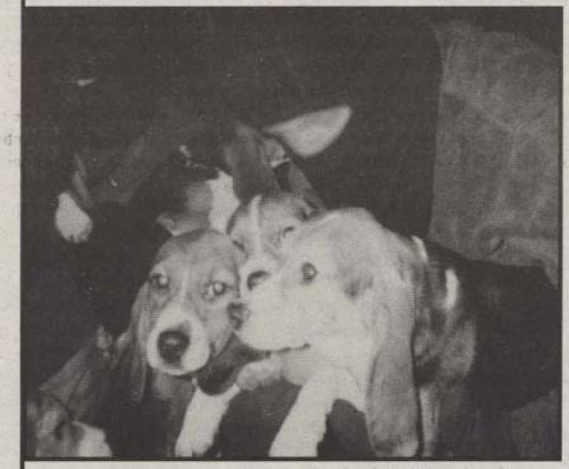
ON TACTICS AND STRATEGIES

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There must be a realization that the murder and exploitation of animals in the United States is done primarily for the sake of financial gain. Fur farmers are generally not really concerned with helping to make garments to clothe the needy people of the world. Rather they engage in the practice to support their families and enlarge their bank accounts. Animals are not used in biomedical and scientific experimentation because they are actually producing valuable results applicable to humans. Instead animals are routinely tortured and murdered in laboratories because they are the key component of a multi-billion dollar industry. Likewise, animals are not used in entertainment or large scale food production because they are a necessity for human survival. Nonhuman animals are exploited primarily for profits.

Now this realization is nothing new, but it does require an increasing focus of attention. Understanding the importance of targeting the profit motive is one of the most important tasks for those involved in the movement. So how is this done? What is the most effective way to target the profit motive? Realistically, the same progression of momentum must be used. If the opponent simply refuses all attempts to negotiate a quick, easy and nonconfrontational outcome, then an increasing pressure must be applied. Boycotts, picketing, protests, public education and civil disobedience all would be logical next steps to take, keeping in mind the goal of stopping the flow of commerce or profit to the unjust entity. But what if all of these tactics do not work? Again, the only intelligent response would be that the momentum needs to increase and more severe tactics need to be utilized.

The Animal Liberation Front, a group which engages in animal liberations and economic sabotage, has done a commendable job in the United States over the last twenty or so years. This underground organization has successfully saved thousands and thousands of lives while costing various industries millions and millions of dollars. But this also on its own has not proved to be enough to stop the destruction of the animal nations. More and more people within the movement need to make the realization that all of us need to be willing to take more radical steps in order for us to see progress. These increasingly radical steps must involve direct action and economic sabotage unlike ever before. While it may seem safer to claim allegiance to a less risky, less confrontational or controversial tactic and strategy, we must agree that this subject is incredibly important and crucial for all life on the planet to survive. Truly understanding this importance can only mean that we are ready to do whatever it takes to stop the destruction of life on earth. It means we are willing to recognize the overall ineffectiveness of certain tactics and strategies and are therefore prepared to take increasingly radical action. Actions of economic sabotage no matter how minute do have some impact, but obviously the more that are taken and the larger the financial damage of each action equate to an increasing momentum of pressure against the unjust opponent.



This leads directly to the second notion regarding the overall success of the animal liberation movement. Just as it is extremely important to realize and comprehend the value of targeting the profit motive, it is also undoubtedly crucial to recognize the relationship between animal exploitation and various other political and social problems inside the United States. This relationship I speak of pertains directly to the idea that the political methodology of governing in the United States, mixed in with the current political body, are the chief causes of most, if not all societal illnesses including animal exploitation. Yet the relationship goes even further to suggest that the same profit motive driving the animal abuse industries is also the primary force behind environmental and human exploitation. The political body and system, its agencies and corporations are increasingly threatening the very existence of all life of earth.

Recognizing this, it becomes a matter of intelligence to target as high up on the injustice food chain as possible. This notion can be as simple as understanding the importance of always choosing the target where you can have the most impact—politically as well as financially. Instead of only targeting the individual fur farms, also see the importance of taking direct action against the large international fur auctions, and the industry and industry groups as a whole. In addition to targeting individual laboratories, see the intelligence of taking direct action against the governmental agencies responsible for allowing the torture and murder to continue as well as the individual researchers and agency executives at their homes. Any strong link to your opponent, particularly with financial ties, must also be sought out and severely targeted.

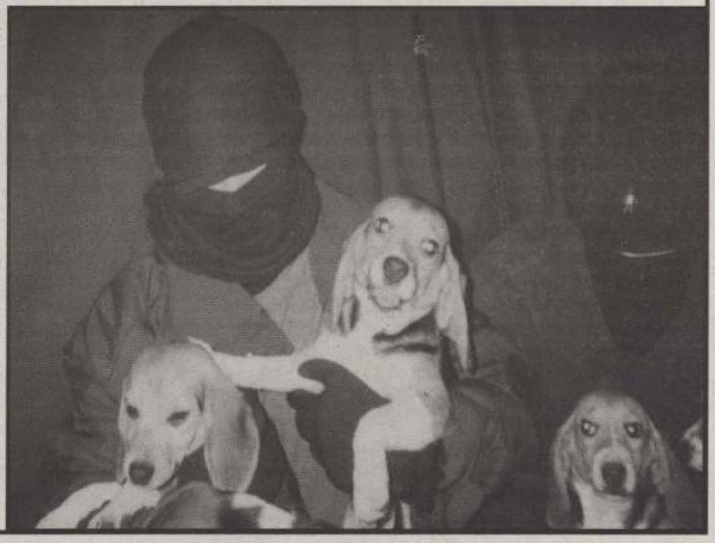
It also needs to be understood that since it is the very political body and system that is ultimately responsible for animal exploitation and murder in the United States, animal liberation cannot truly become a reality until that political system is abolished. Additionally, animal liberation and the abolition of the diseased political system in the United States can only come through tactics and strategies that are outside of state sanctioning. This proclamation, however bold and controversial is also supported by historical example.

During no time in the history of the United States did a political or social movement succeed in stopping the greatest threat to life on earth, the U.S. Government. Instead throughout the years there have been various examples of attempted reform, where the system itself was not challenged, just its policies. Whether it was the Suffrage movement in the late 1800s-early 1900s or the civil rights movement in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, or even the Vietnam antiwar movement from 1963-1973, all of these struggles failed to bring about the overall necessary victory that would create some resemblance of justice within the United States. While each movement contained partial victories, none succeeded in actually challenging the political system that has been the primary cause of domestic societal problems.

Nonviolence absolutists tend to boast about their victories in the labor, civil rights, and antiwar movements. Mixed in with the Gandhian success phenomenon, these examples usually provide the fuel that fires the leftist liberals into a moral frenzy of extreme adherence to the nonviolence strategy. But not one example can be honestly given when the nonviolence strategy on its own succeeded in actually overthrowing a nation state or abolishing a governmental power. The reason for this is quite simple. In all of the above listed examples, the various movements did not even attempt to threaten the entire power structure of the given opponent. Rather each worked in a state of reform to change some of the unjust policies of the particular entity. As a result of the entire pie of each entity not being threatened, some nonviolence tactics and strategies were used successfully to alter a mere piece or two. But adherence to nonviolence principles such as those taught and practiced by Gandhi can never work to successfully stop an entire political system.

In the Gandhian example, the independence movement in India did not threaten to actually abolish the English government on its homeland. Rather the movement sought and succeeded in convincing a colonial power to take a few steps backward while allowing it to maintain its overall empire. The same can be said for the civil rights movement in the United States. The chief demands of desegregation and enfranchisement amounted to minute individual pieces of the United States pie. There was clearly no attempt (until the black power movement emerged in the late 1960s) to change anything but a few of the unjust policies while allowing the system overall to continue.

Where I do disagree strongly with Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. is on the adherence to the nonviolent platform. This fails to take into consideration historical precedent of how social and political change has come about. The formation of the United States involved armed warfare, and the Boston Tea Party involved property destruction. These tactics are usually two of the most celebrated and honored events in U.S. history. If this movement is indeed serious about stopping the destruction of animal nations, of the natural environment and all life on this planet, then we cannot limit ourselves to particular tactics and strategies. It is crucial that once a strategy has been proven to be exhausted, the movement advances; employing and embracing more extreme tactics. As the modern animal rights movement has been active in the United States for some twenty or so years and is arguably losing the overall struggle to protect life, then it is only a matter of logic to assume that more radical action needs to be taken.



Those entities that have chosen to profit from exploitation and murder need to be destroyed by any means necessary. The movement to protect animal life is a movement to protect all life on the planet. It therefore needs to be considered a matter of self-defense to take any and all actions to abolish the unjust entities. The strategy of the shortest distance between two points being a straight line can only begin to be utilized if we realize that all of us need to engage in more radical action. We must follow our hearts, we must listen to our consciences and do whatever we can to stop the destruction of life for profit. Tonight, under the cover of darkness, what actions will you take to stop the destruction of life? TAKE DIRECT ACTION NOW BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY! CAUSE MAXIMUM FINANCIAL DAMAGE! LONG LIVE THE ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT! LONG LIVE THE EARTH LIBERATION FRONT! LONG LIVE REVOLUTION!

DIARY OF ACTIONS

Nov. 25, 2000 CORAM, LONG ISLAND, NY - Coram's wetland development site has more than 17 windows smashed, messages spray painted, survey stakes pulled up and machinery destroyed. Claimed by ELF.

Dec. 1 MIDDLE ISLAND, LI, NY - Twelve construction vehicles sabotaged, over 200 windows destroyed, survey stakes ripped out of our earth, slogans spray painted profusely,and an assortment of equipment ranging from backhoes to bulldozers sustained crippling damage. Claimed by ELF.

Dec. 7 WESTBURY, LI, NY - 3 billboards promoting a fur sale are decommissioned and 6 in total are spray painted with anti-fur slogans. The trucks used to hold the signs are damaged when the gas tanks are opened and debris and dirt are poured in. The truck's carburetors are opened and damaged, and fuel, brake, and coolant lines cut. All electrical lines are cut as well. All three trucks have their tires slashed. Each truck had a series of 20 track lights used to illuminate the billboards, and all track lights are shattered. All the trucks have their side windows and windshields smashed out. Lastly a message spray painted reads "please check your brake lines, we may hate you but we are not trying to hurt you." Claimed by ALF.

Dec. 7 HAUPAGE, LI, NY - More than ten windows are smashed and spray-painted slogans are left at McDonald's corporate offices. Claimed by the ALF and ELF.

Dec. 9 MIDDLE ISLAND, LI, NY - Fires set at the Birchwood at Spring Lake Housing development; 16 nearly completed luxury Homes are destroyed. Claimed by ELF.

Dec. 14-17 TWIN CITIES, MN - Anti-freeze is injected into more than 200 frozen turkeys in the following stores: Cub Foods, Lunds and Rainbow Foods.

Dec. 17 ROCKVILLE CENTER, LI, NY - Various acts of economic sabotage at Genvelli's Meats and Provisions Distribution. All windows on 4 trucks are smashed out, tires slashed, much of the truck's mechanical functions are disabled, and messages of various anti-meat and anti-environmental degradation slogans are spray painted. Claimed by ALF.

Dec. 19 MILLER PLACE, LI, NY - A luxury home under construction in Miller Place, is set on fire. Anti-urban sprawl messages are spray painted on the walls. Claimed by ELF.

Dec. 26 GARDEN CITY, KS - Fire causes extensive damage to ConAgra Foods Inc. beef processing plant. No injuries reported. Not claimed.

Dec. 29 HEWLETT, LI, NY - Tres Chic Furs has massive property damage. All windows of the store front are smashed, anti-fur slogans are spray painted, and more than 10 coats are destroyed with red paint. Claimed by ALF.

Dec. 29 MOUNT SINAI, LI, NY - Four new luxury homes at Island Estates are set on fire. Damage estimates have soared to $2 million. Claimed by ELF.

Dec. 30 ROCKVILLE CENTER, LI, NY - A massive act of property damage at a Rockville Center dairy distributor. In total at least 3 tires are slashed, almost all side and front windows are smashed out, and the 6 trucks least visible to the adjacent road had their hoods opened and all coolant lines and electrical cables cut. In addition, the 6 monkey-wrenched trucks had their distributor caps, spark plugs and housings removed, thus completely rendering the vehicles dead. The facility is spray painted with an array of anti-dairy and factory farming slogans. Claimed by ALF.

Jan. 1 GLENDALE, OR - ELF claim responsibility for burning down the Superior Lumber Company, an estimated $400,000 in damages. Claimed by ELF.

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ALF guidelines

Reporting Actions

Since most actions go unreported, this list represents only a fraction of the actions that the A.L.F. and other groups have committed in the name of animal liberation. If you are active in an A.L.F. cell or other animal liberation group and would like to report your actions, there are ways you can do it without compromising your security.

Send your reports to supportive animal rights groups. Reports should include the name and a description of the target, what happened and also the time, date, city and state/province. Do not handwrite this as hand-writing is as individualized as fingerprints.

Use a public typewriter or computer to print the letter so that it cannot be traced. Never leave copies of your work saved in the memory of the computer and discard the typewriter ribbon.

You will also want to be sure that the letter, stamp, and envelopeyou use are hair and saliva-free. Moisten the stamp with a sponge and wear gloves while handling the materials (don't use thin, rubber latex gloves - fingerprints can go right through these). You should assume that mail sent to all animal rights groups is opened, read, fingerprinted, etc. by the authorities. Be careful NOT to include anything on or in your report that will incriminate yourself or others.

