THE MILITANT VEGAN

ISSUE #3 OCTOBER 19

In This Issue:

A.L.F. HITS HARD IN WISCONSIN AND TENNESSEE

-Latest Reported Actions

-Activist Arrested in Indiana

-Tactics to Build the Vegan Movement

-Direct Action in England

-Harsh Sentences on Appeal in Memphis

-and More!



THE MILITANT VEGAN-ISSUE 3-OCTOBER 1993

Welcome to the third issue of The Militant Vegan. Once again, we have clippings of direct action for animals from around North America, support for vegan prisoners, and news of the radical animal liberation movement. Starting with this issue, we'll be adding our own articles and opinions on the state of the movement and how people can get involved.

The Militant Vegan has three goals: To provide news of direct action, to build awareness and support for those who are imprisoned in the cause of animal liberation, and to unify and inspire a small but rapidly growing wing of the environmental and animal liberation movement.

Over the past few years, small groups of young radicals have sprung up across the country. These new vegan activists are enthusiastic and ready to act for animals, and it's about time we do for the mainstream animal liberation groups what Earth First! did to the mainstream environmental groups at the beginning of the 1980's. Let's be the radical energy that pushes animal issues into the minds and values of the public and saves millions of lives-there's no question of what the situation is for animals, and there's no time to lose. Get organized, get active, avoid infighting, and act!

If you are new to the ideas of veganism, we recommend reading Diet For a New America by John Robbins and getting information and recipes from PETA at PO Box 42516/ Washington, DC 20015. Remember that health food stores are a ripoff, and better prices and food can be found at Asian and Indian groceries. Copy recipes out of cookbooks at the bookstore.

Yes, this is a single issue magazine. We all have been and will continue to be involved in various human rights and environmental issues. But we refuse to discount animal issues and we will stand up against any sort of animal abuse wherever it appears. We represent no political ideology, just a common sense value system where the rights of the innocent are always defended against exploitation and abuse.

A lot of people around the country have been getting free "subscriptions," as we try to reach people we've seen listed in other publications. Also, distributors have gotten packages with multiple copies for their store or mail order service. Still, we can only afford to make a few hundred copies of each issue, which is a shame because there are thousands of people interested in this kind of information. So we beg you to **make copies of this magazine** and sell it, give it to your friends, etc. We've already heard of people in three cities selling the copies they made. Also, if you read about direct action in your area, save the clipping and mail it to those who will publish it: Earth First! Journal/PO Box 1415/ Eugene, OR 97440, Profane Existence/ PO Box 8722/ Minneapolis, MN/ 59806, and Out of the Cages/ PO Box 2960/ Santa Cruz, CA 95063.

One important thing to realize is that we are not an ALF Support Group. We simply print what we read elsewhere. The only ALF Support Group in North America is at ALFSG/ Box 75029, Ritchie P.O./ Edmonton, AB/ T6E 6K1/ CANADA. They receive action claims by ALF groups and take donations for accused ALF members in prison. They also sell various publications.

In England, the ALFSG is at: BCM 1160/ London, WC1N 3XX/ England, and they do the same as well as selling t-shirts, buttons, and publishing a quarterly prisoner support magazine. The English ALF also have a separate Press Office which receives action claims and acts as a media spokesperson. They can be reached at: ALF Press Office/ BM 4400/ London, WC1N 3XX/ ENGLAND. The Swedish ALF (DBF) can be reached at: DBF/ Box 2051/ S-265 02/ Astorp 2/ SWEDEN.

The Animal Liberation Front seeks to end all human-caused animal suffering by nonviolently liberating animals from abusive conditions and by destroying the property of animal abusers. Any group of vegans and/or vegetarians who carry out actions according to these guidelines have the right to consider themselves an ALF group. The ALF is non-hierarchical and operates in cells with little or no intergroup communication.



THE MILITANT VEGAN #2
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 12 pgs
While magazines that consist mainly of clippings normally do not get the standard review, this information is important so therefore... This consists of clippings of A.L.F. atttacks from around the worlds, news, a history of direct actions for animals in the U.
S., contacts, 1-800 numbers, and adresses of jailed activists. Vital. (MA)

Glance at the library racks and you'll find such edifying publications as *The Militant Vegan, Better Homos and Gardens,* and *Anarchy: A Journal of Desire Armed.*



read thousands of underground zines such as "The Militant Vegan"

We're pretty excited about this issue as we've packed a lot more information into it than we did with previous issues. We hope you all enjoy it! We remain committed for a lifetime of work to free innocent animals and restore natural biodiversity and ecological balance.

The Militant Vegan and the publishers do not intend to encourage crime. This magazine is for informational purposes only.

AS LONG AS THERE ARE SLAUGHTERHOUSES, THERE WILL BE BATTLEFIELDS.



DIARY OF ACTIONS

Every single night, the women and men of the Animal Liberation Front carry out direct action to stop animal cruelty at its sources somewhere in the world. England sees thousands of attacks a year, and ALF units are active across the industrialized world. Whether it's the Black Ravens in Russia, the DBF in Sweden, Animal Rescue in Japan, or the ALF in New Zealand, Canada, Israel, Poland, Italy, Spain, France, etc., the goal is the same: to liberate the suffering and destroy the property of those who kill for profit.

DIARY OF ACTIONS FOR THE U.S. AND CANADA, 1992-1993

The following reports are taken from news media, movement, and opposition publications, except for one reported on a computer bulletin board, one eyewitness report (the Berkeley/Oakland billboards,) and two from Tennessee TV reports. It is very likely that most actions are never reported, or that we have missed many which only appear in small, local newspapers. We keep coming across additions to the 1992 report, so chances are that we won't find out all that has happened in 1993 for a while!

So this list is probably not a complete account-help us out by mailing news clippings of action in your town or state to the addresses on the inside cover.

CANADA

(We have very little Canadian news-all but one of these reports come from ALFSG-Edmonton. It looks like the action subsides in February 1992 but that's just because the last issue of Combat stopped there!)

1992

January 1-Edmonton, Alberta- Ouellette Packing Plant was spray painted and had paint bombs thrown at it. Their van was spray painted, had its tires slashed,and was set ablaze. *ALF*

January 3-Calgary and Edmonton, AB- The *Animal Rights Militia* claims to have poisoned 87 Canadian Cold Buster chocolate bars because of University of Alberta vivisector Larry Wang's 16 years of animal experiments that led to the invention of the bar.

January 4-7-Calgary, AB- 4 fur stores and 4 meat sellers were attacked with spray paint, window smashings, and/or etching fluid. *ALF*

January 8-Edmonton, AB- A delivery truck of Ouellette Packers had its tires slashed. *ALF*

January 9-Edmonton, AB- Billingsgate Fish had all three replacement delivery trucks spray painted and 18 tires were slashed. *ALF*

February 7-Calgary, AB- Fur stores were damaged. *ALF*

June 1- Edmonton, AB- 29 cats were liberated from the University of Alberta. Research documents were taken and equipment was destroyed. *ALF*

December 25- Victoria, BC- A McDonalds was spray painted and had its windows smashed. *ALF*

1993

January 1-Victoria, BC - Locks were jammed at Williams Quality Meats. *ALF*

?- Ottawa, Ontario- Fur stores have had their windows smashed. This was listed on an animal rights computer bulletin board, so we have no dates or details.

May 4- Montreal, Quebec- Paradise Furs and another fur store were spray painted with slogans. *Paint Panthers*

UNITED STATES

1992

Memphis, TN- Numerous attacks on animal abusing businesses.

January 13-Walnut Creek, California- "Corrosive chemical" thrown on the windows of a fur store.

February 28-Lansing, Michigan- $125,000 damage done to Michigan State's mink research program as documents are taken and offices burned. *ALF Great Lakes Unit*

June-Memphis, Tennessee- Fur stores attacked.

?-Indiana- Hoosier Trappers was spray painted and a fur delivery van in Indianapolis was damaged.

?-South Carolina- The Vegan Front trashed a fur store.

July 5-Park Rapids, Minnesota- 3000 people were evacuated from the Park Rapids Rodeo after a bomb threat was phoned in. *Animal Rights Coalition Force*

July 7-Chicago, Illinois-An attempt was made to burn fur billboards-one was slightly damaged.

July 28-Memphis, TN- A TMX store had its locks glued, and a truck had its tires slashed and was spray painted. $934.58 in damages.

August-San Francisco, CA- Anti-fur protesters noticed that fur and leather shops in the Union Square area had their windows chemically damaged.

August 4-Memphis, TN- The same TMX store had its windows smashed locks glued, and slogans spray painted. $2,994.74 in damages.

August 5-Memphis, TN- Motes Furs was spray painted and splattered with paint bombs. $3,086.65 in damages.

August 9-Memphis, TN- J.P. Holloway Furriers was being spray painted when police, who had been staking out the store, arrested 3 Hardliners at the scene.

October- Minneapolis, MN- Swanson's Meats had the windows of its delivery trucks smashed and slogans spray painted on them. *ALF*

October 24-Milville and Logan, Utah- Two Animal Damage Control labs at Utah State were burned down and 29 coyotes were liberated. $150,000 in damages. *ALF*

November 8-Minneapolis, MN- 5 delivery trucks at Swanson's Meats were firebombed and the locks to the building were glued. $100,000 in damages. *ALF*

December-Miami, Florida- Several fur stores were spray painted. *Paint Panthers*

December 17-Denver, Colorado- Lloyd's Furs, Irv Ringler Furs, and Marks Furs were spray painted and paint bombed. *Paint Panthers*

December 18-Aspen, Vail, Breckenridge, Keystone, Denver, CO- 30 fur coats were damaged by having red paint spayed on them. *Paint Panthers*

December 20-Washington, D.C.- 5 fur stores were spray painted and splattered with paint-filled Christmas ornaments. *Paint Panthers*

1993

San Francisco, CA-ALFSG has word of action but no details.

