Inside: Foie Gras; Violence Debate; Federal Harassment

NO COMPROMISE

The Militant, Direct Action Publication of Grassroots Animal Liberationists & their Supporters



Welcome to Taiji

page 4

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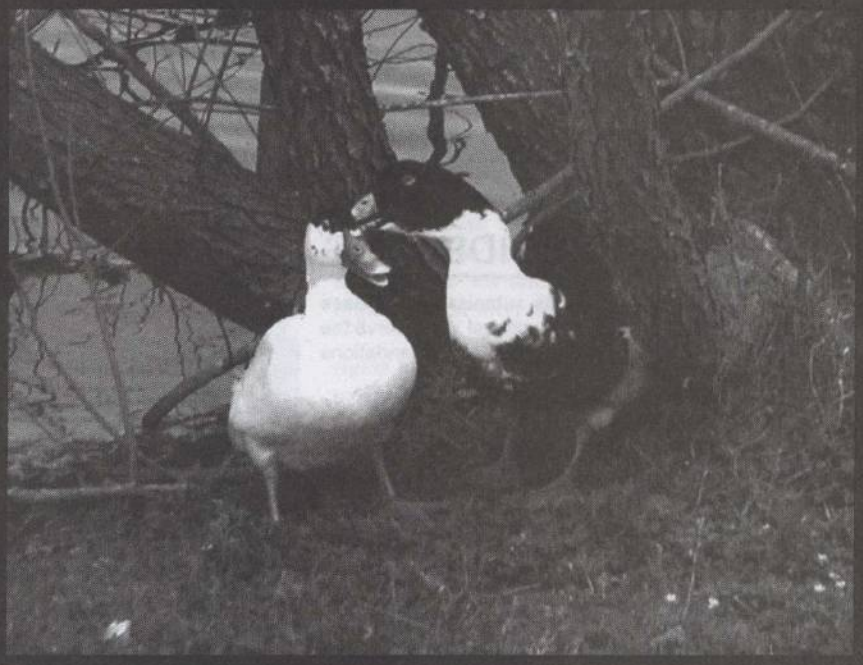
The Militant, Direct Action Publication of Grassroots Animal Liberationists & their Supporters

ISSUE 23 • SPRING 2004

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From direct action to legislation, activists are bringing the plight of foie gras ducks to light. Over the last year, economic sabotage, investigations and open rescues pushed foie gras into the media. Now bills have been introduced in California and New York to ban foie gras production.

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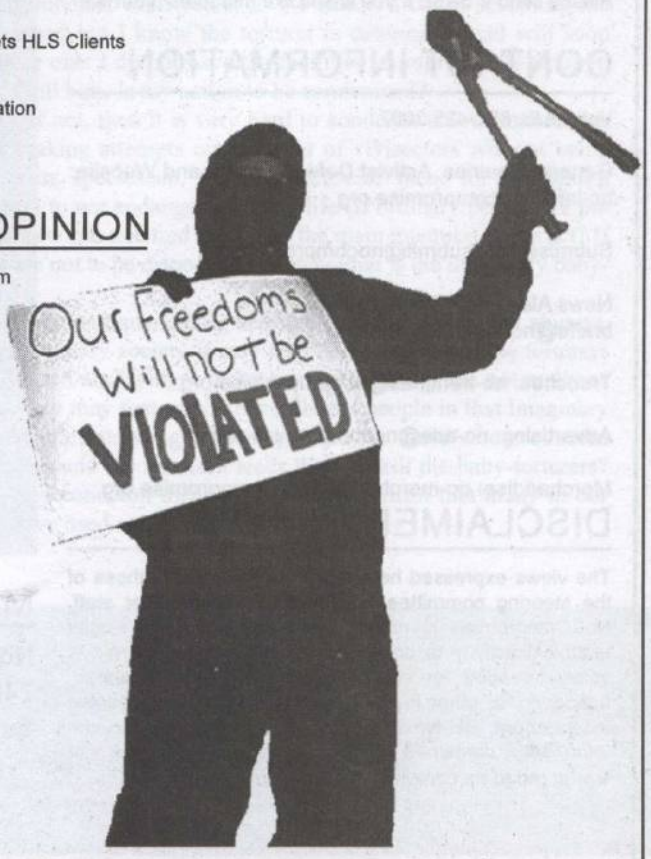
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- »Letters: 250 words

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Introductory Ramblings

The last six months have been busy ones for activists around the world. Sea Shepherd activists exposed the brutal butcher of dolphins and whales in Japan (see page 4) and the foie gras industry in the United States is reeling after undercover investigations and rescues have exposed their cruel practices to the public (see page 5).