You can also report actions via e-mail to expedite the dissemination of the news to media, etc. Again, use a public computer and set up a false e-mail account on a free public server such as Yahoo or Hotmail (go through anonymizer or rewebber). Send your communiqué from this account and then NEVER access that account again.

Some groups that receive anonymous communiqués:

NA - A.L.F. Press Office
PO Box 3673
Courtenay, B.C.
V9N 7P1, CANADA
e-mail: naalfpo@tao.ca

No Compromise
PO Box 1440
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1440
e-mail: nc-info@nocompromise.org

NA - A.L.F. Supporters Group
PO Box 69597, 5845 Yonge St.
Willowdale, Ontario
M2M 4K3, CANADA
e-mail: naalfsg@envirolink.org

Animal Liberation Front Guidelines

The Animal Liberation Front carries out non-violent direct action against animal abuse by rescuing animals and causing financial loss, usually through the damage and destruction of property, to animal abusers. A.L.F. actions are illegal and therefore activists work anonymously, either individually or in groups, and do not have any centralized organization or address.

To liberate animals from places of abuse and place them in good homes where they may live out their natural lives, free from suffering.

To inflict economic damage to those who profit from the misery and exploitation of animals.

To reveal the horror and atrocities committed against animals behind locked doors by performing non-violent direct actions and liberations.

To take all necessary precautions against harming any animal, human or non-human.

Any group of people who are vegetarians or vegans who carry out actions according to A.L.F. guidelines have the right to regard themselves as part of the A.L.F.

The A.L.F. consists of small autonomous groups of people all over the world who take direct action according to these guidelines.

Importance of Prisoner Support

While others talk about it, the Animal Liberation Front is making animal liberation a reality today. Around the country and the world, selfless vegans put themselves on the line for animals by liberating animals from places of abuse and indirectly saving lives through property damage.

Sometimes they get caught. Without a solid support network for imprisoned animal liberators, the A.L.F. cannot always do what they do. Underground resistance is 1/4 direct action and 3/4 above ground support. The A.L.F. is disabled without this support.

The A.L.F. has stepped up its efforts to become more of a threat than ever and the feds want blood. With activists facing 82 years for freeing animals it's getting serious, and prisoner support is more crucial now then ever before. The activists on the prisoner list are in a desperate situation - either enduring a lonely prison life or facing long prison sentences in an upcoming trial. These people need your support. We cannot support the liberation of animals and abandon those who make it happen.

Prisoner support has many components. It is writing letters to activists in prison whose only joy is a letter of support from the outside. It is monetary support for activists facing upcoming trials. Prisoner support is making flyers, setting up benefit shows, and sending out press releases. At its most base level, prisoner support is letting these activists know they are not forgotten.

Wearing a t-shirt is not enough. Supporting the A.L.F. is reaching out in any way you can to these people whose only crime was bridging the gap between thought and action.

No Compromise Activist Defense Fund

The defense of earth and animals is dependent on those empowered and willing to defend them. Whether Animal Liberation Front, Earth Liberation Front or other warriors in this centuries-old resistance, those individuals brave enough to break free from obedience to immoral and unjust laws deserve our larger movement's support. Their very survival as the earth and animal peoples' frontline defenders depends on it.

The U.S. Department of Justice, FBI and ATF know the unconquerable power of direct action, and its power to effect positive change. They also know in order to crush our resistance they must make examples of our captured warriors. We must take care of the earth and animals' warriors who have sacrificed and risked their own freedom to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

The No Compromise Activist Defense Fund exists to provide support to victims of government repression who are targeted for their actions in defense of our sacred earth mother and her animal nations. Please do your part to help our people in the direct action contingent. Demonstrate your support for the liberation of prisoners of war and action to impede the slaughter of our animal relations. The fund exists to help those accused of any illegal actions for animals.

For the Animals,

Rod Coronado, former A.L.F. prisoner

Please be as generous as you possibly can to support our persecuted comrades in their time of need. Send donations (earmarked "for No Compromise Activist Defense Fund") to:

No Compromise
PO Box 1440
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1440

If you or someone you know is arrested or charged with illegal direct action, contact NC at:

(831) 425-3007 and/or NC-Info@nocompromise.org

Please see the current prisoner list on page 37!

Hope for the Hopeless

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was difficult to hold back our tears. Something as simple as a sip of water was the difference between life and death for this animal, but we knew she was destined to die anyway at the hands of the egg industry and its supporters.

Throughout the night, we helped as many as we were able, but know with absolute certainty, that at this very moment, countless hens are trapped, dying of starvation and dehydration, inches away from food and water.

The sheer number of animals in ISE's Cecilton facility-800,000, a number so great that it's difficult to comprehend-makes it impossible for prompt veterinary caregiving. But, because it's cheaper to let these hens die from illness and disease than it is to provide veterinary assistance, we saw bird after bird after bird with eye infections, cysts, open wounds, and such severe feather-loss that it looked as if they had been plucked.

As you can imagine, the rate of mortality is very high given these cruelly taxing and unsanitary conditions. According to a report by the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, for every 700,000 hens in a modern egg facility, 1,500 birds die each and every week in their cages. We saw dozens of these dead animals still trapped in their cages, forcing their former cell-mates to eat, sleep, and exist in the immediate presence of their decomposing bodies. In the manure pits below the sheds, we found the rotting corpses of countless others, covered with flies and maggots. Many of these hens had managed to escape from their cages and ultimately fell and died amidst the manure. We also saw live hens in the pits, with no access to food or water, left to roam aimlessly amidst the 100 tons of wet manure produced each day.

When morning drew closer, we knew we would have to leave before the workers arrived; and we also knew that we would have to return, again and again. There were just too many animals there for us to provide aid. Just as importantly, the imprisonment of these hens and the tortures inflicted on them had to be exposed to accelerate the abolition of the animal agribusiness industry.

We made repeated nighttime visits over a month-documenting egregious cruelties in photographs and videos. We followed the strategy Patty Mark and her rescue team in Australia perfected over the past 20 years and left a paper trail: We contacted Cecil County state's attorney John Scarborough and notified him of the conditions at the facility, requesting that ISE be prosecuted for animal cruelty; as well, we contacted Sheriff Rodney Kennedy of the Cecil County police department and told him about the cruelty at ISE and asked that he refer the case to the prosecutor's office. To this day, no action has been taken by the prosecutor's office, and Sheriff Kennedy has not gotten back to us.

Having no other options available, we entered ISE's Cecilton facility on May 23, 2001, and rescued eight hens who were in dire need of immediate veterinary attention. These hens have all been seen by a veterinarian and placed in homes where they can now scratch the earth beneath their feet, feel the sun on their backs, and never again exist as mere profit-making tools for the egg industry.

We secured an exclusive story in The Washington Post, which ran the morning of our first press conference, thereby generating interest from other media outlets. Our investigation-specific Web site, www.ISECruelty.com, went live that day as well. So, on two consecutive days, we presented to the media our findings and premiered Hope for the Hopeless, the 18-minute documentary we produced on the investigation and rescue, first in Washington, D.C., and then in Annapolis, Maryland. Our efforts and the plight of egg-laying hens garnered national coverage with a piece running in USA Today, and stories running on United Press International and Associated Press wires. We also received television coverage from Baltimore affiliates.

Our message was simple: The findings of our investigation are utterly typical of a factory farm. These "standard industry practices" are inherently cruel and commodify nonhuman animals to the point that they're not even considered to be animals. People need to adopt veganism. People need to stop killing animals.

Incredibly, the media interest surrounding our efforts far surpassed anything we had imagined. We all know that the general public just doesn't care about animals, more specifically, about chickens. But the tactic of investigations, paper trails to demand action from appropriate authorities (who, most likely, will do nothing but protect the interests of the animal abusers), open rescues, and public announcement of the actions made the story palatable to the mainstream press: We tried to follow the law, were ignored, and were forced to risk our freedom to help others. It's just that the "others" happened to be battery-caged hens. The focus wasn't on us, but rather on why we had to do what we did. The focus was on the animals, where it should be.

This tactic has proven enormously successful in Australia, but it's obviously too soon to tell how or if it will make any difference in the United States. But, in the meantime, we'll all keep working as hard as we must to end animal exploitation. Indeed, we have no choice.

It's been more than one month since the rescue, and not a day passes when I find myself thinking about the eight hens saved from certain death in a battery cage, and the 250 million others who aren't so lucky.

the fur trade today

by Joe Miele
New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance (NJARA)

What you will read in the following report is an overview of the state of the fur industry. This report is a compilation of information taken from a plethora of outlets, including fur trade journals, trapping magazines, industry press releases, newspaper articles, interviews and private correspondence. Sources for the information contained in this report can be supplied upon request.

Covered in this report is news and information on major sectors of the global fur industry, including information on the US retail industry, US trapping statistics and techniques, fur factory-farming, the Canadian seal hunt, the Asian and European fur trades and other areas.

Industry News

The past winter season was the first where the US fur market outperformed most of the world in terms of sales increases over the previous year. The past November and December brought the coldest temperatures in the 48 contiguous states since 1895. This is said to have fueled fur sales.

The Fur Information Council of America is claiming a 21% increase in fur sales in the 2000 calendar year. Based on a survey of 85 fur shops, FICA determined that last year's volume was $1.69 billion, compared with $1.4 billion in 1999. Included in the sales figures are fur-trimmed and lined garments as well as storage and other services. Not exactly a scientific survey, the volume was calculated based on the percentage changes cited by the retailers compared to the previous year, which were weighted by the size of each retailer. It would be interesting to see the exact sales figures. If the sales of coats and garments over $10,000 and accessories with fur trim have been increasing as the trade says they have, the 21% revenue increase may have come despite fewer all-fur coats being sold.

Canadians spent an estimated $325 million on fur in the 12 months ending March 31, 2001. This is an almost 10-percent increase over the estimated $300 million in fur sales recorded the previous year.

Although rising import figures seem to confirm reports that retail sales are up, the percentage increases cannot be seen as a measure of sales growth. Because of the attrition that has continued to take place in the U.S. fur industry, manufacturers increasingly have been relying on imports to supply furs that were once manufactured domestically.

Trapping

The number of animals killed by trappers in the US and

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photo: Erica Sutherland



photo: Erica Sutherland

by Noel Molland

30 Years of Direct Action

It is hard, if not impossible, to say when the Animal/Earth Liberation movement first started. A study of the subject literally takes you back thousands of years to 200 B.C. when people like Pythagoras advocated vegetarianism & animal compassion on spiritual grounds, and to the 1st century A.D. when Plutarch wrote what is widely regarded as the first animal rights literature.

However, the reader will be delighted to know that I am not going to bore you to death with 2000 years of waffle. Instead, I merely intend to look at what occurred 30 years ago this year. But first, to fully understand the events of 30 years ago, we must look slightly further back than that, to the events of 1964.

During the 19th and 20th centuries Britain saw a wealth of Animal Welfare and Rights groups established. However, these groups by and large relied upon the parliamentary way of legal reform to achieve their aims. This process was incredibly slow and achievements were minor. Even the 1911 Animal Protection Act treated animals as property and offered no protection to wild-born creatures. By the mid-nineteen sixties people started to look around for other ways of campaigning and in 1964 John Prestidge found that new style.

In 1964 in Brixham, Devon, England, John Prestidge founded a group that would actively oppose blood sports. Rather than campaigning for parliamentary reforms, John's new group was prepared to directly go out into the fields of Britain and do everything they could, within the law, to prevent the killing of British wildlife: John founded the Hunt Saboteurs Association (H.S.A.).

The popularity of this new form of campaigning was instant. Just a year after the H.S.A. was founded, hunt saboteur groups were active across the English Westcountry in Devon, Somerset and Bristol. Groups also started to emerge outside of the Westcountry in places like Birmingham, Hampshire and Surrey.

Originally a single Devon-based group, the H.S.A. soon became a national network of dedicated activists using lawful methods to disrupt blood-junkies of Britain and to prevent the "green and pleasant lands" from literally becoming the killing fields.

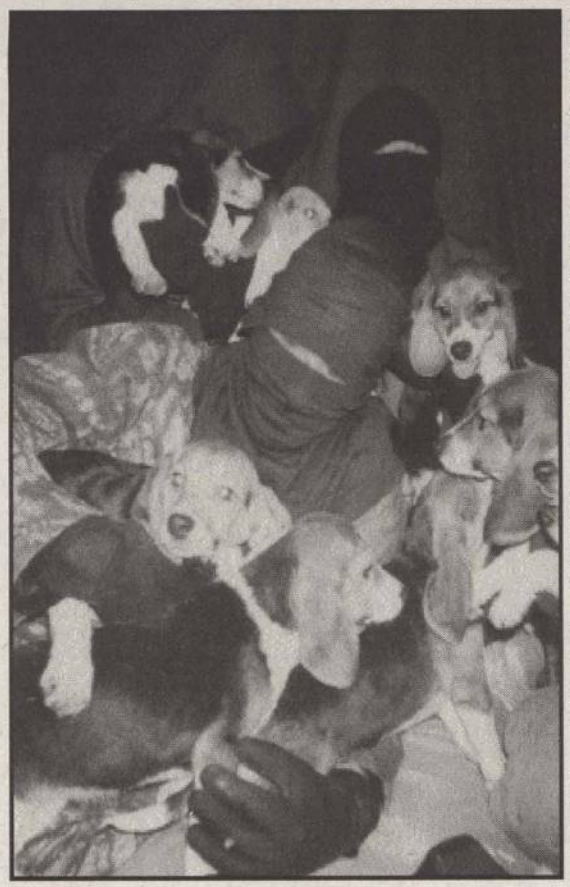
And so it was, in 1971, as part of the ever-expanding H.S.A. network, a new hunt sab group was formed in Luton. The group was founded by a law student named Ronnie Lee. The Luton hunt sabs, like a lot of other hunt sab groups, soon became very successful in saving the lives of animals. Many a hunt soon found their sadistic days entertainment ruined by the Luton Gang.