Chicago, IL- ALFSG has word of action but no details.

Seattle, WA- ALFSG has word of action but no details.

Los Angeles, CA- ALFSG has word of action but no details.

January 13-Cleveland, Ohio- Ciska Furs spray painted and splattered with paint. *Paint Panthers*

February 8-New York, New York- The Fur Vault, Ritz Thrift Shop, Elizabeth Arden, Bloomingdale's, Fendi Bergdorf Goodman, and Harold J. Rubin Furs damaged with paint bombs and spray painted slogans like "Fur Shame," "Blood $," "Scum," "P.P.," and "Murderers." *Paint Panthers*

April-Berkeley and Oakland, CA- A large number of animal abuse billboards were spray painted with slogans such as "Go Vegan!" "Vegan Power!" and "Animal Torture."

April 14- Bethesda, Maryland- Three McDonald's, two Kentucky Fried Chickens, and Honey Baked Ham were spray painted with slogans. *Meat Free Mission*

April 27-MD- Five vivisectors had their homes spray painted with slogans like "Animal Torturer," etc. *Animal Avengers*

May-Berkeley and Oakland, CA- More animal abuse billboards spray painted.

June 10-Memphis, TN- The owner of Gilbert Kay Furs had his home spray painted and its locks glued. A taxidermy was spray painted and its windows were broken and door locks glued. A meat shop was spray painted. *ALF*

July-Manchester, TN (1 hour east of Nashville)- A meat market was spray painted with slogans and "ALF." The same night, an empty stockyard was set on fire and burned to the ground. The fire was so big that it took firefighters 4 hours to put it out. Bulldozers have cleared the ruins. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation is looking into the case, but the fire destroyed all traces of whatever was used to start it. *ALF*

July-Memphis, TN- An unsuccessful arson attack was made on Jack Lewis Furs, and the store was spray painted. The store had a new $3,000 security camera, but it proved worthless as the attackers were well disguised. It did record the time the attack was made.

July 23-Berkeley, CA- An article on the harassment of a University of California vivisector mentioned that the campus had spray paintings appear calling him a "killer."

July 30-Bloomington, IN- After 4 delivery trucks at a poultry store had their refrigeration units unplugged and were spray painted, police arrived and saw two men. When they went after one, the other shook a fence to create a diversion and he was arrested instead. His trial is set for sometime in October.

The Diary of Actions is continued on page 3.

Anti-meat vandalism hits Sims

H-T Report

A Bloomington man was arrested Friday morning when vandalism to a dock was discovered behind Sims Poultry Co. on North Madison Avenue.

David [redacted] 19, [redacted] Bryan St., was booked into Monroe County Jail at 4:10 a.m. on preliminary charges of criminal mischief and resisting law enforcement. He was released on $1,000 bond.

The arrest came after someone reported noises coming from the dock, police said.

Officers saw "Meat is murder" spray-painted on the dock door as well as "Meat is death" on the side of a delivery truck. "ALF" was painted on another truck and "We will stop you" on the back of a third, police said.

In addition, the refrigeration units on four delivery trucks had been unplugged, police said.

Police then spotted two males in the area wearing dark clothing; they chased and caught one of the men. The man, later identified as [redacted] said he had met two other men at the Waffle House the night before and they all were vegetarians, police said.

No other arrests have been made.

DIARY OF ACTIONS CONTINUED

August-Madison, Wisconsin- At the University of Wisconsin, the ALF broke through a door at the building housing all the campus vivisection offices and set files on fire. We have no further details yet, but the University does farm animal research and does research for the fur farm industry, among other things. *ALF*

August-Milwaukee, WI- A meat delivery van was set on fire. *ALF*

August-Milwaukee, WI- On the outskirts of town, a chicken restaraunt was set on fire. Both of these actions were reported on local television. *ALF*

August-Memphis, TN- A Kentucky Fried Chicken and another animal abusing business were attacked.

We hope to have more details on these recent actions in the next issue.

The A.L.F. strikes again!

DARREN THURSTON

The trial for accused ALF activist DarrenThurston was set to start on September 22, but we have no news on his case so far.

He was arrested and imprisoned over a year ago after being under police surveillance for at least a few weeks. He is charged with the liberation of 29 cats from the University of Alberta in Edmonton in June 1992, the arson attack on the Billingsgate Fish Company in December 1991 and several other actions. Donations for his court costs are needed and can be sent to the Edmonton ALFSG (make checks payable to ALFSG.)

ADDITIONS TO THE U.S. ALF HISTORY FROM LAST ISSUE

In November 1988, the ALF set a fur store on fire in Santa Rosa, CA. Damages topped $100,000 and the store had to close.

As of December 1988, the Yerkes Primate Research Center at Emory University in Atlanta, GA had undergone 2 bomb threats and 5 attempted break-ins.

In January 1990, there was an attempted break-in at John Orem's Texas Tech lab, the site of a successful ALF raid in 1989.

The fire at the Columbia vivisector's house was in January 1990, not April.

STOP THE PRESSES! LATE BREAKING NEWS!

1) Slingshot, an underground newspaper, received the action claim quoted below:

"GREETINGS FELLOW ACTIVISTS,

The Animal Liberation Front, Golden Gate Unit, claims:

March 26: Oakland. Butcher shop spraypainted.

May 26: San Francisco. 3 chicken restaurants, 2 butchers, and 2 leather shops had slogans painted and locks glued shut.

mid-June: San Francisco. 3 fur shops had locks glued.

July 9: Albany. A KFC had all its locks glued, slogans painted on 3 walls and all windows etched with acid.

July 16: San Francisco. City Meats (sells veal) had its front lock glued and slogans painted. A Burger King had its front lock glued.

July 31: San Francisco. 2 trucks at Robert's corned beef had all locks glued and slogans painted all over them. At United Meats, a back fence was cut through, and 3 trucks had all locks glued and slogans painted such as 'Meat is Murder.'

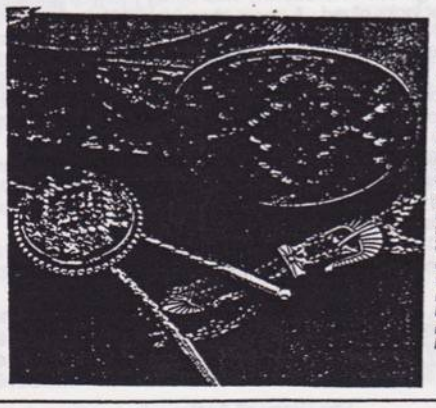
WE FIGHT FOR THE ANIMALS!" *(Source: Slingshot magazine)*

2) On the morning of July 6 in Montgomery County, Maryland, fake bombs were left on the front steps of 4 vivisectors. The bomb squad found that the packages contained a brick, a plastic mouse with fake blood, and a threatening note. *(Source: Putting People First)*

3) On July 16, the grand jury in Michigan indicted Rod Coronado on several counts for the 2/28/92 ALF raid on Michigan State's mink lab. They say he could face 50 years in jail, but the problem is, they can't find him! Stay free Rod! Notice how the murderers, child molesters and drug dealers who rule our streets get out of jail in months or 2 years, while the FBI hunts down those who stand up to barbarism and the real criminals running our society go untouched. *(Source: Putting People First)*

We apologize to our friend whose article on vegan philosophy was supposed to go in this space. It'll be in the next issue.

Further proof that our enemies are every bit as depraved as we say they are:



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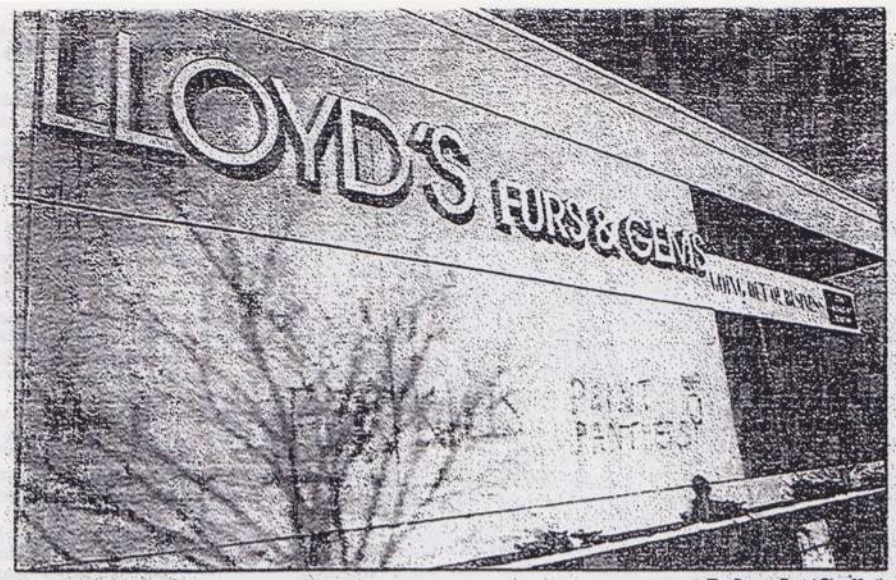
MALE CHAUVINIST T-SHIRTS

Black and blue shirt says, "Wanted! Good woman able to clean, cook, sew, skin deer, cut meat. Must have shotgun, duck blind and 4-wheel drive. Please send picture of 4-wheel drive." Black and yellow shirt wants a good woman to cook, sew, dig worms, clean fish and must have boat and motor. Says, "Please send picture of boat and motor." 100% cotton, machine-washable. Made in USA. M, L, XL.