Meanwhile, one of the most effective campaigns our movement has ever seen continues full steam ahead. Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) activists continue to find new and innovative ways to target companies doing business to Huntington Life Sciences-- driving one after another to cut its ties with the company.

These actions were taken to a new level when members of the Revolutionary Cells' Animal Liberation Brigade set off explosions outside the headquarters of two California companies with ties to HLS (see page 18). Nobody was harmed in either action, but follow-up communiqués warned of escalating future actions targeting the employees of HLS affiliates themselves.

This touched off a debate over what kinds of tactics are appropriate in a movement based upon compassion (see page 26-27). Can the ends ever justify the means? And would we even be asking these kinds of questions if the billions being killed were human - rather than animal - victims? With the renewed focus on these issues, we are happy to re-run a commentary by Ronnie Lee (one of the founders of the Animal Liberation Front), which was originally published in the first issue of England's *Arkangel* magazine (see page 3).

With the mainstream media's coverage of animal rights activism intensifying from these campaigns and actions, it is increasingly important that we focus on getting out our basic message of compassion and respect (see page 17). While the general public may not like many (if not most) of the tactics used by activists, it is often these very same tactics that force them to face the horrible animal abuse rampant in our society.

Animal industry trade groups may try to divide our movement over our differing tactical choices, but it is crucial that we not let them turn us against one another. Our focus must remain on helping animals in whatever way each of us feels we personally can be most effective.

For the animals,

The No Compromise Steering Committee

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MISSION STATEMENT

No Compromise is dedicated to unifying the grassroots animal liberation movement by providing a forum in which 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.

Controversial Actions - Hysterical Reactions

by Ronnie Lee, from *Arkangel* #1

Over the past year, several actions by animal liberationists have caused controversy and what I would describe as a hysterical reaction within the movement, because they have involved a danger to life. The following articles constitute a discussion of various aspects of this situation.

More and more often we hear animal rights representatives condemning the actions of the ALF, etc., on the grounds that they are "violent." But is the dividing line between violence and non-violence (wherever that may be) really the dividing line between right and wrong?

First it might help to define "violence." According to my dictionary, it is something that involves "great force or strength or intensity," and thus it can cover a great many situations. In animal rights terms, however, "violence" is normally used to refer to actions where property is damaged or where the lives of others are harmed or threatened.

This inevitably leads to some confusion because, in moral terms, actions that only damage property are surely different from those that harm or threaten life. It is, therefore, really not helpful for people in the movement to describe them both as "violence." "Property damage" would be a far better term to describe the first kind.

Moral arguments concerning damage to property are really rather straightforward. If such damage directly saves animals from death or suffering, or if it does so indirectly by helping to drive animal abusers out of business, it would seem very difficult to raise convincing arguments against it. After all, life must be held to be more valuable than mere inanimate objects.

The real difficulty comes when the "violence" harms or threatens life. In the next section, I intend to deal with situations where life is unintentionally, or perhaps recklessly, endangered. Here I will deal with actions that are deliberately intended to cause injury or death.

Beyond Non-violence



Firstly, though, I'd like to expose some of the hypocrisy that surrounds the condemnation of "violence." Many animal rights campaigners purport to be non-violent and vociferously criticize the "violent" actions of others in the movement. But if one is to stake claim to non-violence, one must be consistently opposed to violence, and with many "non-violent" campaigners this seems not at all to be the case.

To begin with, what is the position of such people regarding violence used for human liberation? Would they have opposed the use of force by the slaves who fought in the West Indies for their own emancipation or the use of weapons and explosives by the French Resistance? Today, would they oppose the violence of the ANC or that used by the people of Nicaragua to defend themselves against the contras? If the answer to any of them is "no," then there is speciesism afoot, for it surely must be speciesist to oppose violence for animal liberation but not to oppose it when used for the liberation of humans.