However, despite the success of the Luton hunt sabs in the field, it soon became apparent to some people within the groups that the strictly legal actions of the H.S.A. could only ever go so far to preventing animal suffering. The problem was that if a hunt is allowed to be active, no matter how good a hunt sab group may be, there is a chance that an animal may be harmed or killed.

Even if the sabs do manage to prevent an animal from being killed, the fear the animal goes through whilst being hunted is tremendous. Contemporary vet reports, gathered at the end of the 20th century, have revealed animals do suffer incredible stress whilst being hunted.

It was out of this recognition (that strictly legal hunt sabotage couldn't totally prevent the suffering of an animal) that Ronnie Lee and a few close friends started to look around for other ways to help prevent suffering. They realized that the only real way to prevent any sort of suffering is to assure that the hunt is never allowed to become active in the first place. As soon as an animal is being chased, she is psychologically suffering as she fears for her life. Therefore she has to be assured that 'the chase' is never allowed to start in the first place. With this aim in mind, Ronnie Lee, Cliff Goodman and possibly two or three other people, decided to form the Band of Mercy in 1972.

The name the Band of Mercy was chosen because it had been the name of an earlier animal liberation direct action group. During the 19th century, an anti-slavery activist named Catherine Smithies had set up a youth wing to the RSPCA called the Bands of Mercy. By and large these youth groups were just normal young supporters of the RSPCA who told stories of heroic animal deeds and who took oaths of compassion to the animals. However some of these young Victorian animal rights activists were a little more zealous than others and went around sabotaging hunting riffles. The activities of the Victorian Bands of Mercy became so great that there was even a theatrical play written during which a group of children sabotages a hunting riffle.



For Ronnie Lee and his companions the Victorian Bands of Mercy were a fine example of direct action, so they decided to adopt their not-strictly-legal approach to saving lives.

Initially, the Band of Mercy concentrated on small actions directed against the hunt during the cub- hunting season. Cub hunting is when young hounds are taught to tear young fox cubs apart in order for the hound to get the taste for killing.

The initial actions of the Band of Mercy were very simple and were basically designed around the idea of disabling the hunt vehicles in order to slow down or even stop the hunt from carrying out its murderous activities.

However, the Band of Mercy was very clear from the beginning that it was not merely carrying out acts of wanton vandalism against those whom they opposed but instead their actions were designed around the idea of 'active compassion'. To this aim the Band would always leave a message to the hunters explaining why the Band had carried out their actions, the logic of animal liberation and to show that there was nothing personal against any one individual person.

The success of the Band of Mercy was soon clear. By carrying out illegal direct action, the Band was able to prevent the hunts. By preventing the hunts from ever becoming active, the Band was safe in the knowledge that not only have they saved the lives of innocent animals, but they had also prevented the psychological suffering of 'the chase'.

Recognizing their true potential for the prevention of animal suffering, the Band then started to think about ways to expand and develop their campaigns. Following on from their early successes the Band soon became much more daring. Towards the end of 1973, the Band learnt about the construction of a new vivisection laboratory. The research laboratory was being built near Milton Keynes for a company called Hoechst Pharmaceutical.

Having learnt about its existence, two of the Band's activists visited the vivisection lab building sight a few times whilst trying to decide the best course of action to be taken. Together these activists realized that if they could prevent the building from ever being completed, then they could prevent the suffering of animals destined to be tortured within its four walls. The Band had to assure the construction could never be finished and eventually decided that the best way to destroy the construction was through the use of arson.

By destroying the building, the Band would prevent the vivisectors from ever being able to start their brand of sadistic 'science'. And even if the damage caused by the fire could be repaired, the restoration work would all cost money that would have to be paid for by Hoechst Pharmaceutical (thus meaning less money to spend on torturing animals).

On November 10th, 1973, the Band of Mercy conducted its first ever action against the vivisection industry. Two activists gained access into the half completed building at Milton Keynes. Once inside the activists set fire to the building. This action was a double watershed for the movement as it was not only the Band's first action against the vivisection industry; it was also the Band's first use to arson.

In that first fire an amazing £26,000 worth of damage was caused. More incredible was six days later, the Band of Mercy returned and started another fire in the same building causing a further £20,000 damage.

To make sure everyone knew why the building was set alight, the Band of Mercy sent a message to the press. The statement read:

"The building was set fire to in an effort to prevent the torture and murder of our animal brothers and sisters by evil experiments. We are a non-violent guerrilla organization dedicated to the liberation of animals from all forms of cruelty and persecution at the hands of mankind. Our actions will continue until our aims are achieved".

After the Milton Keynes arson, the next major action occurred in June 1974 when the Band turned its attention to the bloody seal cull of the Wash along the Norfolk coast.

The seal cull was an annual event and involved hunters going out in two Home Office licensed boats and butchering seals. Seal culling is a bloody attack and the seal has no hope of escape. Knowing how sick the seal cull is the Band obviously wanted to prevent the cull from ever starting. With the goal of preventing the cull from ever starting and regarding the success in the use of arson in the November 1973 action, the Band once again decided to use arson as a campaign tool to destroy the tools of animal murder.

In June 1974 the Band of Mercy set out their second

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major action. Under the cover of darkness, two activists sought out the Home Office licensed boats. Having found the boats, these transporters of death were then set alight. One of the boats was sadly only slightly damaged by the fire; the other however, was totally destroyed.

After conducting this June 1974 action, the Band of Mercy decided that this time they wouldn't leave a message claiming responsibility. Instead they wanted to leave the sealers wondering what on earth had happened, if those responsible would return and if someone else provided two new boats, if these new vessels would meet with the same fiery fate.

That year there was no seal cull at all due to the actions of the Band of Mercy. Also, besides totally halting the seal cull for that year, there was another knock on effect. Because of the fire, the owner of the two Home Office licensed boats went out of business. And having seen one person's business totally destroyed by the actions of these anonymous arsonists, no one was keen to invest the money into a new business that might very well go the same way. Because of this fear no one has ever attempted to re-start a seal culling business and there has never been a seal cull at the Wash since. Because of the actions of two activists, countless numbers of seals have been saved from the bloody annual seal cull.

Looking back on the June 1974 action it is clear for everyone to see that what happened was an amazing success. Not only were de facto seals saved at the time, but generations of seals to come have also been saved from the seal cullers. Sadly, however, despite the fact the Band of Mercy was saving lives and preventing suffering, not everyone in the animal liberation movement approved of their tactics.

In July 1974 a member of the Hunt Saboteurs Association offered a reward of £250 for information that would inform upon the Band of Mercy. Speaking on behalf of the local sab group the person represented, the spokesperson told the press, "We approve of their ideals, but are opposed to their methods."

How anyone can say they approve of a person's ideals and then side against them by offering a reward for their capture is a total mystery. Fortunately, despite this act of treachery, the Band of Mercy had by now realized its power. By performing illegal actions the Band was able to directly save the lives of animals by destroying the tool of torture and death. Even if the weaker members of the movement rejected the Band's ideas, the Band realized its work had to continue. To stop would be to let the animals down.

Following the anti-seal action the Band of Mercy then launched its first intensive wave of campaigning against the vivisection industry. In the months leading up to the action at the Wash, the Band of Mercy had been able to gather some inside information about vivisection laboratory animal suppliers. All of this information was gathered and stored, waiting for the day it could be used to its fullest effect. And so it was, that following the action at the Wash, the Band was able to launch straight into a wave of actions against the vivisection industry.

Between June and August 1974 the Band of Mercy launched eight raids against vivisection lab animal suppliers. The main emphasis of the actions was to cause economic sabotage by either damaging buildings or vehicles. But the Band also reached another landmark in their history by carrying out their first-ever animal rescue during this period.

The first Band of Mercy animal rescue happened in Wiltshire in the English Westcountry. A guinea pig farm was targeted and the activists managed to rescue half a dozen of the inmates. Besides being a landmark action for being the first Band of Mercy animal rescue, the action also produced an unexpected but very welcome outcome. The guinea pig farm owner was so shaken by the raid she began to fear that more activists would turn up during the night. With such a fear of the masked strangers breaking into her home, this uncaring capitalist who profited from animal torture took the only course of sensible action - she closed her business.

Besides targeting the vivisection industry, the Band of Mercy also continued to take actions against the hunt. But not wanting to limit their actions to just two forms of animal abuse, the Band also targeted chicken breeders and the firearm lobby. In July 1974, a gun shop in Marlborough was attacked and damaged. The original Victorian Bands of Mercy could surely be proud that their great deeds were being continued in a twentieth-century form.

For a small group of friends, consisting of less than half a dozen activists, the Band of Mercy was able to make a tremendous impact against the animal abusers and their presence was truly feint. Sadly, however, the Band of Mercy's luck ran out in August 1974.

In August 1974 the Band of Mercy targeted Oxford Laboratory Animal Colonies in Bicester. The first action was a success. But then the Band of Mercy made the mistake of returning to O.L.A.C. two days late (I should point out its very easy with hindsight to say it was a mistake to return, but back then it was a perfectly logical action). It was on this second raid the activists, Ronnie Lee and Cliff Goodman, were spotted by a security guard. After being spotted the police were called and Ronnie and Cliff were promptly arrested.

If the police had hoped that the arrests would bring an end to the Band of Mercy, they were very mistaken. The arrest of Ronnie Lee and Cliff Goodman gave a fresh wave of publicity to the Band of Mercy. Rather than being regarded as terrorists, many people viewed the Band as heroes. These two young men were seen as a sort of latter day Robin Hood for the animals. Ronnie and Cliff were soon canonized as the Bicester Two. Throughout the hearing daily demonstrations took place outside the court. Support for the Bicester Two was very strong and came from the most unlikely of quarters. Even Ronnie Lee's local Member of Parliament, the Free Church Minister Ivor Clemitson, joined in the campaign for their release.

Despite the strong public support for the Bicester Two, both Ronnie Lee and Cliff Goodman were given three years imprisonment. A letter published in the Daily Telegraph shows the anger felt at the outcome of the first animal



liberation trial.

"Many would sympathize with their action against the utterly diabolical and largely unnecessary form of cruelty involved in animal experimentation. These young men, while defying the law, showed great courage, and the sentences of three years imprisonment seems unrealistic and harsh."

Now, it is said you can't keep a good Animal/Earth liberation activist down. This is certainly true in the case of Ronnie Lee. After the sentencing, Ronnie and Cliff split up. Ronnie was moved to Winchester prison and Cliff went back to Oxford prison (whilst on remand both Ronnie and Cliff were
inmates of Oxford prison).

At Winchester prison Ronnie discovered that provisions for vegans in prison were less than desirable. So once at Winchester, to try and assure a decent meal and proper vegan clothing Ronnie went on a hunger strike. This hunger strike gained a great deal of media attention and once again the issue of animal liberation was being openly discussed. With the spotlight once again being focused on animal liberation Ronnie soon expanded his hunger strike demands to include issues revolving around Porton Down, the Government's chemical and biological warfare research station, where horrific animal experimentation goes on.

The media focus about the hunger strike was spectacular. With all the much-unwanted attention, Winchester prison soon had to back down and supply Ronnie with his vegan provisions. Sadly the same outcome did not occur for Porton Down. In tactical manipulation to assure the media spotlight did not
cause the Ministry of Defense any embarrassment, all of the media attention was focused on Ronnie himself, even though it wasn't what he wanted. So it was, that in recognition that the media was moving the debate from animal abuse and onto the hunger strike, Ronnie decided to end his protest.

Sadly, despite Ronnie setting such a good example whilst in prison, the other activists in the Band of Mercy brought the Band to an almost grinding halt whilst the Bicester Two were jailed. The only major event to take place during the time of the Bicester Two's imprisonment was in 1975.

In 1975 Mike Huskisson managed to rescue two beagles from I.C.I. The beagles were being used in tobacco smoking experiments and were appropriately labeled as the 'smoking beagles'. Mike was arrested for the action and charged with burglary. However, knowing how much public support there had been for the Bicester Two, I.C.I. bottled out of a trial fearing the adverse publicity. This meant Mike was acquitted of the charges, I.C.I. was revealed to carry out pointless animal testing and the Bicester Two were given moral boost by Mike's action.

Both Cliff Goodman and Ronnie Lee only served a third of their sentence and were both paroled after 12

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30 30 Years of Direct Action

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DIARY OF ACTIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

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Jan. 1, 2001 ZUSMARHAUSEN - Five hunting platforms are destroyed. In a communique containing two lines, some short reasons for the action are given.

Jan. 5, 2001 - Fifteen geese are liberated from a goose farm in Germany, only days before all the remaining geese at the farm are killed.