#920755 HUNTERS, GOOD WOMAN T-SHIRT, $13.95

#915220 FISHERMAN, GOOD WOMAN T-SHIRT, $13.95





The Denver Post / Glen Martin

ACTIVISTS ACT UP: The exterior of Lloyd's Furs, 2780 E. Second Ave., was sprayed by activists.

Cherry Creek furriers vandalized

'Paint Panthers' smash ornaments, spray graffiti

By Sarah Ellis
Special to The Denver Post

Three Cherry Creek-area fur stores were hit early yesterday by vandals who smashed paint-filled ornaments against the buildings and spray-painted graffiti on them.

An anti-fur protest group calling itself the "Paint Panthers" took credit for the acts, according to Dan Mathews, spokesman for the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

The group is not connected with PETA, Mathews said, but as long as their methods remain non-violent PETA does not "condone or condemn them."

"We understand the frustration that drives activists to do stuff like that," Mathews said, "It sends a stronger message."

In a telephone message to the Washington offices of PETA, the Paint Panthers threatened to spray-paint fur wearers on both the streets of Denver and Colorado ski slopes this weekend. They also claimed responsibility for similar actions earlier this week in several south Florida cities, Mathews said.

The three furriers who were targeted by the new underground group were reluctant to discuss the incidents.

"I do not care to give these people any publicity," said Fred Schelm, manager of Lloyd's Furs, 2760 E. Second Ave.

Police verified that, in addition to Lloyd's, reports were received from Irv Ringler Furs, 310 St. Paul St., and Mark's Furs, 263 Josephine St.

All three cases are under investigation, officer Harlan Walker said.

The Fur Information Council of America advises members to avoid media attention to protest actions such as yesterday's vandalism.

"We believe activist groups are entitled to their opinions," council spokesman Bill Outlaw said. "But they cross the line with acts of vandalism. The public becomes turned off, and they damage their own cause the most."

From The Denver Post, December 19, 1992.

Animal-Rights Activists Vandalize 5 Area Fur Salons

Five Washington area fur salons were vandalized early yesterday by a group that spray-painted storefronts with anti-fur slogans.

The group, which called itself the "Paint Panthers," said it was responsible for spray-painting the words "shame," "blood money" and "fur scum" on the windows and awnings of Saks Jandel in Chevy Chase, Skandia Furs of Vienna, Furs of Kiszely in McLean, and Miller's Furs and Rosendorf Evans, both in the District.

Area police said they are investigating the incidents.

Animal-rights activists said it is the fourth such attack in the last week by the group on fur stores across the country, with similar incidents occurring in Miami, Denver and Aspen, Colo. Some of the earlier attacks involved squirting blood-red paint on people wearing furs.

"We don't begrudge them the right to their opinion, but they don't have the right to vandalize property to make their point," said Bill Outlaw, a spokesman for the Fur Information Council in Herndon. "People have the right to wear fur without [having to fear] undue intimidation."

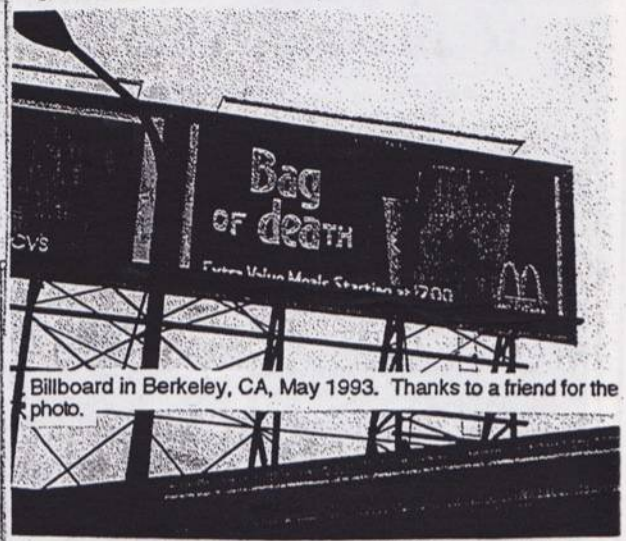
From The Washington Post, December 21, 1992.

NEWS

Anyone heard anything about the federal grand jur in Louisiana? Supposedly they are investigating an ALF plan to liberate the Silver Springs Monkeys fror Tulane University in New Orleans, and a PETA undercover investigator at Wright State in Ohio had he equipment seized by the FBI. That's all we know.....

There is also a federal grand jury called in Utah a the end of last October, after the Utah State raid. No news on that either.

The Oregon State Experimental Fur Farm was closed in June. When a member of the Mink Farmers Research Foundation was asked if the closure had anything to do with the June 1991 ALF raid there, he said, "Probably, but we can't say that publicly or they'll get ideas."



Billboard in Berkeley, CA, May 1993. Thanks to a friend for the photo.

Law targets animal rights activists

WASHINGTON — A new law aimed at the militant, underground animal liberation movement makes violence against farms and research labs a federal crime. Farmers and researchers say they hope the law has a chilling effect on the radical elements of the animal rights movement. But activists who sympathize with the Animal Liberation Front say the attackers will not be deterred. The law targets raids on labs, livestock facilities, aquariums, zoos, circuses and rodeos in which damages total at least $10,000.

DeValois reported some of the harassment to UC Berkeley police.

"There has been graffiti calling him a killer that's appeared on campus. He has also received hate mail regarding his research," said UC Berkeley police Lt. Bill Foley.

Foley added that the cases are under investigation in order to find the perpetrators.

DeValois said the Federal Bureau of Investigation has investigated some of the letters and threats that he has received.

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL
MEMPHIS, SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1993

Furrier, taxidermy are hit by vandalism

Vandals spray painted the Ea Memphis home of Gilbe Kirschner, owner of Gilbert K Furs at 4540 Poplar, and al painted the wall of Hataway Taxidermy Inc. at 880 S. Coop some time Thursday night, a cording to police reports.

Kirschner said three peopl were arrested recently for sim lar vandalism and he believe the painting was retaliation.

He said the vandals painte "Fur Is Dead" on his garage an "A L F" on both his house and g rage. And, he said, they splashe paint on the front of his hous Glue was also squirted in hi house and garage door locks.

Kirschner said the vandalism will not put him out of business "I'll just paint over it."

Members of the so-called Ani mal Liberations Front have caused similar damage through out the country, he said.

Johnny Hataway, owner of the taxidermy, told police "A L F" was sprayed on his store wall and two windows were broken. And, he said, glue was also put in his door locks.

"Meat Is Murder" was sprayed on Ashford's Mid-Town Meats at 643 N. McLean Thursday night, according to police.



From PETA News, Summer 1993.

THE MEMPHIS THREE

Memphis is in western Tennessee next to Arkansas. For the past several years, animal abusing businesses have been under continuous attack, with over 100 reported instances of direct action. On August 9, 1992, two young women and a young man were arrested while spray painting a fur store. The two women implicated two other men in four attacks on fur stores during July and August, and they were arrested the next day. After waiting months for a trial, the three were sentenced to 11 months and 29 days in jail for the 4 actions. They were released on June 5 after 3 weeks in jail on appeal. The appeal will be heard in November, and for now the three have to wear electronic monitoring devices and obey a curfew.

The three defendants are members of Hardline, and as stated in the last 2 issues, we oppose parts of their ideology, especially their anti-gay views. Due to their positions, many publications haven't reported their case.

Why then, do we? One, because action speaks louder than words.

Second, because we are a news magazine reporting on the vegan movement.

So, you decide whether to support them.... We will continue to report on their case while hoping that with the departure of Sean VR and the growing political sophistication of Hardline, they will take a closer look at some of the reasons why so many decent activists disagree with them. We encourage members of Hardline to contact gay animal liberation groups and read the several recent studies (not funded by gays) which show that homosexuality is biologically natural in a portion of any given population.

If you decide to support them, they need donations badly to cover court fees. You can also write and talk to them if you disagree with them. Write J.P., Jesse, and Mike at PO Box 241532/ Memphis, TN/38124.

'Payday' arrives for 3 sent to prison

By Lawrence Buser
The Commercial Appeal

Three animal-rights activists who broke windows, glued locks and spray-painted fur stores last year were sent to prison Monday by a judge who said their "payday" had arrived.

The three were ordered to begin serving a sentence of 11 months and 29 days for their guilty pleas last month to four counts of vandalism under $500. They were sent to the Shelby County Penal Farm where they must serve about six months before release.

Several of the city's furriers urged the judge to show no mercy, saying they have been terrorized by such acts since 1987.

"This will have ramifications nationwide," said state Prosecutor James Lammey Jr., who said the three espoused the beliefs of terrorist groups. "I'm sure they didn't appreciate the enormity of what they did, but I'm sure they do now."

Defendant John P. Goodwin, 20, was described as the ringleader. Co-defendants Michael S. Karbon, 20, and Jessie Keenan, 19, are Minnesota residents who said they moved to Memphis last summer, in part, to join animal rights causes.