Secondly, how many of these lovers of non-violence campaign for strong legislation to outlaw particular forms of animal persecution? Most of them, I'd bet, and there's nothing wrong with that-- except that those who do so cannot claim to be non-violent. If such legislation is passed, what will happen in the final analysis to the abusers of animals? Well, the answer is they will be put in prison. And isn't imprisonment just another form of violence? I certainly know what I'd choose between a prison sentence and a punch on the nose!

Bryant of the LACS rejoiced (quite rightly) over the jailing of a couple of fox-torturers and then talks about his "abhorrence of violence." His abhorrence apparently does not cover the violence of the state and concerns itself only with the violence of animal rights campaigners. Like that of many others, his is a hypocritical position. Whether carried out by the state or by the individual, violence is violence is violence.

Therefore it would seem wrong to condemn actions merely because they are "violent." After all, there are some violent actions, such as the jailing of animal abusers, which almost all of us would support. Thus it makes no sense to use "violence" as the dividing line between right and wrong.

But what of the deliberate killing or injuring of others by animal liberation campaigners or attempts to do such things? Nobody ever has been killed or seriously injured and such attempts are few and far between, but this is still an important question for discussion.

It is a very strong tenet of the animal rights movement that the end doesn't justify the means. Thus we hold it wrong to carry out painful experiments on animals no matter what would be the benefit to humankind (if indeed there be a benefit, and many would argue that there isn't). By the same token it must be wrong to deliberately kill or injure an innocent human (or other animal) as part of a campaign for animal liberation.

A problem arises, however, when we are not dealing with innocent victims. Let's take the following imaginary situation:

We live in a society where the torturing of babies is perfectly legal. I discover the location of a baby torture chamber. I could campaign for baby-torture to be outlawed, but that will do nothing to save babies from being tortured today or tomorrow or for many months, even years, in the future. I could smash up the torture chamber, but I know the torturer is determined and will soon set up another one. I do not have the facilities to imprison the torturer. Therefore, I kill him. Is my action to be condemned?

If not, then it is very hard to condemn the Animal Rights Militia for making attempts on the lives of vivisectors without being guilty of gross speciesism. One can criticize them for not taking sufficient care to not endanger innocent life (if ordinary people are put at risk), but how can one find fault with the main intention of the act? If vivisectors are not to be disposed of, then neither is the imaginary baby-torturer.

I am not advocating here the execution of animal abusers, for in that imaginary society it may also be wrong to kill the torturers of babies. What I am trying to point out is that things are not really as clear-cut as they may first of all seem. Should people in that imaginary society show understanding and compassion for those whose concern for the helpless and the innocent leads them to kill the baby-torturers? Or should they condemn them with the same vitriol that many in our movement have used against the ARM?

HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CA (8/22) – Grist magazine reports that reviled logging company Pacific Lumber is trying to give itself a green makeover by renaming itself Palco and adopting a new logo featuring a recycling symbol shaped like a tree. The makeover also includes a new mission statement in which Palco commits to being "a leader in environmental stewardship," as well as new newspaper ads featuring workers planting tree.

TOKYO, JAPAN (8/26) – SHAC activist Dawn Hurst is given a suspended prison term from Osaka District Court for breaking into university laboratories, stealing videotapes, and rescuing a dog. Judge Satoshi Shibayama says, "Her self-righteous criminal acts, arising from her dogmatic belief that animal experiments are animal abuse, are not worthy of consideration."

TACOMA, WA (8/25) – A federal judge throws out a lawsuit against the U.S. Coast Guard filed by anti-whaling activist Erin Abbott over injuries she suffered while protesting the Makah whale hunt on April 20, 2000. According to Judge Franklin Burgess, Erin Abbott, was "wholly at fault" in operating a personal watercraft negligently inside an exclusionary zone against a Makah nation whaling canoe.

CANCUN, MEXICO (8/27) – A dolphin at the Cancun water park Parque Nizuc is reported to have died. The same water park received 28 dolphins caught from the Solomon Islands the previous month. One of those dolphins died in Cancun in late July, and the report that a local dolphin had died rekindled concern among animal welfare activists.

SAN DIEGO, CA (8/28) – FBI and ATF agents raid the house of San Diego activist Kat Dougherty. Apparently the FBI had a subpoena to search the premises for a second videotape of Rod Coronado's lecture down in San Diego the day after an ELF action.