Jan. 8-14, 2001 KEMPEN / KERKEN - Twenty-one hunting platforms are destroyed. In a communique the reasons for the actions are explained.

Jan. 2001 DUESSELDORF - Thirteen fur-wearing pedestrians are squirted with butyric acid.

Feb. 3-4, 2001 - The TBF claims responsibility for the destruction of 600 brand new cages of a mink farm in Ven-Zelderheide (NL) in the Dutch-German border area.

Feb. 4-5, 2001 WILLICH-SCHIEFBAHN - Approximately 50 mink are released from the mink farm of Manfred Roßberger. The breeding cards of one and a half sheds are stolen and the alarm system is destroyed.

Feb. 2001 WILLICH-SCHIEFBAHN - The mink farm of Manfred Roßberger is attacked again. The bottle containing the carbon monoxide for killing mink is stolen, a second bunch of keys are stolen (following the theft of the first set the previous year), tractor cables and hoses are cut, cables to a satellite receiver are cut, and the emitters and sensors of the alarm system are stolen.

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months in the spring of 1976.

Being in jail had affected both of the Bicester Two, but in totally different ways. Cliff Goodman came out of prison with just one thought: he didn't want to go back inside. He decided he wasn't a revolutionary and wanted to stick to strictly legal campaigning in the future. Sadly, whilst in prison, Cliff decided to turn informer and gave the police a great deal of information about the use of radios by the Band of Mercy. For this act of treachery, Cliff was given the title of the movements first 'grass' (police informer).

Ronnie, on the other hand, was given a new sense of determination and realized there was widespread public support for animal liberation illegal direct action. Whilst in prison Ronnie read widely on the subject of the labor movement. With this knowledge and his pure determination, he started to plan a more revolutionary animal liberation group, a group that could indeed achieve animal liberation.

All the time Ronnie was imprisoned he was reminded of the animals that are imprisoned. Unlike human prisoners, these animal inmates have no 'release date'. All that await them are suffering and death. Whilst locked up Ronnie was reminded about how defenseless the animals are and how they need someone to stand up and fight on their behalf. Being imprisoned in a cage, like the animals Ronnie was so determined to help, gave him a new sense of solidarity and understanding. Above all, it made him even more determined to fight for animal liberation.

Upon his release Ronnie gathered together the remains of the Band of Mercy. He was also able to find a couple dozen more new recruits for the illegal direct action animal liberation movement. Under Ronnie's gaze the new gathering (of approximately 30 people) was able to plan its future. With Ronnie as a leading light, the group could develop and expand the work of the Band of Mercy. This was a revolutionary group and everyone knew it.

The only problem for the group was the name the Band of Mercy. The name was no longer appropriate. It didn't fit the new revolutionary feel. A new name was needed. A name that would haunt the animal abusers. A name who's very mention could symbolize a whole ideology of a revolutionary movement. A name that was more than a name. With all this in mind Ronnie selected the name the Animal Liberation Front - the A.L.F.



These dead pigs were discarded at a livestock auction investigated by Compassion Over Killing.



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Canada during the 2000-2001 trapping season was reported to be sharply lower than the previous year, partly because of discouraging prices and severe weather conditions. Especially fortunate were raccoons (75% fewer trapped) and muskrats, since prices for their fur have been low. There were also fewer coyotes and wild mink killed by trappers. Depressed prices are discouraging trappers from going after animals that are not likely to bring enough to cover their costs. This may cause the prices of trapped furs to rise during the next round of auctions, spurring on more trappers to venture out into the woods and streams for the upcoming 2001- 2002 trapping season.

Beaver trapping is less popular in Virginia now that perhaps ever before. According to state and federal statistics, only 1,080 beaver trapping permits were sold in 1999, compared with about 5,000 in 1979-80. The trend is the same in Alaska where resident fishing/hunting/trapping licenses declined from 6,230 to 5,331. The Arizona laws that prohibit trapping on public land are having a strong effect on the number of trappers in the state. Several years ago it was not uncommon to have over two thousand licensed trappers in the state. Today, the number of licensed trappers is only sixty-four.

A Washington State ban on body-gripping animal traps took effect Thursday, December 7. The initiative banned the use of body-gripping animal traps and two kinds of poison, but did not affect cage traps and other devices designed to catch animals alive and unharmed. Trappers prefer the body-gripping traps because they are less costly and more efficient.

The Colorado Trappers' Association is attempting to reverse a six-year-old decision made by the Colorado Division of Wildlife, in order to open up trapping and shooting seasons for nine species that are currently protected. The CTA's proposal would allow for the "live" trapping and hunting of swift and grey fox, pine marten, western spotted skunk, long and short-tailed weasels, mink, ringtail, and opossum during designated hunting and trapping seasons. In 1996, Amendment 14 was passed making it illegal to use leg-hold and body gripping traps, snares and toxicants for recreational killing of animals.

The BMP trap testing program is having a hard time with raccoons. Trappers are unable to catch raccoons humanely in leghold traps and are trying to devise ways around this so they can claim certain types of leghold traps are humane. Fox and coyote trappers participating in the BMP field studies are also running into problems since the traps they set are catching many raccoons in addition to foxes and coyotes. Trappers worry that the BMP trap testing trials for Eastern Coyotes will not yield results favorable to their gruesome hobby. Charles Anders, president of the Fur Takers of America (FTA) writes: "I have received a draft of the Eastern Coyote BMP. This draft was written by a drafting group of the IAFWA (International Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies - JM) and the FTA or NTA (National Trappers Association) was not allowed to participate in this drafting group. This again shows that the IAFWA again is not listening to the FTA or NTA on what they have to say." If the FTA or NTA designed the protocols for the coyote tests, they would be sure to do so in such a way that trapping - and leghold traps specifically - would come out smelling like a rose.

Lloyd Duncanson is a retired taxidermist and trapper in Nova Scotia. He says that most trappers are older and very few young people are taking their place as they retire. The number of trapping licenses issued by Nova Scotia has dropped more than 20 percent in the last two years.

In Canada, the main animals trapped for furs are muskrat (34 percent), beaver (22 percent) and marten (17 percent) followed by fox, coyote, squirrel and raccoon.

Factory Farming

According to preliminary estimates, the US will see about 150,000 fewer mink killed on fur factory-farms compared to the 2000 totals. The US total will be approximately 2.65 million killed. Much of the decline is attributed to the hot weather in the Great Lakes, Midwest and Eastern parts of the US that has caused an increase in kit mortality on fur farms during the brief birthing season. Since about 60% to 70% of the kits are born in a five- to six-day window, localized weather patterns can affect the whelping season. Hot winds and weather are causing litters to have on average one less surviving kit.

In contrast to the US numbers, Canadian fur farmers are expected to kill about 100,000 more mink than last year, up to around 1 million. Canadian fur farmers in Nova Scotia who breed mainly dark-furred mink are expected to account for most of the 5% to 10% increase in mink killed this year.

The Danes are expected to kill about 3% more mink, bringing the mortality figure to approximately 11.2 million, but other Scandinavian and European fur farmers are not expected to increase the number of mink killed in 2001.

Mink farmers are concentrating on breeding larger mink than in the past. To increase the size of the animals, more melatonin implants will be used than ever before. Melatonin capsules implanted under the skin on the necks of mink tend to cause the animals' fur to "prime" up to a month quicker than mink without the implants. Because of this, the animals are killed up to a month earlier and the mink farmer can save money on feed and other costs. The use of melatonin also results in a mink that is from a half to a full size larger than a standard animal. Because it also may have an adverse effect on a female's fertility, melatonin is used only on those that will no longer be kept for breeding.

Fur farm scientists readily concede that disease is a major problem when confining animals in unnatural conditions. Dr. Robert Westlake of Detroit Lakes, MN says that three-day enteritis (corona virus) is "the No. 1 problem in mink today." The cause of this condition is unknown. Dr. John Gorham of Washington State University in Pullman, Washington says, "about 10-15% of the deaths on blue iris farms (in the west) are from pussy lung." The prevalence of AD (Aleutian Disease) on mink farms is very high, reported Dr. Gary Durant of the Fur Breeders Agricultural Cooperative in Sandy, UT. "But we're not any closer to achieving a vaccine to prevent the infection," he said.

Mink on eleven mid-western farms have developed a form of TSE (Transmissible Spongiform Encephelopathy) after eating meat from US cows and other animals, including fellow mink, who had died of undiagnosed ailments. When trade groups like the Fur Commission USA claim that mink on fur farms are fed "agricultural leftovers that humans do not use" they actually mean the mink are fed rendered meat from animals too heavily diseased to be used for human food. This leads to incurable diseases in mink.

Fur farmers readily admit that the animals on their factory farms are nothing more than breeding machines. If they fail to pump out a consistent number of kits, they are killed. "When selecting for better production, we count the kits the first day and ranch out at three weeks. If they haven't maintained at least a five, they don't stay." said Mike Albers of Albers Fur Farm in Medford, WI. The length of time Mark Meseck of Zimbal Minkery of Sheboygan and Ootsburg, Wisconsin keeps a female and a male varies according to color, "For the blue, no more than two years and darks and browns up to four years." Albers keeps females three years and males two years.

Seals

Each year, around 5 million Canadian harp seals migrate from Greenland to give birth and mate on the pack ice off the Newfoundland coast and gulf of St. Lawrence. Between three and four weeks later, the atrocity known as the Canadian seal hunt begins. The sealing industry was almost shut down by protesters in the late 1970s, but roared back to life in 1996 when the Canadian government started subsidizing the sale of seal meat. During the past 10 years, Canada's sealing industry has killed at least 1.4 million seals, with about one million of those animals killed in the past four years alone.

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what you hand in).

You are permitted to discover matters that may not be admissible at trial so long as the discovery request is reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. Common objections are that the request:

(1) is not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence (and intended to annoy and harass the responding party), (2) is vague; (3) is overly broad and unduly burdensome; (4) (for document requests) does not reasonably specify the things or category of things to be produced. You can also raise privileges (Fifth Amendment, attorney-client privilege, attorney work product, etc.).

There are many "form books" and practice manuals at law libraries, which you should consult. Also, the book that contains your state's Rules of Civil Procedure will probably also have Discovery Guidelines, Form Interrogatories, and Form Requests for Documents. In the same book, check for discovery guidelines and forms for the local federal court; even if you are in state court, these will be helpful. Lastly, don't be shy about stealing language from the other parties' requests (though don't be surprised if they object to their own requests!).

If the other party objects or does not respond to your discovery requests, you need to attempt to resolve the dispute before asking the court for help. So write letters (keeping copies) and keep a telephone log to document your efforts. If you cannot resolve the dispute, you then file a "Motion to Compel Discovery." A "motion" is simply a written document that explains, in separately numbered sentences, what the problem is and that asks (moves) the court to order something. Though jurisdictions may vary, a safe bet is to sign, at the end of the motion to compel discovery, a section titled "Certificate of Efforts to Resolve Discovery Dispute," in which you detail your efforts. In the first numbered paragraph to your motion, let the court know that the certificate appears at end of your motion. For other motions, you probably do not need a separate certificate, but you usually need to try to obtain consent to any motion before filing it, and state in the first sentence when and how you contacted the other side and whether or not they consent to the motion. If they do, include the word "Consent" at the beginning of the title to the motion (e.g., "Consent Motion to Continue Trial Date").

Every motion needs a typed proposed order, with the motion and order each being double spaced and containing the caption of the case. The caption for a motion or order is similar to the caption for a Complaint (see above), except you don't list the addresses and you only list the first person of each category of parties (e.g., first plaintiff and first defendant), followed by "et al." if there is more than one of that type of party. The proposed order, below the caption, contains the title "ORDER," then contains something like "Upon consideration of the Motion [rest of title for motion], and any responses thereto, it is thereupon this _____ day of _____ [year], [hit RETURN and TAB keys] ORDERED, that [insert what you want ordered]; and it is further [hit RETURN and TAB keys] ORDERED, that [insert whatever else you want, and so on]." Then you have a line for the judge's signature, under the line put "JUDGE", and under "JUDGE" put the name of the court. Then at the bottom put "cc:" and list the names and addresses of all attorneys and pro se parties, including yourself.

Motions practice, as it's called, can vary significantly from state to state, so check the Rules of Civil Procedure.

Now, a brief overview of some specific types of discovery:

INTERROGATORIES:

These are written questions you send to the other party's attorney. There is a limit of 25 or so interrogatories per side, depending on the court. The other party will answer the questions with the assistance of counsel. The trick is to create a question that will require them to provide you information or that will limit their evidence. For instance, you might ask "If you contend that there was probable cause to arrest the Plaintiff, state all facts upon which the contention is based." This forces them to either give you information or be precluded from presenting evidence in the future (unless they object to this or any other discovery request). Depending on how many interrogatories you have already used up, don't be afraid to ask the same things in different ways. Also, subject to discovery deadlines and the aggregate total of requests, you can later submit additional sets of interrogatories drafted according to what they originally provide you. Other than getting their version of what happened, interrogatories commonly request information regarding eyewitnesses, persons the party believes may have information concerning the occurrence (and the subject of the information believed to be possessed), and information regarding expert witnesses.