Friends, employers and relatives testified for the defendants, who said they regretted their actions, which caused at least $7,000 in damages.

"I was trying to help animals, but it was totally shortsighted," Karbon said. "I never fully thought it through."

The three said they are Vegans, a vegetarian group that shuns the use of animal products. The 3½ hour sentencing hearing in Criminal Court also included discussions of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), the Coalition Against Fur Farms and the Animal Liberation Front (ALF).

The latter group has been investigated by FBI offices across the country for violent crimes, including firebombing and arson, Lammey said.

The defendants denied any affiliation with ALF, although they admitted spray-painting those letters on the fur compan-

Please see VEGANS, Page B2

From Page B1

Vegans

ies they vandalized last July and August. They also admitted other acts of vandalism for which they were not charged.

Police said there have been about 100 similar incidents of vandalism at furriers and meat markets in the past three years. Graffiti often included slogans such as "Fur is Dead," "Meat is Murder," "Ban Fur" and "ALF."

The vandalism stopped after their arrest by police.

"You may not be the Klan, but you wanted to intimidate someone," Judge W. Fred Axley told them. "The First Amendment does not extend itself to violence and when you cross that line you belong to me. I believe in payday. Step out."

The three pleaded guilty to vandalizing TMX Stores at 6122 Macon Road on July 28 and Aug. 4; Motes Furs, at 4273 American Way, on Aug. 5, and J. P. Holloway Furriers at 673 Avon on Aug. 9.

"I received a phone call and was asked if I liked being treated the way animals are being treated," said Janice Dowell. "We lived in fear every time we walked into the store."

One furrier, Steven Ballin, said a threatening message was stapled to his downtown furrier, King Furs, last year.

The message, "Communique #1 From The Vegan Front" said in part: "No longer shall your crimes against the people, animals and the environment of this planet go unpunished. Judgement day is at hand."

Attorney Mac Dickinson, who represented all three defendants, said there was no evilence they wrote the message.

Suspects in fur vandalism free on bond

Three animal-rights activists imprisoned May 17 for vandalizing fur stores were granted release on appeal bonds Friday.

John P. Goodwin, 20, Michael S. Karbon, 20, and Jessie Keenan, 19, were serving a sentence of 11 months and 29 days at the Shelby County Penal Farm.

Criminal Court Judge W. Fred Axley set the bonds and ordered a 10 p.m. nightly curfew while their attorneys appeal the sentence.

The three are Vegans, a group that shuns the use of animal products. They pleaded guilty in April to breaking windows, gluing locks and spray-painting four fur stores.

Bond for Karbon was set at $5,000 because his permanent residence is Minnesota. Keenan's was set at $2,500 and Goodwin's at $1,000.

—*Lawrence Buser*

Vegans vow to Continue Protest, Albeit Legally

Among those attending the Good Earth Festival June 5th was animal-rights activist J.P. Goodwin — which surprised many of his acquaintances. They thought he was in jail.

In fact, Goodwin had been released that very morning from the penal farm, after three weeks of incarceration. He and his two cohorts, Michael Karban and Jesse Keenan, had originally received a one-year prison term for vandalism, but they'd gotten out on bond and were awaiting an appeals hearing.

"Right now we have a 10 p.m. curfew and we're on electronic monitoring," says Goodwin. "We have no idea when we'll go to appeals court, but we expect that our sentence will be overturned and we'll get probation."

Goodwin's legal troubles began last year when he was charged with vandalizing four Memphis fur stores. He and his friends broke windows, threw paint, and put Super Glue in the locks. All were teenagers at the time. They pleaded guilty, paid a $2,000 fine, apologized, and offered to pay restitution. Nevertheless, Goodwin says, local furmerchants pushed for a felony charge.

"They had furriers that we hadn't vandalized get up on the witness stand and say we deserved the maximum sentence, though they admitted we had never been near their stores. Their lawyers also presented evidence that did not pertain to us — FBI files about laboratory break-ins in Oregon. They were trying to set a national precedent."

Goodwin feels that Criminal Court Judge W. Fred Axley was trying to make an example of the young men. Axley permitted all of the evidence to stand, even though some of it implied the defendants were part of a terrorist-style group such as the Animal Liberation Front.

"We are not involved in any kind of organized conspiracy," insists Goodwin, "though we use the same tactics that are used by animal-rights people around the country. Just because somebody spray-paints something on a wall doesn't mean they're involved in any serious crimes. We were trying to show the judge that we have high moral character—we don't smoke or use drugs or drink." He claims that Axley belittled their vegan beliefs, asking whether they wore leather shoes.

Calling himself "a thorn in the side of the furriers," Goodwin says, "It's a hollow victory for them, because this has gotten the animal-rights people up in arms. I think the public agrees the sentencing was unnecessarily harsh."

Goodwin adds that local animal-rights groups plan to launch a major educational campaign and hold many fur protests this winter. "Through *legal* means," he emphasizes. "You *can* have radical action — such as sit-ins — that doesn't destroy property or hurt anybody. Civil disobedience generates a lot of attention, and I think that's beneficial."

But is it worth going to jail for? "If it creates publicity," Goodwin replies, "it's okay with me." ■

Three face jail, fines in anti-fur vandalism

By Lawrence Buser
The Commercial Appeal

Three animal-rights activists Monday pleaded guilty to vandalizing three stores last year because the stores handle furs.

They slashed truck tires, spray-painted "Fur is Dead" and tossed red bell peppers filled with paint on store walls.

John Paul Goodwin, 20, who was described as "the ringleader," Michael Karbon, 20, and Jessie Keenan, 19, pleaded guilty to vandalism under $500.

They were sentenced to 11 months and 29 days in jail, fines of up to $2,000 and full restitution under a plea agreement.

They remain free until May 17, when Criminal Court Judge W. Fred Axley will decide whether to grant their request for probation. "The First Amendment protects free speech, but not vandalism," said state prosecutor James Lammey Jr. "They can write their congressman or go on TV or carry signs to make their point."

The defendants said they did not want to comment while their sentence is pending, but at least one of them did just what the prosecutor suggested.

Goodwin was one of about 20 people who protested in front of local McDonald's restaurants over the weekend as part of a nationwide anti-beef campaign urging the fast-food chain to offer a vegetarian burger as an alternative.

The three were arrested last summer after a special police task force staked out one of several fur stores that had been vandalized. One juvenile who was arrested implicated the others and said she followed the beliefs of the "Vegans," a vegetarian group that shuns the use of animal products.

In one incident, the defendants spray-painted a truck with the letters "ALF," apparently for a national group called the Animal Liberation Front.

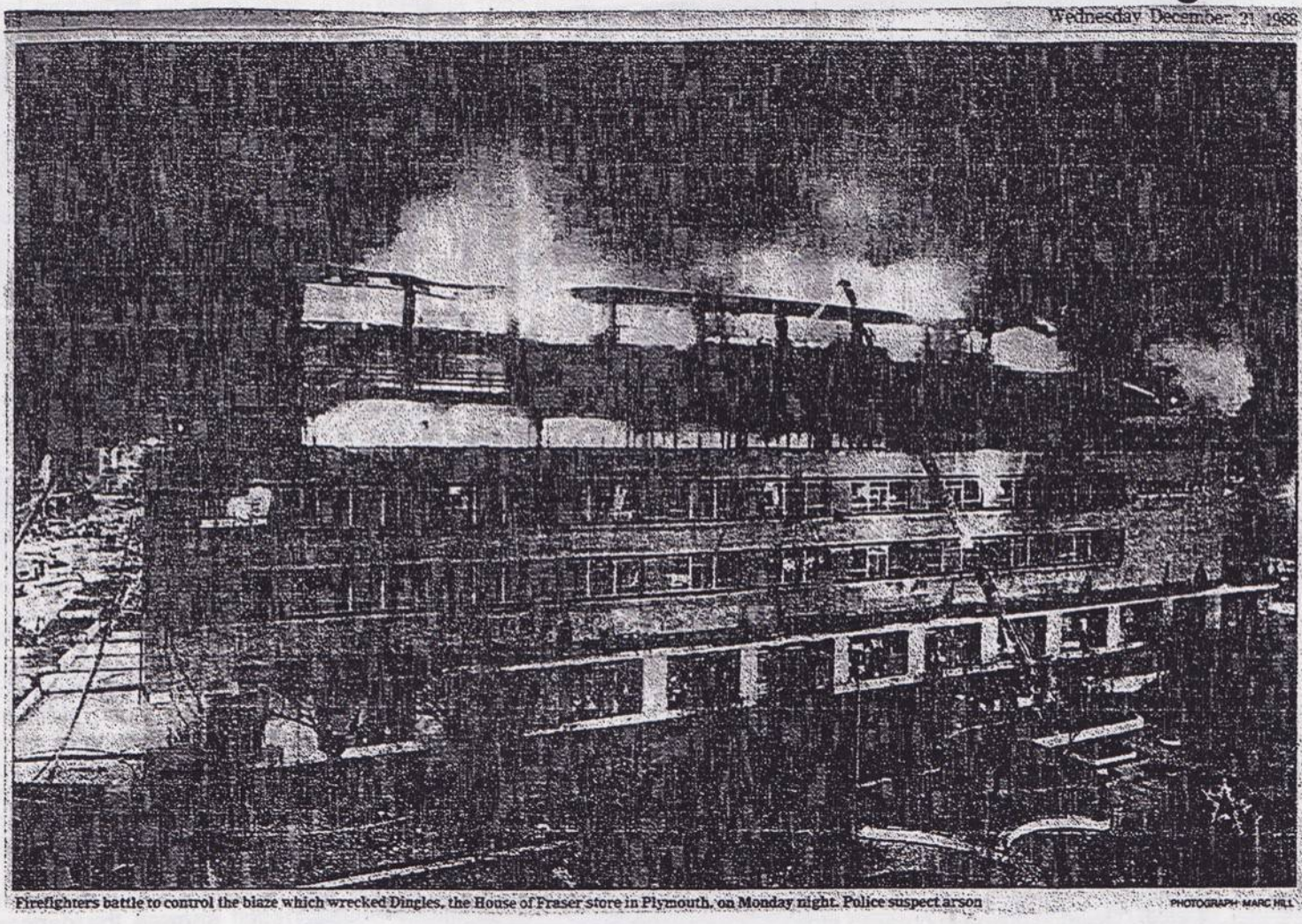
Court records show the incidents and damages included:

- TMX Stores at 6122 Macon Road on July 28, where slogans were spray-painted on a truck, tires were slashed and door locks were filled with glue. Damages totaled $934.58.
- TMX Stores at 6122 Macon Road on Aug. 4, where plate-glass windows were broken, glue was sprayed in the locks and walls were spray painted. Damages totaled $2,994.74.
- Motes Furs at 4273 American Way on Aug. 5, where walls were spray painted and splattered with paint-filled red bell peppers. Damages totaled $3,086.65.
- J. P. Holloway Furriers at 673 Avon on Aug. 9, where a roll-down metal curtain was spray painted. Damages totaled $800.

"If they have a difference of opinion, they shouldn't use vandalism to express themselves," said trapper Kenneth R. Jones, who attended the proceeding.

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The Militant Movement for Animal Liberation in England



Firefighters battle to control the blaze which wrecked Dingles, the House of Fraser store in Plymouth, on Monday night. Police suspect arson PHOTOGRAPH: MARC HILL

On all levels, from the number of local animal liberation groups to the amount of attention the government pays to animal issues, there is no comparison to the amount of activism in the United Kingdom. This has been true for more than a century, as the Western concepts of the rights of animals were developed by English philosophers (After influences from Eastern philosophies.) While we have little space to cover the militant wing of the English movement in detail, the following is intended as a brief and inspiring sketch.

The first group who carried out direct action for the animals were the Band of Mercy, who damaged hunters' rifles in the 1870's. The Hunt Saboteurs' Association was founded in 1962 with the purpose of disrupting bloodsports on the field. A member of the Hunt Saboteurs decided to go a little farther, and in 1972 Ronnie Lee founded the Band of Mercy, which would carry out illegal direct action for animals like its namesake. Members of the Band of Mercy burned hunting vehicles and a seal hunting boat, and burned down a laboratory under construction in Milton Keynes. Lee was caught in late 1974 and was sent to prison for a year. During his sentence, other activists liberated dogs who were being forced to smoke cigarettes in a laboratory. In 1976, Lee reorganized the group and gave it a new name-the Animal Liberation Front. The first ALF attack was on Charles River Laboratories. Lee was again jailed for a year, this time for liberating hundreds of rats from a lab, in February 1977. Over the next few years, the ALF continued to carry out several laboratory raids and many other attacks a year.

In the meantime, the Hunt Saboteurs continued to grow as well. The anarchist punk movement began supporting direct action for animals, and brought thousands of people into the movement. Bands such as Conflict and the Apostles detailed ALF tactics in their songs.

While the ALF and Hunt Saboteurs remained committed to nonviolence, the Animal Rights Militia sent letter bombs to the leaders of political parties and several vivisectors in 1982. One vivisector was injured. The same group carried out the "Mars Bar Hoax" in 1984 where ARM claimed it had poisoned the candy bars on shelves because its parent company carried out vivisection. All the candy was pulled off store shelves across England and the company stopped testing on animals soon afterwards.

With a vast increase in actions during the mid-80's, the meat industry began to bear the brunt of ALF attacks. Butchers' shops and delivery vans began to be firebombed across the country. Smaller actions such as the usual window smashings, glueing of locks, and so on were reported regularly in large cities, small towns, and rural areas. Now that the ALF was a serious threat to animal abusers, the British government began to take

ARSON ATTACK ON BASC's HQ



Left: Firemen fight the blaze at the British Association for Shooting and Conservation headquarters. Thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused Photo: Shooting Times and Country magazine 7/2/91



Slogans daubed on one of the Simpson vehicles, among them 'Meat is Murder.' (1196)

On 16th September the Northern A4 ALF cell raided Adlington Poultry Farm, a battery unit near Stockport. After drilling through walls and cutting locks to gain access, and then dealing with seven security cameras, the activists rescued eighty-two hens, smashed hundreds of eggs and painted slogans.

notice. The Scotland Yard set up the Animal Rights National Index in 1984 to monitor the movement and identify ALF activists.

As a result, Ronnie Lee, Vivien Smith, and several others were arrested on conspiracy charges after what was described as a major ALF firebomb factory was discovered in Sheffield. The prisoners were accused of being the leadership of the ALF, and they were sentenced to long prison terms by a judge who had been a Fascist organizer in the 1930's. Lee received 10 years, the longest sentence. During the trial, he said, "Going to prison in order to stop the imprisonment of animals may seem a peculiar concept, but then their prisons are so much worse than ours...." The ALF showed that it was a non-centralized group under no leadership by carrying out a number of attacks and liberations in the weeks after the trial.

The Hunt Saboteurs also continued to grow, with fox hunts being harassed in most areas. As a result, hunters began to regularly use violence to defend their sadistic bloodsports. One scumbag hunter told an Essex court in 1986 that beating a hunt sab "is rather like wife beating, they are both private matters."

1987 marked the beginning of the English ALF's most famous campaign. To smash the fur trade, the ALF began setting off incendiary devices in fur stores and department stores that sold fur to turn on fire sprinklers and destroy the coats. On July 12, one of the devices left in Debenham's department stores in three cities caused three million pounds damage to the store in Luton. Smaller attacks targeted fur stores again and again until they went out of business. Then, on December 20, 1988, the ALF set off firebombs in 5 cities, sent letter bombs to fur stores, and had incendiary devices discovered in several more. The biggest fire completely destroyed a gigantic department store in Plymouth which sold fur. In the wake of these attacks, most department stores in the U.K. stopped selling fur. The ALF is credited with decimating 70 to 90 percent of Britain's fur industry in these years.

February 1989 saw a further increase in militancy as the ALF used plastic explosives for the first time to blow up a university building in Bristol. While this action was exceptional, firebombings and arson became much more common ALF tactics. Delivery vans were the most common targets, as the meat and dairy industries found to their dismay. Live liberations continued, with thousands of animals liberated every year.

In the most direct attack on vivisectors so far, an unknown group placed bombs under the cars of two prominent torturers in June 1990. Both received minor injuries, but a small boy was injured by flying metal after vivisector Patrick Headly's Volkswagon exploded. This horrible result showed the danger in using such tactics.

The Hunt Sabs began to actually force hunt clubs to give up, as most major hunts faced constant sabbing whenever they went out. Violence against sabs increased, and in



At Howells, in Cardiff, which has been attacked by animal rights extremists three times before, the incendiary was concealed in the menswear department. Stock valued at £170,000 was destroyed.

February 1991, 18 year old Mike Hill was murdered when hunter Alan Summersgill knowingly accelerated his truck when Hill was on the back of it. This April, 15 year old Thomas Worby was murdered by hunter Tony Ball, who crushed his head with the hunt van. Scores of sabs have been seriously injured by hunters and hired "escort" thugs. As a result, direct action against hunters has increased and many sabs have begun to fight back despite the HSA's official pacifist stance. Summersgill's house and hunt club were burned down, and numbers of hunters have had their cars destroyed by incendiary devices. Smaller attacks have increased as well, and hunts and hunting balls are often the scene of vicious confrontations.

A big upsurge in activity made 1991 and 1992 the most active years ever for the ALF, and 1993 is shaping up the same way. Literally thousands of animal abusers have been targeted, from a series of firebombings in Scotland, to arson attacks in Northern Ireland, to laboratory and factory farm liberations around the U.K., to hundreds of delivery trucks burned, to arson attacks against the fishing industry. Of course, government repression continues, as the Operation Fox arrests show. Scotland Yard carried out extensive surveillance for months before arresting Vivien Smith, Keith Mann, and several others in October of 1991. But Ronnie Lee was released in November 1992, and very few arrests are made considering that several attacks take place every single day.

From the looks of it, direct action in the U.K. will probably make that country the leader in animal liberation in the industrialized world. While moderates claim that ALF actions detract from the movement, the solid gains made by the ALF in England show what direct action can do. For the billions of animals still to be liberated from their cages of hell, we thank all the activists in the U.K. for their tireless work. Keep it up!

Animal Liberation Front Supporters' Group

Diary of Actions

Nov. 1987 No. 2

August — November 1987



ALF bites back

BUTCHER SHOPS HIT BY ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUP



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ANIMAL LIB GUN ATTACK

Furriers threatened as gang hurls smoke bombs

Rape and the New Woman . . .



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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Halt an million pounds of damage was caused at Europe's biggest slaughterhouse - Midland Meat Packer, at Crick - when 10 incendiary devices, placed in the cabs of 10 lorries ignited 20 police officers are apparently working around the clock to catch the 'mindless thugs' responsible for the MMP attack and 'for spate of attacks' on shops in and around the Northampton and Kettering areas, including 23 the night after the fire at Crick.

One butcher, Derek Hands said 'we had a brick hurled through the window by some idiots...they have no brains, animals are put on the Earth for one purpose - to eat'.. yes Derek...and the ALF were put here for one purpose. Stan Weston, another butcher said 'we care for animals'.

Bombers won't stop me, hunt woman vows as sister escapes car blast



Defiant: Sarah Godley

A HUNTSWOMAN vowed yesterday to defy animal rights extremists after a bomb exploded under her car.

The incendiary device which damaged Sarah Godley's Ford Sierra went off seconds after her 24-year-old sister had walked by with her boyfriend.

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

Miss Godley, a member of the Surrey Union Hunt, blamed animal extremists for the blast outside her home in the village of Westcott, near Dorking.

'They have said they want to kill me,' she said. 'And this nearly killed my sister, Joanna. It proves to me that the anti-hunters are hypocritical, violent, vicious and intolerant.

'It makes me more determined than ever to go hunting. Even if I feel like lying in bed on a Saturday morning, I shall join the hunt to defy them.'

The 31-year-old secretary, who has been hunting for seven years, clashed with campaigners after recording their demonstrations for a film, The Unacceptable Face of Protest.

She received 3am telephone calls labelling her a 'hideous, perverted trollop'. They stopped when she rang anti-hunt activists in the early hours to complain.

Earlier this year, her car and the large country house she shares with her parents and sister were daubed with red paint and paint-stripper.

Building the Vegan Movement

We're at an exciting juncture in the history of the animal liberation movement. Large numbers of young vegans are getting involved the fight for saving animals, which means that we will start to see changes in a movement that has been made up of older activists for the past decade. So at this time, it's important that we organize this new energy in the most effective manner to save as many animals as possible. **Here are our ideas.**

First, we need people who are compassionate, hard-working, intelligent, and physically fit. We need activists from all races and all economic and social backgrounds, vegans who stand against all forms of oppression and injustice. Fortunately, we have many such vegans working for animals now, and with enough communication, we will attract many more enthusiastic activists.

Unlike other radical movements, the vegan movement will avoid attracting the type of violence-loving thugs who are often drawn to political movements of many types. I think we've probably all seen people who join movements because they are looking for conflict and a place to blow off steam. The animal liberation movement will never appeal to most such people simply because a vegan diet takes a personal commitment. Most likely, it will be our opponents who will be psychotic and prone to sadism. After all, animal abusers like trappers, hunters, and so on are some of the most violent, ignorant, bigoted scum in the entire country.

The most important thing we can do now to build our movement is to communicate. Get a PO Box, and let us all know you're out there. We need vegan contacts in every large city and in every state and province. This will allow for the trading of ideas and information, and for vegan activists to travel from state to state, educating and inspiring others.

Use the PO Box to spread information through flyers and 'zines. **We need positive, exciting calls to action that look good and are well written.** Use computer bulletin boards to spread ideas, and make sure the message is constantly heard and repeated at your school, on your campus, at music shows, and in neighborhoods where students and young adults live or hang out. This can be done with flyers, posters, stickers, etc., all of which can be designed and made cheaply. (For stickers, simply xerox a sheet of your designs onto sticker paper, available at copy and office supply shops.)

Keep up with the movement, and encourage potential vegan activists to read books like Eco Warriors and Free the Animals!. Pass around copies of *Arkangel*, *Howl*, the *Earth First! Journal*, and others to inspire vegan activists and show them that they are not alone. Serious activists can study the abolition movement of the mid 1800's for ideas and tactics. Also, keep up with what the filth are doing by reading hunting magazines at the public library and sending off for newsletters by animal abusers.

At the same time that radical vegans are organizing around the country, we need to stay in contact with and get along with the mainstream movement. There's too much infighting as it is, and we need to remember that different types of people will play differing roles in the fight for animals' lives.

So let's get going! Each animal saved is a success, and every small victory adds up. We've got a long and hard struggle ahead of us, but the day will come when no redneck degenerate will stand in the way of an animal's freedom. **We will win- kindness, strength, and perseverance.**



How We Can Deal With Government and Private Surveillance

The extent of government spying and collusion with industries it approves of in harassing political groups may come as a surprise to many activists. But since at least the 1910's, various federal agencies have spied on and disrupted, often violently, political groups ranging from pacifists to urban guerillas. While we cannot go into much detail here, all radical vegans should read "War at Home" by Brian Glick, "The COINTELPRO Papers" by Churchill and Vander Wall, and "Break-ins, Death Threats, and the FBI" by Ross Gelbspan. All can be ordered from South End Press/ 116 St. Botolph St./ Boston, MA 02115. These books describe in detail tactics used to disrupt activists' efforts.

So what can we expect to face in the near future? On the low level, we can expect mail to be read or "misdelivered," phone tapping, threats, and camera and video surveillance at demos and meetings. All of these tactics are regularly used by state, local, and federal agencies all over the country, and the FBI and many others, including private spies, keep files on activists.

On a more serious level, we can expect infiltration attempts, burglaries, police searches and hassles, activists being followed, and in the rare case, violence or an assassination attempt.

While we know of other movements facing disruption, how do we know that the government and others spy on our movement? We only have to remember the infiltration of Mike Fain into Dave Foreman's Earth First! group and Sapone and Mead's setup of Fran Trutt to realize how serious things can get. Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were almost killed by a bomb with almost certain FBI involvement. The office of Friends of Animals in Connecticut was robbed of Rod Coronado's videotapes of fur farms. The old US ALFSG quit because their houses were broken into so often and their phones were tapped. Six agencies, including the FBI and Michigan police, copied every single file in Darren Thurston's apartment after he was arrested, and his phones had been tapped for months.

It seems that we must be prepared for harassment, so what can we do? First, assume that all phone calls and mail to your home or PO Box are monitored. To communicate without hassle, use PO Boxes under fake names on both ends. Next, never trust anyone with confidential information unless you've known them outside of the movement or for years. Keep your files safe from burglary and learn self defense. Don't draw attention to yourself as a radical at mainstream meetings. Take pictures of spies at demos when you're sure they are, and never talk to any police agency. It is important to disregard all threats, rumors, gossip and insults from inside the movement because that has often been the government's most effective way of splitting movements.

Even with these precautions, don't get paranoid! Remember, the FBI has totally failed to catch the ALF or Rod Coronado-they simply don't have the resources to watch us all!

This is from the booklet "Without A Trace" available for 3$ from DSFA/ c/o Box 8, 82 Colston St./ Bristol/ U.K.

AN INTERVIEW WITH AN ALF ACTIVIST

How do you go about carrying out actions?

There are a number of aspects that one has to take into consideration. First and foremost it's important to look round the region at all the targets, laboratories, and as many of the factory farms as one can find, hunt kennels, fur shops, abbatoirs, etc. If actions have taken place already in your home area it's a good idea to go for the most straightforward, squirting paintstripper from a lemon juice squeezy, or a washing up liquid squeezy bottle over the van(s) of an animal exploiter, gluing up fur shop locks to start with, then progress to factory farms which generally are not alarmed (there is the odd one that is, particularly those that belong to the large chain stores). If no actions, or only one or two small actions have taken place, it may be beneficial to go for a laboratory, the reasoning being that once things start in your area the labs wil start investing in more security measures. There are still labs with only minimal security. The animals are not necessarily in the labs at all times and there is usually an animal house in seperate building where animals are held until needed, or in some cases are bred there. We can usually gain access to the grounds, (we're not put off by the usual security fence with with strands of barbed wire, as these can be climbed with practice - we use the concrete posts as a support and wear 2-3 pairs of gloves when learning. N.B. Razor wire is much more tricky/dangerous - be carefull), we usually find the buildings with animals have fans operating, pumping out the stale air and the fresh in. We can smell which one has them within.

With factory farm units we can tell what kind of animals, if any, are in the units, simply by placing our ears against an air duct on the side of the unit or at the door, listening and smelling. Or we try shining a pencil torch, with coloured plastic held over the end by an elastic band, through any openings. In fact, we double or treble the layers of plastic so that only the minimum of light get through, not only reducing the chance of anyone else seeing, but shine a bright light onto battery hens and they may well make a lot of noise. We always try the door handle, etc, and have been pleasantly surprised a couple of times to find it is unlocked. With experience one can often tell what animals are held in a particular unit by its shape, size, and building materials used.

When looking at potential targets, we don't take balaclavas, etc We also make a point of emptying our pockets of everything, including door keys, discarding matching jewellery etc. before setting out, in case we drop anything. If we need to cover our faces a scarf is fine and we wear gloves of course. We also carry bird watching books and binoculars. Usually a lad and a girl will go by public transport or be dropped off at a prearranged time. We avoid parking a car in an area where a future target is being looked over, unless it's hidden. We try to limit our visits to any target to one or two and we do not leave any trace of our visit. We find we can make a totally silent look round by removing our shoes, though this is usually unnecessary. During the day we explore the approaches to the target with the help of an Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map, looking for a suitable dropping off point/place to stash the vehicle(s), emergency meeting point if necessary, noting any guard dogs at the target or in the gardens of houses along the route in. After dark we walk the route to ensure there are no guard dogs, go in and examine the units, check if there are any animals in them, can we climb in through an air duct, if not, what types of locks will we have to deal with.