DEPOSITIONS:

At a deposition, you ask questions of another party in person, under oath, and before a court reporter. To do a deposition, you contact the other party's attorney, clear a date, then send out a "Notice of Deposition." They will probably send you a Notice of Deposition as well, so you will get to see what one looks like. Then you look in the yellow pages and arrange for a court reporter. Depositions can be expensive, but often they are the only way to get really good information. Although their attorney will be present, the attorney does not help them answer each question (though they may try if there is whispering back and forth, state on the record that they are having a discussion and demand that they stop unless there is a privilege involved). In addition to parties and their employees, you can depose non-party witnesses, although they must be served with a subpoena as well as the Notice of Deposition. If you focus your deposition, you can depose a person for $200.00 or less; if you do them all the same day, you might even be able to depose 2 or 3 witnesses for that amount. Although depositions can be costly, often they are necessary and greatly enhance your case.

REQUEST FOR INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THINGS:

Very similar to interrogatories, except that instead of asking them to answer questions, you ask them to produce documents and permit the inspection and photographing of objects.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS:

Requests for Admission are like interrogatories but a bit more focused and specific. They can further narrow the scope of your trial by getting the other party to admit certain, specific things. Failing to answer is the equivalent of an admission, so be careful if you ever receive these.

RESOURCES

The following are some useful references:

(1) Rules of Civil Procedure. Every state has "Rules of Civil Procedure," which provide various rules regarding service of process and other papers, filing of motions, discovery (a way of learning what the other side has and knows), trial procedure, and will also often have sample legal papers. In Federal Court, in addition to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, every federal court has its own "Local Rules." While the Rules of Civil Procedure can be located at any library with a legal collection, you might consider purchasing a copy.

(2) Civil Pattern Jury Instructions. Located at any law library (at a public law school or a courthouse), jury instructions are good for knowing the elements of various torts. In addition to using them throughout the litigation, they are good to look at before anything is filed so that you can know what types of causes of action you might have. Every state ought to have at least one publication of pattern jury instructions. If you are thinking about pursuing a federal claim as well, take a look at one or more books containing federal pattern jury instructions.

(3) Practice Manuals and Other Books. Every state should have a variety of practice manuals, which can be found in any law library. We strongly recommend "Representing Yourself in Court" by Nolo Press (also available for purchase on the Web at www.nolopress.com). You can also find federal manuals and other useful publications. Browse the library and talk to the law librarian (especially since the really good stuff is often hidden behind the counter).

(3) Web site
http://www.cobar.org/static/members/tcl/1997/november/civilsuits.htm

The Fur Trade Today

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Last season's hunt was hurt by slumping prices for pelts and rising fuel costs and "only" 91,000 seals were killed. As a result of the low kill total, Canadian Fisheries Minister Herb Dhaliwal increased the kill quota for 275,000 animals in 2001. Such a quota would leave seal numbers 20,000 short of the level needed to sustain the population.

In a damning report produced by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), five eminent vets who monitored the hunt found that approximately 42% of the seals caught were likely to have been conscious when they were skinned. The vets examined 76 seal carcasses after being skinned, and their examinations of the skulls revealed that 42% showed moderate, minimal, or no signs of any cranial injury which would have caused the seals to be unconscious when their skin was removed. Videotape of the hunt has revealed that in almost 80% of kills recorded, no effort was made by the hunter to check that the seals were unconscious. In 40% of cases, the hunter left the animal on the ice before returning to club him/her a second time, suggesting that s/he was conscious and suffering in the meantime.

The Canadian hunt is the only commercial mammal hunt in the world to take place in spring, at the height of the birthing season. The killing of newborn seals - those that still have their white fur is outlawed, but because the animals lose their white coats just 12 days after birth, up to 90% of those caught in the Canadian hunt are between 14 days and one year old.

In addition to Canada, several other countries still club seals for their fur, including Norway, Greenland, and Russia. The annual Greenland kill of harp seals has been increasing in recent years and is now reported to exceed 100,000 animals.

76,000 baby seals were to be slaughtered for their skins during a massive hunt in Russia. The hunt began in February, 2001 when thousands of pups were clubbed to death on the surface of the frozen White Sea. Thousands of other seals were brought to shore alive in nets and sent to "farms" where they will be kept until their coats are ready for the pelt market. Seal products are banned in the US under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, but they are still sold in Canada and Asia, and certain seal products are allowed in the European Union.

International Updates

Business in much of the major European markets for the 2000-2001 fur season was described as fair to good, but in Spain business was said to be excellent. Sales were sluggish in Italy but were somewhat better in France. The only thing that saved the once huge German market from having a disastrous year was the popularity of fur trimmings and linings. In Japan where non-luxury items reflect the bulk of fur sales, rabbit fur and squirrel fur items under $1000 are the only fur items with a significant demand. Much of the fur purchases in China are in the form of trimmings and such accessories as hats. These accessories account for more than 50% of all Chinese fur use.

Denmark is the world leader in mink killing and will kill about 3% more mink this year than in 2000. Last year, Denmark killed 10.9 million mink out of a world total of slightly over 27 million. This would indicate this year's kill will be nearly 11.2 million mink.

Ross Finnie, Scotland's Minister for Rural Affairs announced that the Scottish Executive is committed to

banning fur farming in Scotland. There are no licensed fur farms in Scotland at the present time, but the ban would ensure that any existing fur farming businesses in England and Wales could not relocate to Scotland and continue to legally operate past the January 2003 deadline. As a result of this turn of events, several UK mink factory-farmers are planning to establish factory-farms in Denmark and possibly Poland. By doing this, they will be able to remain in business after the ban on fur farming goes through.

In January the Swedish government instituted very strict fox farming standards, causing a virtual ban on fox farming. Factory-farmers will have to submit their fox cages to the Board of Agriculture for approval before they can be used, and no cages currently in use will meet the new Swedish animal welfare standards. The Board says that it will take years before they can approve a new kind of cage and no exceptions to this new law will be made.

The sable is an animal that is a cousin of both the weasel and the mink, and resembles a cross between a cat



and a weasel. Preferring to hunt at night, sables are carnivores that feed on mice and squirrels but they also have been known to eat pine nuts. Sable fur is the most expensive in the world, with full-length coats selling for $100,000 or more. The most valuable skins come from sables that were hunted or trapped rather than from factory-farms. Sable are chased by dogs and treed before being shot in the eyes to preserve the fur. Between October and mid-February, Russian hunters and trappers will kill up to 250,000 sables from an estimated population of about 1.1 million animals. The Russian fur trade has a monopoly on the marketing of sable skins.

After the Soviet Union collapsed, Russia went from having about 200 mink farms to about 50 in operation today, and there are only five sable farms remaining. The Pushkinsky state farm is the largest and most successful fur factory farm in Russia. They kill 15,000 sables by poison injection each year, representing about half the 30,000 factory-farmed sables killed in Russia each year. By official figures, Russia has a $1 billion fur industry, with the bulk of the business being in exports. Smugglers and poachers raise the total to approximately $2.5 billion.

Russian trappers annually kill about one million squirrels; 150,000 to 200,000 sable; 150,000 to 200,000 Muskrat; 50,000 Kolinsky (an animal related to the mink); 1,500 Lynx; 100-150 Wolverine; 1,500 raccoon dog (a different animal than the North American Raccoon). The numbers are estimates since the government no longer keeps an official tally.

As a side note, dog fur is not taboo in Russia - hunters have been known to kill their dogs and use their skin for hats and clothing when the dogs disappoint them.

On January 29, the Council of Ministers in the Netherlands agreed with the proposal from the Minister of Agriculture L.J. Brinkhorst to ban fur farming on grounds of public morality. Brinkhorst suggests the nearly 200 mink factory farms be phased out over a period of ten years without compensation to farmers. The Netherlands kills 2.7 million mink annually - 10% of the world total, with almost all the skins exported. The Council will introduce the bill to the parliament as soon as possible. The mink farmers want similar compensation for losing their businesses as the UK farmers have gotten.

The Netherlands is home to about 200 mink farms. There are also fox and chinchilla farms but they will be phased out beginning 2007. The Green Party commissioner for the environment of Schleswig-Holstein (Germany), Klaus Mueller, together with the commissioner for consumer protection of Berlin, Renate Kuenat, wants to see if farming of minks, foxes and weasels for fur can be outlawed. Mueller is drafting a Federal law to be introduced this summer to end fur farming.

Switzerland is a country without any fur farms. Since 1978 there has been legislation that allows keeping of mink and foxes for fur only if the animals are kept in zoo-like conditions because Switzerland views mink and fox as wild and not domesticated animals. Foxes must at least live on natural ground of an area of 20 square meters for two foxes. A mink must at least have 6 square meters of space plus a 1 square meter water pool. These regulations make it impossible to have an economically profitable fur farm in Switzerland.

Austria is another European country that has no fur farms. There were a couple of hundred farms in Austria until 1990 when the Konrad Lorenz institute for behavioral studies released a report on fur farming. The report concluded that animals cannot be kept on fur farms without inhibiting their natural behavior. As a result, six of the nine provinces banned fur farming outright. Three of the remaining provinces enacted legislation so strict that fur farming was stopped in practice (the legislation either demands swimming possibilities for the minks or bans cages). The last Austrian fur farm closed in 1998.

Italy has a total of 54 mink farms that kill 230,000 mink annually. Recently, Italy has adopted stricter welfare standards concerning mink farming and beginning January 1, 2008 there will be a ban on keeping "fur producing" animals in cages. The mink must then have availability for different nesting places, tunnels, ground and soil, branches to climb on and a water pool of 2x2 meters. These are important steps, as the consequences of this legislation will most likely mean the end of the fur farming industry.

Closings, expansions

The Cornyhaugh Mink Farm near Newcastle (England) announced that it is going out of business, only three months after a Government Bill outlawing fur farming was approved by the House of Commons.

Another UK fur factory-farmer has gassed every one of the 6,500 pregnant mink he held on his fur farm. Michael Cobbledick will now concentrate his activities in Denmark where he breeds 60,000 mink. Before the Fur Farm (Prohibition) Act was passed into law, Cobbledick killed around 30,000 mink annually.

The sudden closure of a controversial fur farm has local residents and activists celebrating. Terry Smith's Windmill Farm, Child Okeford, near Blandford (UK) has been closed down after several thousand mink were removed, only four months after the government passed the Fur Farm (Prohibition) Act.

On April 18, Len Kelsall, owner of the mink farm in Staffordshire (UK) and chair of the UK Fur Breeders Association, announced he had gone out of business after killing the 3,000 remaining mink on his fur farm.

London's Calman Links has taken the boards off their windows to reveal an empty shop. They have also taken down their lettering and Queen's crest from the front of the store.

Both Gianni Versace and Joseph removed fur from their shops on New Bond Street, London some months ago, following a day of action in November that targeted these shops. They kept fur in their branches in Sloane Street, but after protests by activists the fur was removed.

"Brothers Clothing AB" has confirmed that they will not buy any more fur products and management has instructed each store to immediately remove all fur in the store. Brothers has 49 stores in Sweden and Norway. After only a few phone calls of protest, Swedish department store company Jeans & Clothes, JC, has sent faxes to each of their stores asking them to stop selling all fur trim.

The 52-store Swedish clothing store chain "Stadium" has decided to stop buying fur products after pressure from CAFT-Sweden. Stadium, which sold rabbit fur trim both last year and this year, markets its clothing to young people. Stadium has decided to no longer carry fur when their current stock sells out.

Two Cassels department stores have gone fur free. CAFT-Sweden is now working with Cassels to get their decision in writing. CAFT-Sweden is continuing their campaign with another Cassels just outside of the city of Gothenburg.

European retailer C&A Brenninkmeyer has issued a press release saying that they will stop selling all-fur coats. C&A operates 438 stores in twelve European countries with 184 of them in Germany. The chain still continues to carry fur-trimmed textile and leather apparel.

Toronto-based "Groupe HSG Panache" is in financial difficulty. HSG operates all the fur departments in the seven Hudson's Bay department stores that carry furs, as well as such independent retailers as McComber/Grosvenor in Montreal, Northland Furs in North Bay, ON., and Lister Furs in Edmonton, AB. According to market sources, HSG owes about $1 million (U.S.) to the trade and about $3.5 million to tax.

Avanti Furs of Norcross, Ga., has closed down.

Furs by Weiss of Cleveland has purchased Maple Furs in Oak Park, Ill. This is Weiss' third location in the Chicago area and it brings the company's total number of stores to 11, all located primarily in the East and Midwest.

Joe Miele can be reached by calling the NJARA office at (732)-446-6808 or through e-mail at veegman@erols.com

DIARY OF ACTIONS

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Jan. 5 PHILADELPHIA, PA - Pride of the Sea (fish distributor) vehicle damaged, locks glued. Claimed by ALF.

Jan. 8 RIDGEWOOD, NJ - Bon-Ton Furs has holes drilled in the roof, allowing snow and rain to damage property. Claimed by ALF.

Jan. 13 PHILADELPHIA, PA - Jacques Ferber Furs has window smashed. Unclaimed.

Jan. 15 WASHINGTON, D.C. - Neiman Marcus and Popeye's on Georgia have 5 windows smashed. Claimed by ALF.

Jan. 18 PHILADELPHIA, PA - Jacques Ferber Furs has window etched. Claimed by ALF.

Jan. 21 MINEOLA, NY - Tsantos Furs has all windows smashed and spray painted. Claimed by ALF.

Jan. 21 WEST HEMPSTEAD, NY - Strathmore Furs has all windows smashed and spray painted. Claimed by ALF.

Jan. 27 PHILADELPHIA, PA - Pride of the Sea fish distributor truck tires are slashed. Claimed by ALF.