If it's a lab, and not straightforward, we need to know the times of security patrols, then we'll do a spot of camping nearby.

In our group there are four people and over a period of time we have equipped ourselves with ordinary scarves for covering our heads and faces, gloves, two crowbars (one small, roughly a foot long, the other roughly a yard), a large screwdriver, a well oiled brace and 1" auger bit (it's a wood boring drill, the type used to make the hole in your door for the Yale lock), two mortar drills (one being extra long), two sledgehammers (a 14lb one with full handle and a 10lb one with the handle cut to 20" for working in a confined space), a pair of boltcutters, two 35mm SLR cameras with flashguns (with diffuser and tilt - occasionally we can bounce off the ceiling to get natural shadow). Duracell batteries are used in the flashguns—recharge is then much quicker. We use 400 ASA B+W film in one, and 100ASA colour slides in the other. When we carried out our first raid there were three people with scarves, gloves and a large screwdriver. We rescued 36 hens. Four sacks each, one carried on each shoulder by their draw strings and one in each hand, 3 hens in each sack.

We have since found that cardboard boxes are fine for chicks, etc., if the 'items' involved are rodents we sometimes find the cages in which they are housed are portable and we place the lot in our boxes or rucksacks. For hens and rabbits we use fairly large sacks (approx. 24" wide x 36" long) with rope nylon drawstrings in the middle. The rope is threaded in and out of the sack at 6" to 8" intervals and the length, when knotted together is the same as the circumference of the sack. We seal the double knot of the rope by using a match and literally lighting the two ends. As the nylon melts we blow out the flames and the resulting black blobs keep the strands together.

Another useful item that we make from a sack is a guard sack. Two brush poles are sprayed a dark colour, then placed inside the sack, one either side, and stitched securely into place. Roughly 6 - 8" of the handles protrude. One or two of these act as good barriers when you have to deal with a guard dog. The protruding poles are placed under the armpits and are held as high as possible. If anyone asks what they are they would be told that they are hides for photographing wildlife.

The actual day chosen for the raid is considered well in advance. A full moon and no cloud means a well-lit night which is undesirable, as are hot muggy nights when people find it hard to get to sleep. Overcast nights are good, and any rain is very welcome. With a particularly difficult target, everyone is made aware that we are expecting 'bad' weather and to expect very short notice. It is also important not to work to a pattern (e.g. actions every Friday/Saturday night). Weekend*evenings* are good because of the amount of people travelling to and from pubs/clubs, but for *night* raids weekdays are more approriate because of the amount of early morning traffic. Saturday nights are the worst possible, the roads early Sunday are dead. On the day of the raid a planning meeting takes place and a thorough briefing/discussion takes place. Details dealt with include the transport of equipment of activists, time of raid and departure, while studying a plan of the target - who will be responsible for being a lookout, breaking in, taking the animals, holding the sacks/boxes, where to meet up if things go wrong, who will be acting as back up by sitting at a phone, ensuring everyone has a few ten pences and some emergency money - while the raid may go OK, a car could break down. Everyone empties their pockets. We do take a container of water if the raid is likely to take a long time - wearing a mask for lengthy periods results in dry throats and coughing .

Before the tools are transported everything is wiped first with a rag soaked in warm soapy water and then again with a dry drag. This also goes for the cameras (and battery), flashgun (and batteries), everything, even glasses if worn. A further refinement is to cover our clothes with something like a boiler suit or old baggy clothes over our normal clothes and have a spare set of footwear. These items virtually eliminate the risk of us carrying traces home. These items can be discarded when we return to the vehicles(s), placed in a black bin bag it all looks like jumble. Someone has the responsibility of thoroughly washing the scarves, gloves, boiler suits/old clothes and shoes immediately upon returning after a raid. This person is not directly involved in the actions and stores the clothes and equipment. In other words we use a 'safe house'. Generally speaking, the arrangements for events after the action are just as important as the precautions beforehand.

Before setting off we make sure that everyone has a plausible reason for travelling in that direction or homewards, we consult the music press to see if there are any concerts applicable. If a male activist is driving, a female member will sit behind him. The police have a habit of glancing into cars and mixed company is far less likely to be stopped.

Choosing the time for the raid can be crucial. If possible we carry out the raid mid-evening so that we are home before 10:30-11:30 pm. Once the pubs close, and particularly after midnight there is always the chance of a spot check by the police looking for burglars. If travelling by car (we avoid hired vans, hired cars are OK, the police take less notice of new cars) we try to arrange for the tools, and hoods if used, to be well hidden in the target area mid-evening by just two people, a girl and a lad using public transport if possible. We take only the minimum amount of equipment.

The raid may need to be at night. Battery hens often make quite a din, though we are not put off by this. Unless we carry out the action while the house is unoccupied or is some distance away we raid the unit at 3-4am while everyone is fast asleep. We never travel between 12 midnight and 6-7am there or back. We arrive in the evening and hide out in a wood (we avoid the local pubs for the obvious reasons) and time the raid so that we arrive back at the transport after the raid shortly before dawn. Generally speaking, by planning well ahead we tend to concentrate on late evening raids during the summer and nighttime raids during the long nights of autumn and winter. the transport will often be a minimum of one mile away from the target and probably two or three miles away hidden in a field or wood (we carry a good quality compass in case we have to leave in a hurry, though it's generally not required). Vehicles are never parked in country lanes as the police will generally treat them as stolen vehicles that have been dumped, or certainly suspicious. Anyone sitting in such a vehicle will certainly be questioned. We push the car(s) down a track into a wood or similar. Pushing does away with driving with lights on and resultant noise and thus alerting any locals out walking the dog. We have parked in a nearby housing estate, leaving the vehicle(s) locked and empty, the drivers returning in couples to pick up the vehicles, and later the raiders. If the target is in an awkward area the raiders can be picked up by vehicles returning at a prearranged time or called in by portable C.B.s (again Duracell baterries are used).



If there are a number of cars hidden in a field/wood for an evening raid, depending on circumstances, it may be prudent for drivers to remain hidden nearby and watch that no dog walkers/courting couples stumble across them. If this were to happen and the dog walker/couple take a lot of notice , the vehicles(s) are moved to the emergency meeting place. When the raid is over one person travels ahead and checks that the transport is o.k.

The first thing we do during an actual raid is for the look out(s) to get into position. Binoculars are a very useful addition that can be used at night. They may take a little getting used to, focussing and time for ones eyes to adjust but it's well worth persevering. We find the usual long, thin straps on binoculars are unsuitable. They not only leave them dangling, and thus banging on fences being climbed, etc, but they are also uncomfortable to wear after a time. We substitute wide camera straps, suitably shortened. If portable C.B.s are being used they are tested beforehand to make sure they are in working order and tuned in. Because of the noisy static when both units are switched on, the raiders will have their C.B.s switched on all the time while the look-out(s) will have theirs switched off. This gives total silence; if the look-out needs to reach the raiders, a flick of the switch and it's on and ready to use. However, we do not rely on the C.B.s alone as sometimes they we may be working in a spot that gives poor reception. The look-outs should be positioned so that they can also warn the raiders directly and quickly. Usually bleeps are used rather than voices on the C.B.s, two bleeps to keep still and quiet, four for 'all clear' and continous bleeping if it's time to run for it, though we've not had to use this last sequence so far.

We have once or twice locked a gate using a plastic covered bike lock. This method is both quick and silent and ensures security vehicles cannot pursue us.

Usually we do not cut the telephone wires but occasionally this is necessary. Either they are cut near the house or office, if this is not possible a piece of brick is tied to a nylon rope and is thrown over the wire between two poles and two people will pull the wire down. It's usually a struggle and requires two people to use all their weight to yank it down. Wires are not cut at the big commercial labs as they are likely to have alarms connected via the phone lines to the nearest police station.

When entering the target area we usually have to deal with a fence of some sort. two people go forward and deal with it. The ordinary 3 strand barbed wire farm fences have the bottom 2 strands cut only. The top one prevents cows or horses following us or straying in the road. On the other hand, anyone pursuing us will be in for a shock. If it's a chain link fence we cut a strand at the very top, following that strand down through the others to about thigh height from the ground and cut it again. Then, holding the strand where it is cut at the bottom we force it to twist and 'corkscrew' it out. We can then part the fence and climb throught he gap. We leave the bottom part uncut if there are guard dogs, if disturbed it would be harder for them to get out after us, particularly if the top half is also blocked by one of the guard sacks with the poles jammed in the netting. The same two people then check out the unit and immediate area.

When actually breaking in to (say) a factory farm unit, usually is required is a large screwdriver and a couple of crowbars to deal with a Yale lock on the front door (straightforward) or to deal with the inside bolt(s) on the back door. In the case of the back door, if it's a tight fitting one we first pull it from the bottom, we can then judge where the inside bolt or first bolt is. We force the first screwdriver roughly 12" from the bolt and force the opening until the small crowbar can be inserted. Further force is exerted until the large crowbar can be put in by a second person, who puts their full weight behind it and rocks it to and fro, forcefully yet gently. the idea is to make the screws which hold the lock/bolt eventually pop out, not to take the door off its hinges.

For padlocks we may need to use boltcutters, we ignore the lock and go for the hasp which is often mild steel. With the cutters in place, a wet towel is wrapped round the cutters and hasp. This helps to deaden the sharp crack noise. If we are unsure about a door being alarmed the two people who dealt with the fence will also break in and then rejoin the rest of the group for 30-40 minutes to watch for any reaction, from a couple of fields away.