Feb. 4 WASHINGTON, D.C. - McDonald's has 9 windows smashed. Unclaimed.

Feb. 4 CHARLOTTE, NC - Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus have spray painted slogans on the animal transport train cars. Claimed by ALF.

Feb. 5 NEW YORK, NY - Carolina Furs window smashed. Claimed by ALF.

Feb. 5 BUFFALO, NY - Burger King and University of Buffalo windows and glass doors are smashed and painted. Claimed by anonymous activists.

Feb. 6 NEW YORK, NY - Corlina Furs window is smashed. Claimed by ALF.

Feb. 8 NEW YORK, NY - Alexandro's Furs has spray painted messages. Claimed by ALF.

Feb, 14 MILLER PLACE, LI, NY - An articulated loader and a pickup truck at Melo's Construction Corporation is set on fire. Claimed by ELF.
Feb. 20 VISALIA, CA - A fire is set at the Delta & Pine Land Co. Research cotton gin. Claimed by ELF.

Feb. 22 CHEVY CHASE, MD - Miller's Furs has 2 windows and a glass door etched. Claimed by ALF.

Feb. 27 CYBERSPACE - Electronic attack on Stephens Inc. Website. Claimed by Animal Liberation Tactical Internet Response Network.

March 2 LONG ISLAND CITY, NY - Schaller and Weber Meat Packing Plant has 2 trucks burned. Claimed by ALF.

March 2 BALTIMORE, MD - Burger King windows are smashed, gas is poured inside. Unclaimed.

March 5 COLUMBUS, OH - Ohio State University Bricker Hall (administrative building) and president's home are spray painted, locks are glued. Unclaimed.

March 5 HUNTINGTON, LI, NY - Eight 10x10 insulated plate glass windows and one neon sign at the Old Navy Outlet Center are smashed. Claimed by ELF.

March 13 CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I. - KFC and McDonald's have spray painted messages, locks glued. Claimed by ALF.

March 17 BEAUMONT, CA - 468 chickens are rescued from Sunny-Cal Eggs. Claimed by ALF.

March 31 EAST MILLSTONE, NJ - 14 beagles are rescued from Huntingdon Life Sciences. Claimed by anonymous activists.

April 2 ALBERTVILLE, MN - Attempted arson at Nike. Claimed by ELF.

April 5 ARLINGTON, WA - National Foods egg farm warehouse is burned down, $1.5 million damages. Unclaimed.

April 15 NEW PALTZ, NY - Jack's Butcher and Deli has locks glued. Claimed by ALF.

April 19 SNOHOMISH, WA - Brainard's Fur Farm has 200 mink released and $35,000 in damages. Claimed by ALF

April 28 EASTPORT, NY - 247 ducks rescued from Cornell University Duck Laboratory. Claimed by ALF.

April 28 CASTROVILLE, CA - 28 rabbits rescued from ICRC Company. Claimed by ALF.

May 8 CA - dog and cat boarding kennels are spray painted with messages. Claimed by ALF.

May 13 CYBERSPACE - Primate Products' website is hacked into. Claimed by ALF.

May 25 ST. CLAIR SHORES, MI - Butcher Boy Meats has 6 trucks monkey wrenched, buildings spray painted. Claimed by ALF.

May 27 ALICE, TX - Dairy Queen has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

June 6 MCALLEN, TX - Honeyglazed Ham and Deli has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

June 8 PRINCETON, NJ - Huntingdon Life Sciences has executive's car window smashed. Claimed by anonymous activists.

June 11 SALT LAKE CITY, UT - Bed, Bath & Beyond has 45 windows and 4 doors smashed. Claimed by ALF (voted least impressive action of the year, by the NAALFPO).

June 13 LONG ISLAND, NY - 5 branches of Bank of New York are damaged and spray painted, and 25 windows are smashed. Claimed by ALF and ELF.

June 16 CYBERSPACE - GlaxoSmithKline's website is hacked. Claimed by anonymous activists.

June 18 GAITHERSBURG, MD - Wendy's windows are smashed, wood stain is poured inside. Unclaimed.

June 20 CYBERSPACE - Multiple website attacks: Pharmacia, Covance, Stephens, Warner-Lambert, Wacker, and Merial. Claimed by anonymous activists.

June 21 LOS ANGELES, CA - Bank of New York building is extensively stickered. Unclaimed.

June 29 NEW PALTZ, NY - Bruderhoff Farms has machines and vehicles monkey wrenched and an attempted fire. Claimed by ALF.

July TORONTO, ON - 1 chicken rescued from slaughterhouse truck. Unclaimed.

July 4 MCALLEN, TX - Pizza Hut has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

July 14 MCALLEN, TX - Pizza Hut has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

July 18 MCALLEN, TX - McDonald's has minor damage, spray paint. Claimed by The Frogs.

July 21, LA GRANGE, KY - Dynegy power plant has 15 vehicles monkey wrenched, slogans spray painted, and 12 windows are smashed. Claimed by ELF.

July 22 MCALLENS, TX - Bob's Fly Shop has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.



July 24 SANDS POINT, NY - Bank of New York executive's yacht is damaged. Claimed by Pirates for Animal Liberation.
Aug. 2 KELOWNA, BC - dog breeder vehicle is monkey wrenched, slogans are spray painted. Unclaimed.

Aug. 3 COMFORT, TX - Dairy Queen has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

Aug. 7 PREMONT, TX - Dairy Queen has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

Aug. 9 RIO GRANDE VALLEY, TX - cock fighter breeder has minor damage to home. Claimed by The Frogs.

Aug. 18 MCALLEN, TX - Pet store has minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

Sept. 3 HANOVER, IL - 750 ducks released and an unknown number of ducklings are rescued from Whistling Wings. Claimed by ALF.

Sept. 7 LEWISVILLE, TX - Burger King has minor damage. Claimed by ALF.

Sept. 8 TUCSON, AZ - McDonald's building is burned down, $500,000 in damages. Claimed by ALF and ELF.

Sept. 19 TUCSON, AZ - McDonald's Ronald McDonald statue is spray painted. Claimed by ALF and ELF.

Sept. 20 ALAMOGORDO, NM - Coulston Foundation, White Sands Research Center maintenance building is burned down, $1million in damages. Claimed by ALF.

Oct. 15 SUSANVILLE, CA - BLM Litchfield Wild Horse and Burro Corrals has 200 horses released and hay barn burned down, $85,000 in damages. Claimed by ELF.

Oct. 16 ELLSWORTH, IA - Scott Nelson Mink Ranch has 2000 mink released (media reports 1400). Claimed by ALF.

Oct. 19 GLENWOOD, IA - 50 ducks, 50 geese, and 62 pigeons released from Double T Farms. $4,000 in property damage. Claimed by ALF.

Oct. 23 ELLSWORTH, IA - Scott Nelson Mink Ranch has 800 mink released (previously released and recaptured mink from Oct. 16) and $65,000 in damages from both raids. Farm is likely to shut down. Claimed by ALF.

Oct. 24 LONG ISLAND, NY - Bank of America has 30 windows smashed. Claimed by ALF Special Operations: HLS.

Oct. 31 ATLANTA, GA - Sign put on lawn of Stephens Inc. employee's house. Claimed by anonymous activists.

Nov. 11 LA JOLLA, CA - Sierra Biomedical (subsidiary of Charles River Laboratories) has $50,000 property damage. Claimed by ALF.

Nov. 22 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX - Fast food restaurant has lock jammed. Claimed by The Frogs.

Nov. 23 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX - Merchandise destroyed, locks glued, spray painting at souvenir stores selling animal products and sea food restaurant. Claimed by The Frogs.

Nov. 24 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX - 12 perch, one snail, and 2 hermit crabs are released. Butcher and fishing trap have minor damage. Claimed by The Frogs.

Nov. 25 NEW YORK, NY - Stephens Inc. building exterior is paint bombed. Claimed by ALF.

Nov. 25 POUGHKEEPSIE, NY - Vassar College, Olmsted Hall of Biological Sciences has exterior of building spray painted. Claimed by ALF.

Nov. 25 DALLAS, TX - Flour is used in an empty lot to spell "Stephens kills." Claimed by Bakers for Animal Liberation.

Nov. 26 DALLAS, TX - Bank of America has 3 ATM machines stickered and glued. Claimed by ALF.

Dec. 5 NORTH ROSE, NY - 30 beagles, 10 ferrets are rescued from Marshall Farms. Claimed by ALF.

Dec. 5 DALLAS, TX - Stephens Inc. offices stickered. Claimed by anonymous activists.

Dec. 8 NEW YORK, NY - Stephens Inc. Has office building

windows and walls painted. Claimed by Santa and His Elves.

Animal Liberation Prisoners

Greg Avery FF9142, [redacted] Weare, Portland, DT5 1PZ, England. Servir[redacted] months for helping organise the SHAC campaign. **released**

Heather Avery. TE1951, HM[redacted] Highpoint, Stradishall, Newmarket, Suffolk, [redacted] 9YG, England. Serving 12 months for helping to organise the SHAC campaign. **released**

Jon Batchelor, Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, 10520 Judicial Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030, USA. On remand charged with assaulting a cop during a demo.

Neil Bartlett, FW7083, HMP Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1EA, England. Awaiting sentencing for six bomb-hoax telephone calls made to various Animal & Earth abusers.

Dave Blenkinsop EM7899, HMP Bullingdon, Oxfordshire OX6 0PZ England. Serving 3 years for attacking the Managing Director of HLS. Also serving 18 months for rescuing 600 guinea pigs from a lab supplier.

Mel Broughton DJ8216, HMP The Mount, Bovingdon, HP3 0NZ, England. Serving 4 years for conspiracy to cause explosions.

Natasha Dellamaigne TE1952, HMP Highpoint, Stradishall, Newmarket, CB8 9YG, England. Serving 12 months for helping to organise the SHAC campaign.

Rae Newlands GN6613, HMP Holloway, London, N7 0NU, England. On remand on various charges including bomb hoaxes, arson, criminal damage, harassment and conspiracy.

Peter Schnell, c/o Santa Cruz Two Defense, PO Box 583, Eugene, OR 97440, USA. Serving 24 months for possession of incendiary devices. It is claimed the devices were to be used to torch dairy trucks.

Geert Waegemans, Begijnestraat 42 2000 Antwerp, Belgium. Serving 4 years for an attempted arson. Awaiting sentencing for 4 more arsons. Controversially Geert named police informant, Anja Hermans, as aiding him with his actions after she named him as an ALF activist & alerted the police to his activity

Matthew Whyte #99477-111, Taft Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 7001, Taft, CA, USA 93268. Sentenced to 14 months for possession of incendiary devices. It is claimed the devices were to be used to torch dairy trucks.

Prisoner Updates

by Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network

Neil Bartlett Enters Guilty Pleas

ELP has just heard from Neil Bartlett. In his letter he states that last month he entered a number of guilty pleas.

"I went guilty on six charges (bomb hoaxing GlaxoSmithKline, Shell, ExxonMobil, Novartis, Morgan Stanley and Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council). I went not guilty on two (Grieves & Hawkes and the Wolverhampton & Dudley Brewery). These were dropped."

Neil goes on to explain that he targeted GlaxoSmithKline, Shell, Novartis and Morgan Stanley because of their "support for vivisection" and because they "do business with HLS [Huntingdon Life Sciences]."

Neil states "ExxonMobil was targeted because they funded George Bush's election campaign and were duly rewarded by being allowed to drill for oil in protected wilderness (the Arctic or Alaska)."

Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council was targeted because they "were shooting seagulls despite being offered humane alternatives."

The full effects of Neil's bomb hoaxes is unknown. But in court the police stated that Morgan Stanley alone lost £300,000 due to the disruption caused by the hoax, while the Shell hoax resulted in the London Eye, Waterloo Train Station, and all the surrounding roads being evacuated.

Sarah Gisbourne is Out

In December 2001 we sent out an Urgent ELP! Bulletin stating that SHAC activist Sarah Gisbourne had been remanded into prison. Happily, as you all know, her time inside was very short and ELP is happy to report that Sarah has received a non-custodial one year probation sentence at the end of last year.

Support Trash

On Halloween 2001 British eco-activist "Trash" was caught allegedly "trashing" quarrying equipment at the Nine Ladies quarry site (a quarry which is threatening both a unique protected moorland area and an ancient standing stone circle known as the Nine Ladies). Judging by past sentencing for ecotage at this protest site, if found guilty, Trash is guaranteed a prison sentence. As far as we are aware, Trash is not yet inside. However, his supporters are asking that everyone send him letters of support immediately to help keep his spirits strong. Please send letters of support to: Trash, c/o Nine Ladies Anti-Quarry Camp, Lees Cross, Lees Road, Stanton Lees, Nr Matlock, Derbyshire, England.

Support Andy

Former Animal Liberation prisoner Andy Stepanian was sentenced to six months imprisonment for both "Verbal Obstruction of Governmental Administration" (translation: he yelled at a cop who was arresting his friend) and for resisting arrest himself.

Please send letters of support to: Andrew Stepanian NCC 02001777, 8/8/78, c/o Nassau County Correction , 100 Carman Ave., East Meadow, NY 11554-1160

Or alternatively you can e-mail your letters to lettersforandy@yahoo.com. These e-mails do not go straight to Andy (no prisoner has access to e-mail), but instead the e-mail go to his supporters who will print out the e-mails and post them on to Andy.

In addition to the letters of support, Andy's friends have stated that people should "demonstrate your support for Andy and the cause for which he is in jail right now by becoming active (or even MORE active) in the campaign to close Huntingdon Life Science."

Working Undercover

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Those are some of the longest seconds in my life, but a jumpy shot is worthless. I had a pocket-sized JVC digital with a foldout screen that made it possible to alternately check the shot and glance over my shoulder.

I used a hidden body cam when another co-worker was present. The technology is getting more sophisticated all the time. Long nights in lonely motel rooms spent soldering ever-breaking wires to jury-rigged equipment are history. Now these units are made fool-proof with vibrators that tell you if your rolling or not or if the camera isn't functioning. The latest addition of transmitters allows the recorder, the bulkiest part of the unit, to be tucked away off your person, which makes them even easier to conceal.

With still camera shots, I learned to shoot the whole roll if I could safely afford the time. It's very challenging to get good stills where caged animals are looking into the lens. I felt lucky to get a couple of good pictures per roll.

Right to Abuse Animals Privately

State laws differ on the legality of taping audio and video. One-party consent usually means that you can tape a conversation if you are one of the people in the conversation, regardless of the other person's knowledge. (As opposed to a phone tap where you are neither party.) Two-party consent means it's illegal unless everyone's in the know.

The waters can get muddied with the detail. Some states are one-party for phone calls but two-party for face-to-face conversations. Video may be okay but the audio off limits. That can be further complicated with intent. For example, your intention may be to record an animal crying out in pain but you inadvertently caught a human conversation in the background. That may be arguably legal, even if it's a two-party state.

Much of the interpretation of the law depends on previous legal precedent. It is advisable to check into the state's law before pushing the record button. The final question is whether or not the industry will be inclined to prosecute with the potential of more negative attention in the media.

Major League or Pee Wee

Working for an animal rights group had its advantages and downsides. PETA offered expertise, equipment, and I never had to worry about paying the phone bill. During the campaigns that followed, their massive support network and corporate budget helped push the animals' agenda. However, sometimes my line of sight from inside the trenches differed from the omnipotent office-eye view. When ethical or tactical strategies clashed, civility was always observed. No hard feelings linger and I have nothing but respect and admiration for PETA's Investigations Department. But the bottom line—as an employee anywhere—ultimately, someone else calls the shots. For me, working day in and day out with these animals made my attachment very personal and I had trouble giving up control.

Leslie and I had a two-headed approach while I was working at The Oregon Regional Primate Research Center—just hers and mine. My only income was from my technician job, and with her part-time work, we stayed just inside of poverty. She did research and kept our home and office afloat, while I was out monkeying around.

The control we're now wielding has given us a new appreciation for the difficulties in managing a campaign. So far, the 22 capuchin monkeys who were released to zoos probably think we're doing an okay job. Our independence put us in a good position to form a coalition of support after all internal attempts for change failed and we decided to go public. I'm lucky to be working for In Defense of Animals now and also working with the Jane Goodall Institute, Animal Legal Defense Fund, local grassroots groups, PETA, The Ark Trust, the Animal Welfare Institute and the list is growing.

Surviving It

I haven't become desensitized or shut off from my emotions. Empathy and compassion are strengths in this movement, not weaknesses. However, I have learned to shut down my emotions temporarily to get the job done. It's not a special skill, just a survival mechanism that kicks in on its own. Then, after work, I could lose it on the commute home or drive my partner crazy by obsessing over the details of the day.

I can't say that I always handled my anger and depression well. I would never have survived the Primate Center without the support of my partner, Leslie. Frankly, the experience shook our whole relationship to its foundation. One thing she often reminded me of was, I had a choice, but the animals have no choices. I would take it one day at a time and often make a decision every morning whether I could go back another day.

I am damaged from witnessing too much reality. I may never fully heal from these experiences. But I don't regret anything I have done and I would probably be compelled to do it again. The feeling of satisfaction and the privilege of meeting these amazing animals far outweigh the emotional pain.

If you're curious, I think PETA's hiring.



DIARY OF ACTIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

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March 12, 2001 - A building hosting a vivisection congress is evacuated following an anonymous bomb threat. After one thousand people are evacuated, the congress is halted and does not resume. The bomb threat follows the spraying of animal rights slogans onto the banner of the congress' organizers, the German Physiological Society.

April 2001 - The group Maqi issues a press release reporting the liberation of 114 hens from cages in south Germany and in Belgium.

April 4, 22, 2001 STEINÖLSA - The TBF burns down an empty fur farm which had an application pending to house more than 20,000 mink. Additionally, four hundred new cages were destroyed and two buildings were attacked with butyric acid.

May 25, 2001 NETTETAL - Tierbefreiungsfront (ALF) claims the destruction of 300 cages at a mink farm in West Germany. 150 of these cages were new and were to be installed. 700 breeding cards are also stolen, and holes are cut into the fence to give mink the chance to escape.

Holland

Oct. 31, 2000 LIMBURG - The media reports that hundreds of mink are liberated from a fur farm. Although many are recaptured, several dozen escape.

Oct. 12, 2000 ROSENDAAL - In a communique to Dutch activist journal "Ravage," the Dutch DBF claims to have set fire to four meat transport trucks belonging to Van Der Horst. One truck was burned out completely, and another suffered light damage. The DBF dedicated the sabotage to the two Dutch animal rights activists who at that time were incarcerated in Denmark.

March 2001 - The Dutch press reports that about 100 traps are stolen, and other traps and cages are demolished to sabotage musk rat hunts.

March 2001 - Activists saw through fence to sabotage the water pipes in the tunnel of the Betuweline, causing 10.000 guilders of damage. The project organization Betuweline announces it will increase security.

March 24-25, 2001 BOXTEL - The Dutch ALF place firebombs by three meat trucks and burn down one third of the Dumeco pig slaughterhouse, which slaughters 185,000 pigs a week. Dumeco suffers damages totaling 20 million Dutch guilders and is forced to close for at least half a year.

June 17, 2001 SON - The Dutch ALF claim responsibility for an attempted arson at meat processing plant Ballering Export, which kills 4000 pigs weekly. In a subsequent communique, they claim one truck is burned up.

July 20-21, 2001 NEER - In the 13th mink liberation in the Netherlands, activists liberate approximately 2000 out of 17,000 minks on a farm. More than 30,000 minks have been liberated in the past three years.

July 23-24, 2001 AMERSFOORT - Protesting the failure of the climate conference, ELF activists take action against Volkswagen importer Pon, disabling rails and placing a warning sign for the train machinist: "Auto-importer Pon is missing rails." A warning sign reading: "It is the earth which is dying" was also found near the scene. The action follows a previous attack against importer Pon, who in 1993 had hundreds of tires slashed and in 1995 had hundreds of cars painted with white paint.

July 12-13, 2001 ELST - The "mobile unity of bio safety" (MEB) destroys a gentech field of potatoes.

July 16-17, 2001 ECHTELD - Arsonists destroy a barn containing machines used to build the controversial "Betuweline," a new railway line from Holland to Germany. The railway, which connects different industrial areas by train, has wreaked large-scale destruction on what is left of Holland's meager countryside, trees and animal life.

Aug. 2001 NIJMEGEN - Animal rights activists steal and deface nearly all advertising posters for The Great Russian Circus during its stay in town.

India

May 4, 2001 NEW DELHI - Bajrang Dal, a Hindu fundamentalist group, trashes a McDonald's restaurant in a Bombay suburb to protest against the alleged use of beef flavoring in the chain's French fries in the U.S. Restaurant customers fled, as members charged into the restaurant smashing furniture and ceiling lights. In a separate incident in southern Bombay, demonstrators from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party surround a McDonald's, shouting slogans and smearing cow dung on the restaurant's mascot.

New Zealand

No date given - In an anonymous message sent to Auckland Animal Action, the ALF claims responsibility for smashing windows of 16 butchers shops in a week. Two meat trucks were also covered in graffiti and had their windows smashed.

Feb. 2001 AUCKLAND - Ten activists enter a McDonald's on Queen Street, delivering two dead chickens and emptying two large bags of rubbish all over the counters. They also knocked over chairs, threw trays, and discharged a number of smoke bombs. Most customers left their meals and fled quickly. The few customers remaining were told to leave while McDonald's cleaned the large mess.

Jan. - Feb. 2001 AUCKLAND - The Animal Liberation Front claims responsibility for smashing more than 50 windows of butcher shops and meat shops over the past two months. Some businesses have been hit three times each.

Feb. 2001 HAMILTON - The Hamilton Animal Liberation Front (HALF) commits the following acts "in the name of justice" and for the lives of the animals: damage to Ruakura Abbatoir (the largest vivisection lab in the southern hemisphere), glued locks of two Hamilton Butcherics, and a canvas McDonald's banner shredded.

Poland

Nov. 7-8, 2001 SZYMANKOWO - The ALF/FWZ raid one of the largest mink farms in Poland, close to Poznan, liberating 300 mink and dyeing nearly 1000 more. The raid follows a previous one in May, when 200 foxes were freed from a farm in Mosina.

Spain

Aug. 1, 2001 LA PUEBLA DE VALVERDE - 13,000 mink (two-thirds of the animals on the farm) are released from a fur farm in central Spain after liberators knock down eighty yards of fence and open cages in the early morning hours.

Sweden

Dec. 2000 LINKOPING - A McDonald's restaurant is burned down.

Dec. 15, 2000 SYSTERTORP - According to media, 150-200 foxes are released from a fur farm after 50 meters of the fence is taken down. The owner of the farm is banned from keeping fur animals because of cruelty charges.

Feb. 24, 2001 GRABO - A group of Ploughshares activists calling themselves Raddningstjansten (the rescue service) liberate three hens from a battery farm. The hens went to a home with a politician for the Green Party.

Feb. 28, 2001 EKSJO - Twenty-four rabbits who were being bred for their flesh and their fur are liberated from Lars-Ove Nilssons rabbit farm in Bonderyd 9. About 50 breeding cards are also taken.

March 15, 2001 HELSINGBORG - The entrance to Helsingborgs slaughterhouse is covered with animal rights slogans, and stones are laid on the ground spelling out "Rest in Peace."

April 7, 2001 MALMO - Butyric acid is poured on equipment owned and used by Burger King.

May 30, 2001 - Thirteen windows are smashed in two attacks on the same fur shop.

May 2001 GOTHENBURG - Autonomous Animal rights activists in Sweden claim responsibility for two attacks on the Kajs fur shop in May. The first time, five windows are smashed, locks are glued, and slogans are sprayed. The second time, eight windows are smashed and slogans are sprayed.

May 2, 2001 AVESTA - For a second time, animal rights activists attack Karl Beng's chinchilla farm, rescuing 40 chinchillas and 21 chickens.

June 5, 2001 - According to a communique sent to Swedish ALF SG, a baby chinchilla was liberated from a small cage in a pet shop in Sweden sometime in April.

August 4-5, 2001 SKÖVDE - In order to draw attention to the meat industry and the conditions in which animals are slaughtered, three Swedes openly break into a slaughterhouse and disarm equipment used for killing.

IN THE TRENCHES ...

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IN THE TRENCHES ...

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a downed cow at a livestock auction

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Commentary

A Case Against CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

If you're going to get arrested for animals, you should make sure it's worth it. Although I have personally engaged in civil disobedience in the past, I now believe that the great majority of the time it is used ineffectively and is a waste of resources, both in activists and time.

Aboveground groups repeatedly claim that civil disobedience inconveniences the store. But HOW MUCH do these actions really disrupt business as usual? On one hand, you have groups who take weeks to plan a huge action (only to have it last half a day at most) and then don't do any subsequent actions for months or even years after the first one. Tactics that were used even a few years ago don't challenge the police or rescue departments anymore. This means that either a) you won't last very long locked in or b) you have to spend time thinking of a new creative way to lockdown and waste money and time building it, only to again be taken down in a relatively short period of time.

On the other hand, you have groups who engage in smaller actions (only to have them last an hour or two, tops). How much of a disruption is that? It doesn't even affect more than one shift of workers. Big deal, two people are sitting outside of the entrance. Call the cops and get them removed. These actions don't receive the same media attention that they used to, especially since chances are, the action will be over by the time the media would even arrive. I know that if I were a corporate official, I would be laughing.

If you're going to get arrested for animals, don't do it by engaging in civil disobedience. My advice? Engage in MORE PRODUCTIVE ACTIONS (and ensure that you won't get arrested for them). What are more productive actions? Simple: liberations and economic sabotage.

What is going to scare the HLS executives more: lockdowns or having their cars overturned and their homes trashed? The latter is a great example of an action that is not "civil disobedience" that definitely affects the abuser, doesn't have to result in arrests and isn't underground. Is Brian Cass afraid of protests as much as he is afraid of being beaten with a baseball bat again? Of course not!

San Francisco is a prime example. There have been numerous civil disobedience actions at the San Francisco Neiman Marcus location, from sit-ins to lockdowns, but guess what? The action that received the most attention was when the A.L.F. smashed the windows of Neiman Marcus. It cost Neiman Marcus a huge amount of money, the media attention lasted for days and no one was incarcerated for the action (initially two CAFT activists were falsely accused but the charges were later dropped).

I have heard numerous times that demonstrations are for the public while civil disobedience is for inconvenience/disruption and to demonstrate dedication to a particular issue. If anything, there has been growing concern in the movement that civil disobedience actions are "too scary" for the public and risk causing alienation. So it makes no sense we are still using a tactic that is too scary for the public but too weak for disruptive purposes.