If the animals being liberated are battery hens all the group enters very quietly, then closes the door. A torch covered with coloured plastic is switched on. The cages are opened. A variety of different types of cages are used, common sense tells us if they unclip, slide up or across. A last resort is simply to tear them apart with our hands. We are not put off by the noise the hens will be making by now. Due to the barbaric conditions it's not unusual for fighting to break out so factory farmers are used to outbreaks of noise. Having closed the door most of the noise is absorbed by the usual wooden building.

Working in twos, one person clasps a hen (remenbering their wings are quite strong) so that the head is facing away from us, while the other holds the sack which is rolled down to the drawstring beforehand which helps to keep the neck open. The hen goes in head first, we don't let go until the bird is sitting comfortably at the bottom of the sacktwo more follow. To try and simply drop them into the sack just does not work, they will get their feet caught up in the sacking and flap their wings about. If this happens, it's taken out and the precedure repeated properly. We are very careful not to injure the hen. The three hens safely in, the draw string in the middle of the sack is drawn closed and the resulting loop goes over the shoulder. We take as many hens etc as we have good homes for.

With experience it's possible to work in total darkness which usually reduces the amount of noise the hens make. When working in a broiler unit with full grown birds with move more slowly, otherwise 10-15,000 hens may start off. We don't panic if they do though, it may sound loud in the unit but outside it's surprising how much the wooden units deaden the noise.

With rabbits we select single mothers with well-developed young. Large rabbits on their own often indicates a pregnant female, and for obvious reasons rabbits with small young are not disturbed. Rabbits go into the sack back end first because of their large rear feet. Sacks are ideal carriers because the material is comfortable and keeps the animals warm, and with plenty of fresh air. Following the raid we ensure the door is closed so that the cold night air doesn't result in a sharp drop in temperature and discomfort for the animals left behind. For buildings that are alarmed we try to gain direct access into the room holding the animals by going through a wall. Using a well oiled brace and mortar drill long enough to drill out the mortar from around one or two bricks, we then lever them out with a large screwdriver or small crowbar. We then simply cut bricks along the mortar with a padsaw and literally cut bricks out. Squirting water from a squeezy bottle onto the padsaw reduces the noise of cutting the mortar (3-4 squeezy bottles are usually required).

To go through a door that may be alarmed we use our brace to drill a series of overlapping holes using a 1" auger bit until a square can be removed big enough for us to get in and out of with our boxes etc. We have also been able to remove a window from an animal house by taking out the puny using one of those screwdriver sets that has a pointed implement. On another occasion we gained access to an animal house during the day when the alarms were switched off. During the lunch break we gained access using a skeleton key. We had already established on a previous visit at night that it worked, by unlocking the door, but not opening it, then relocking it.

Old type alarms can be dealt with by removing the bell with a screwdriver or forcing it to one side with a crowbar so that that the hammer can be cut off or bent so that it cannot possibly strike the bell. Another method with the klaxanhorn type is to spray cavity wall insulation fluid (the type that sets

in 15 minutes) into the horn and through the vents into the alarm box. Once enough time has elapsed for the animals to be got away it's time to deal with the labs and offices. As these premises may also have alarms we crawl along the floor. The aim is to quickly smash up enough equipment to put it out of action or plant incendiary materials to burn it down once satisfied there are no people or animals in there and, if possible, to obtain any documents relating to the experiments, who supplied the animals, names and home adresses of the vivisectors/animal technicians etc.

With the big commercial labs there is always the chance of a silent alarm connected to the local police station. By going through a wall into a room with animals we usually find this is no problem, but later when entering the actual labs, to destroy it or rescue animals undergoing experiments we prefer to go for a smash and grab effort. Sledgehammers then come into their own. A 14lb hammer is aimed at the mortice lock repeatedly. We save vital time by going through the outside wall first or smashing in through a window and then dealing wih the internal doors with the sledgehammer. In a confined space a 10lb hammer with the handle cut down to about 20" is the answer. Crowbars are also of use. In planning this type of action we have to be totally practical. Those fit enough to run some distance after the raid carrying dogs, etc and rucksacks full of documents will be responsible for taking the animals, papers, for destroying equipment and if possible, the lab itself. For the most part, raiding labs is straightforward, only a handful of the very big labs have more elaborate security equipment.

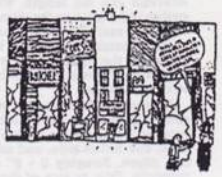
We never paint the letters ALF on a unit or lab, at most we will spray 'Animal Liberation' or 'Animal Belsen'. We paint slogans in dark colours and where they are visible to any reporters following up the story—this helps confirm the action has taken place when the owner or manager denies it. Where the noise of a spray can may alert a guard dog a large felt tip pen is sufficient.

If everything goes well we do of course mention it was an ALF group to the media so that everyone concerned is aware who was rsponsible.

If we have to carry potentially noisy animals, e.g. dogs, a long distance over fields, etc, particularly after a smash and grab, we carry some anti-mate (as used by hunt-sabs to put hounds off the scent of foxes). We give a good squirt after crossing a stream, road, etc, for obvious reasons.

When returning to the vehicles on no account do we walk along roads at night. If something went wrong we would at most walk in the fields parallel with roads to help direct us to the meeting up place.

Much of what I've said may appear to be processes that would take some getting used to but we found after a while that they became second nature. We've never been discovered carrying out a raid and the four of us had no previous experience. It is simply down to common sense.







THE MILITANT VEGAN-ISSUE 3-OCTOBER 1993
NEXT ISSUE OUT IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH

FIGHT THE FURRIERS BY PHONE

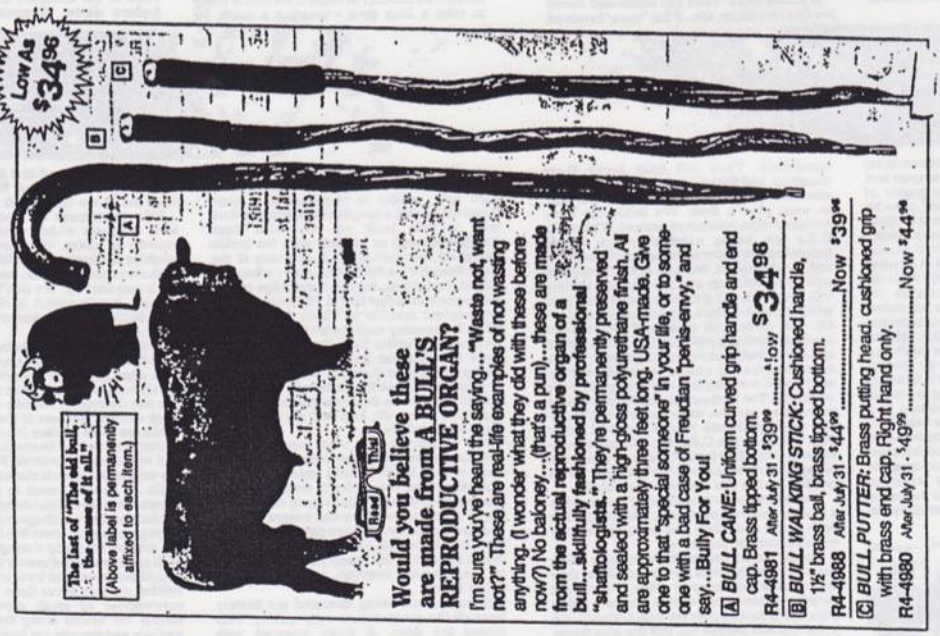
Fall is the time when fur season begins. Fur scum have started a major media push to try to stem their losses of the past few years. Many furriers and trappers have toll-free mailorder phone lines. So call them for free, and politely tell them what you think of them. Of course, many of these numbers are shut off in various cities and most of northern California and many get disconnected nationwide becasue hooligans call from pay phones (still toll free) and hang up on them over and over again, costing them money and driving them crazy. In those cases, you can't get through to them.

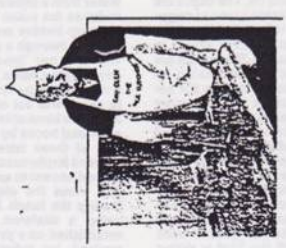
All numbers start with 1-800.

Fur Vault-ASK4FUR or 548 2908 or 451 3733
Custom Furs-257 FURS or 735 FURS
Lingenfelter Brill-331-5255
USA FOXX-USA FOXX
Henig Furs-521 2037
Erwin Goodman Furs-221 8826
Merit Nomac Furs-323 0449
Revilion Furs-248 2664
Brisken Berk Furs-241 7243
Hoosier Trapping Co.-423 9526
Russ Carmen Lures-545 8737
Funke Mink Farm/Trapping-626 2894
LaBudde Feed/Grain-776 3610
Tom Miranda Outdoors-356 6730
Woodstream Co.(Traps)-800 1819
RP Outdoors-762 2706
Koch Supplies-279 4252
Diamond V Mills-373 7234
National Fur Foods-558 5803
Wisco Fur Foods-235 9656
United Vaccines-283 MINK
Mills Fur Farm Supply-722 6455
Dipcraft Manufacturing-245 6145
Heger Co.-688 1990

.....More scum next issue.....

VEGAN REVOLUTION IS COMING









....AND THIS IS THE ENEMY