Using more productive tactics does not necessarily mean joining the underground. There are plenty of choices for aboveground work, from COK's investigation and rescue of battery hens to the HLS executives' being paint bombed and having their cars overturned. The key is simply to have a high level of security when engaging in these actions. Also, I should clarify that by "economic sabotage" I am not talking about gluing locks or clogging up toilets. I see these actions as useless as civil disobedience in terms of impact and wasting resources.

I know that there is a large difference between risking arrest for a civil disobedience action and risking arrest for economic sabotage or liberations. But don't get arrested doing civil disobedience just because you don't want to engage in these other actions. By all means, DON'T SETTLE. What is the point of racking up court cases, which only take up more time and only distract you from activism? Getting arrested shouldn't be an issue of status, and if that's what you think it is, I encourage you to leave the movement now.

Do your homework. Be well versed in the security issues for your particular type of action (chances are, you aren't the first to do it). And then, instead of putting a u-lock around your neck or sitting in front of the doors of a store, do something that will have a larger impact. Make a difference!

Civil disobedience (CD) is the intentional flouting of laws one sees as unjust. Historically, civil disobedience has been very effective in furthering the struggles for civil rights, women's rights, and freedom for India. Progress in these movements depended largely on the boycotts, sit-ins, blockades and other CD actions which have come to be associated with individuals such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Susan B. Anthony, and Gandhi. The struggle for animal liberation is very different so we cannot expect to simply apply the same models of symbolic civil disobedience, but there is still much to be learned from earlier movements.

A Case For CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

One reason civil disobedience was so effective in these movements was because it was used in a way that complemented the overall goals of the campaigns. This is a crucial consideration when selecting tactics (ranging from letter writing to direct action). Civil disobedience is at its most effective when one's goals are carefully analyzed and an action plan defined which specifies what one's goals are with the action.

Getting Public Exposure of Animal Abuse

The most obvious effect of civil disobedience is that it dramatizes the issues. Media attention is increased, thus raising general awareness. This was clearly demonstrated in the 1980s, when Last Chance for Animals (LCA) broke into a brain research lab at UCLA and filmed the cats inside. They received live, national coverage that continued for over a week. The footage delivered the anti-vivisection message to the public better than any number of protests could have, because it gave first-hand evidence of the horrible acts of cruelty being committed behind UCLA's closed doors. This example serves to illustrate how civil disobedience actions can simultaneously embarrass the abusers and cause them to fear mounting public dissent to their practices.



LCA's UCLA "break-in" was a step beyond a typical CD and, as a result, received more attention from the media and the public. But virtually any CD action can liven up an otherwise routine demo, and make the event more newsworthy. One thing to keep in mind, though, is what sort of image the public will get from your protest. Unfortunately we can not control how the media may choose to distort our views, but if your goal is to get good coverage, it is crucial to think about how to best get your message across to the public.

Saving Lives and Preventing Abuse

Civil disobedience actions in their most classic form involve the peaceful and public refusal to obey an unjust law. For example, trespassing to rescue animals has become increasingly common in recent years. Activists have also engaged in acts of civil disobedience with the specific goal of preventing particular acts of animal abuse from happening. An example is blockading the entrance to a slaughterhouse. These types of actions are most effective when used to target short-term events (e.g., preventing a circus from ever unloading for a two day event), when one can obtain good media coverage, or when the financial drain on the abusers will have serious consequences for them.

Striking Back at the Abusers

CD actions can have a direct effect on animal abusers by hitting these industries where it hurts them most-in their pocketbooks. This may be accomplished in a variety of ways including costing them increased wages for security, construction workers or other employees, or costing them business (e.g., by keeping customers from entering a store on a busy shopping day). Civil disobedience actions can also exact a large toll on a corporate abuser simply by disrupting business as usual (such as with frequent office occupations).

When considering civil disobedience as a component of a campaign, it is important to ask how the tactic can be most effectively used so that the cost of resisting change is perceived by those in power to be greater than the cost of giving in.

Empowering Activists and Demonstrating Our Resolve

For the activist, engaging in civil disobedience can strengthen one's convictions and commitment to the cause. Going to jail for something you believe in can be an extremely empowering experience. Similarly, it demonstrates to others how strong our resolve is. It lets the public and the abusers know that we are serious about our convictions and will not rest so long as the abuse of animals continues. Similarly, it can also boost campaign momentum by getting activists excited about their group's efforts.

That having been said, it can also be very disempowering if the activists who participate in the action are not prepared to face the potential legal consequences, or if the group as a whole does not sufficiently support them.

Bringing It All Together

None of the benefits listed above are exclusive to CD actions, nor are civil disobedience actions typically effective when used exclusively. Civil disobedience is merely one tactic in the activist tool kit. The key is to first identify your campaign goals, then select those tactics that you will best be able to utilize to further your overall agenda. Even the type of CD you do needs to be dictated by what you're trying to accomplish with it.

REBUTTAL to Anti-CD Commentary

In "A Case Against Civil Disobedience," the author seems to be arguing against civil disobedience actions that are poorly planned, and whose participants do little to consider strategy. Clearly any tactic used in which an overall strategy and planning are lacking is going to suffer in its effectiveness. However, once the author's overly broad generalization about civil disobedience is dismissed, there are few arguments made against the tactic itself.



Using the argument that civil disobedience requires too much planning for the results, one could easily dismiss nearly every tactic used by our movement. Demonstrations, if they are to come off as organized and well flowing, often demand a tremendous amount of planning and public outreach. The results typically are much less powerful than those achieved via civil disobedience, yet demonstrations are essential to give animal rights a public face and exhibit our strength in numbers.

Dismissing civil disobedience as a viable tactic because underground actions have a larger impact is problematic as well. Without an aboveground movement drawing in new activists and empowering them to move on to bigger actions, it is doubtful that the underground would see much activity. While economic sabotage and liberations play important roles in many successful campaigns, without an ongoing campaign, their value is reduced. To use the author's example: when Neiman Marcus' windows were smashed in at their San Francisco store, aboveground activists were able to harness the media attention through demonstrations. Furthermore, the value of this one-time action would have been minimal without a continuing aboveground campaign to complement it. In this case, a campaign that was grounded in regular protests and civil disobedience actions.

REBUTTAL to Pro-CD Commentary

Again, the author's argument that many activists feel civil disobedience is too scary for the public as a reason not to engage in it fails to examine the reasoning behind the statement. It's easy to organize a non-confrontational sit-in, if that's what one wants. The question is not whether we should give up on CD, but rather what sort of CDs we want to do.

Ultimately, what is most important is for activists to select a tactic that is most effective for the campaign, the specific location, and the individuals involved. At times, that tactic may be a simple demonstration. Other times, it might be a lockdown, an occupation, a disruption, or other civil disobedience. Certainly, the underground is a viable option for many. In the end, though, activists need to be able to effectively analyze their target, formulate goals and a strategy for achieving them, select complementary tactics, then get out there, and do the most we can for the animals.

I agree with many of the points that the author of the pro-civil disobedience piece cites. As I previously stated, I have personally participated in past civil disobedience actions. Although on retrospect, I do question the effectiveness of many of them, there are still a few instances that I view as successful. Those would be times during which I felt we accomplished one or more of the goals that the pro-CD author mentions: gaining public exposure, saving lives, striking back at abusers and/or empowering activists.

These goals are important - I just don't agree that civil disobedience is a means to achieve those goals any longer, at least in the context that most animal rights and animal liberation organizations uses it.

We should stop kidding ourselves into thinking that the majority of civil disobedience actions cause financial ruin for a company. The median wage for a security guard in the San Francisco metropolitan area is less than $32,000 a year - it would take less than half a dozen coats to pay for a guard's salary. Sure, you can cause financial damage to a slaughterhouse and postpone the killing of animals by blocking their entrance for a day - but you can put them out of business if you burn it down.

Now more than ever, anyone who speaks out against the government or the "powers that be" - be it politics, religion (or rather, in the United States, Christianity), or big business - is a target for more punishment in our country than ever before. Although I don't believe in sacrificing our freedoms or censoring ourselves is the path to liberation, I do believe that this is significant because it reflects the feelings of the general population. Unfortunately, they seem to be less sympathetic than ever to animal liberation, environmental or social justice activists and activism.

The sad truth is the great majority of the country cares more about "national security" than liberty and justice for all (which never meant "for all" in the first place, and excludes even more populations today). No longer can the image of a person being beaten by the police or participating in a sit-in conjure up sympathy. Now more than ever, those who liberate and save lives are labeled as thieves and terrorists. As activists in aboveground groups, part of our job is to recruit (at which many of us fail). Today's new climate isn't going to make it any easier.

So now more than ever, it seems the logical choice to engage in underground actions rather than voluntarily be arrested for aboveground civil disobedience. I'm not trying to say that we should stop fighting. In fact, I'm saying that we should fight more than ever. So go put on some Guns 'N Roses, read your animal liberation primer, scope out your target and go for it!

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Commentary

A Guide to Actually Making a Difference Through Illegal Direct Action

Introduction

When I first heard of ALF I was intrigued. The simplicity and genius of an underground organization operating out of cells amazed me. Such an organization could never be destroyed! Even if the FBI completely busts an entire cell, and coerces them all into saying everything they know about ALF, nothing is accomplished because they do not know anything about the rest of the organization.

After learning about it initially, I did what I always do: I researched it to the point of absurdity. Only then did the flaws of a cell-based illegal direct action group become apparent. It is nearly impossible to focus its powers. I would read about a dozen actions against a dozen different industries having nothing to do with each other. Some of the actions were against companies that were only loosely connected to some distant environmentally unfriendly logging company, or against a ski lodge that planed to expand into some forest.

While I agree that these companies are not acting in a manner that is entirely ethical, actions against them accomplish nothing more than a warm fuzzy feeling in the perpetrator. Another common action is vandalism on a fast-food restaurant. All this sort of thing can do is build public sentiment against direct action groups.

"If only they could focus, they could produce real change," I thought. That is why I am writing this essay. I can only hope that enough cells will read it and take its message to heart that finally direct action can cause a difference in the world, and hopefully even save it from its fall into the abyss which is imminent unless we stop polluting our air and destroying our diversity of life.

Part I: Know your enemy

It must be remembered when fighting against the forces that are destroying our planet that they are corporations, not people. They do not think like people, they do not have the same ethics as people, they do not have the same values as people, and they do not have the same fears as people. To a corporation, the only thing of value is Profits. They are not trying to destroy the world; they are merely doing what ever will give them the most money. Suppose for instance there are two ways of harvesting lumber. Method A does not hurt the environment, it involves tree farms which are renewed as they are harvested. Method B is to clear-cut an entire forest. If method A is more profitable, they will ALWAYS choose tree farming. I will use this example for the rest of the essay, so remember it.

Part II: Finding the weak point

Previously, all forms of direct action are centered on scaring a population into either doing something or not doing something. Aside from being immoral, such a tactic is useless against a corporation. Corporations do not care about people; they care about money. If, however, a corporation is shown that using a particular method is unprofitable, it will use a different method. In the real world, to go back to the example, clear-cutting is almost always more profitable when it can be done, hence that is the method of choice. If, on the other hand, this method becomes unprofitable it will be abandoned. We want clear-cutting to be abandoned therefore we must make it unprofitable.

Part III: Fighting back

One can see what needs to be done in this simple equation:

B - A = x

Where B is the amount of profits gained from clear-cutting and A is the amount of profits gained from tree farming, x is both the difference in profits between the two and the amount of damage which must be done to those companies utilizing method B in order to convince them to use method A. In other words, one has to do enough damage to a company to make it more profitable to use the environmentally friendly method than the environmentally destructive method.

Because clear-cutting is so much cheaper than farming and the difference in profits so huge, one would think that it is impossible to do that much damage. This is not true however. It must be remembered that there are a lot of legal methods to reduce B. Boycotting, civil action, and legal restraints all work to make it more expensive to clear-cut. Sadly, these will never be enough to truly accomplish the goal of forcing corporations to stop destroying the earth, but they do bring x down to a level where it can be reached if enough people cause enough damage often enough. It is still in the tens of millions of dollars a year, however, which is why all of the direct action groups must focus their efforts. The scattered incidents of arson currently attempted may put a mink farmer out of business, but they will never come close to causing the amount of damage necessary to destroy the mink industry.

Part III: Notes on methods

The most important thing to remember while engaging in illegal direct action is that no one can be hurt. Another problem of cell-based direct action organizations is that if one cell accidentally kills someone, the entire organization will take the fall. Also, sustained damage is more important than one gigantic explosion. If a corporation is constantly losing tractors and trucks and chain saws, their movement being impeded every step of the way, this causes more damage than one huge fire. This is not to say not to light huge fires, but do not think that torching a company's headquarters will do much more than put a dent into it. Possibly most important, only hit the corporations which are directly involved in destroying the environment. Before attacking any target do as much research as possible on the company itself. You must be very careful to only punish those companies that are the very worst, and not the corporations that already try to be as gentle to the environment as possible.

Part IV: Closing notes

Again, I write this in the hopes that enough cells will read it to accomplish the kind of damage that is necessary to pull this world back up and to keep us from destroying ourselves. I use the logging example partly because it works easily with the points I am making, but also because I think that it is at the root of many of the problems that exist in the environment today. If there is any industry more corrupt and more destructive to the earth, I do not know of it. It is as good a place to start as any.

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