Welcome to Taiji

By Nik Hensey

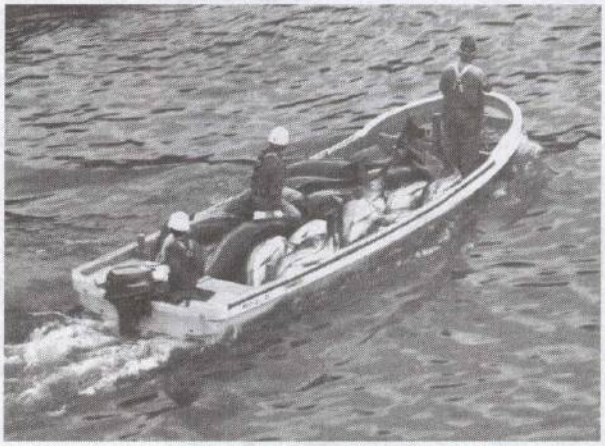
Just past the small bridge adorned by stone dolphins reads the wooden sign: "Welcome to Taiji." Those hospitable words, highlighted by smiling whale caricatures, struck me as odd, being written in English. To find a Westerner in Taiji, Japan was rare as my Sea Shepherd crewmates and I were a day's drive from any major city and in a place where few Japanese ever find a reason to venture. Arriving in late September, this would be my battlefield for the next two months and I was told to expect to see forty to sixty Pilot Whales, Bottlenose Dolphins, Striped Dolphins, and False Killer Whales driven in for slaughter every other day. As a documentary crew had been attacked with knives just a few years prior, our presence would have to remain unknown until we emerged to document and obstruct the bloody "dolphin drives" of Taiji, Japan.

Oikomi or "dolphin drives" are an annual occurrence in a handful of small towns throughout Japan. During these drives, pods of dolphins and small whales are driven ashore by a fleet of ships, where they are killed en masse. As dolphins and whales 'see' through the use of sonar, the hunters/ whalers effectively disrupt the mammals' echolocation system by doing nothing more than banging on adapted metal tubes placed into the water. Disoriented and terrified, the pods are surrounded by the ships and chased to point of exhaustion; once surrounded by the fleet, the animals barely stand a chance.

Taiji-cho, a small coastal town in Wakayama Prefecture, is a prime location for such "dolphin drive" operations. The town's position at the tip of a peninsula jutting into the Pacific Ocean places it along the migratory paths of ocean mammals, and Taiji's Hatagiri Bay has been physically altered in size and depth to make it an ideal cove for driving in these pods. For this reason, in part, Taiji kills (or 'collects,' as they prefer to call it) far more dolphins than any other town in Japan. In fact, the whalers are permitted by the local government to kill 2,900 dolphins and small whales every year in a killing season that spans from October to March.

But such a permit process is nothing more than an attempt to make the "dolphin drives" appear as though they are regulated by the government. In reality, it is the whalers themselves who report the number and species killed throughout the season—hardly government oversight—and the "season" exists not to allow for dolphin and whale populations to replenish their numbers. This was painfully clear as I witnessed the whalers butcher newborn Pilot Whales along with their mothers, anything but concerned about sustainable "harvesting" practices. There is a designated killing season merely for the fact that, come April, an influx of tourists visits the town to dine on fresh dolphin meat after watching a pathetic Orca leap through the air for snacks in a dilapidated pool where decommissioned harpoons menacingly point at her.

This year, the killing began at the break of dawn on Monday, October 6, 2003 when a pod of sixty Striped Dolphins was ruthlessly butchered by a handful of men wielding knives and pneumatic spears, many



with cigarettes in their mouths, and one man making jokes as he dragged the corpse of a still-bleeding dolphin aboard his skiff. The sight was something out of a horror movie, as the blue water, once breathtaking, became an intense shade of crimson that words cannot describe and photographs do not do justice. The thrashing of dying dolphins spread the stench of blood, and I could feel death on my skin. Imagine one morning waking up to take a bath to find your tub filled with blood—multiply that by a million. With our emergence from hiding, the video equipment we wielded in the hopes of deterring the slaughter simply resulted in our arrest so that the massacre could continue unabated. This followed the whalers' attempts to steal and destroy our equipment and a scuffle on a cliff that could have resulted in my crewmate's death… Welcome to Taiji.

For three weeks, our crew of four held an entire fleet of dolphin-killers at bay with little more than video equipment. Only after a special police task force was created and a surreptitious town hall meeting passed all sorts of laws—making most everything we did illegal—did the whalers attempt another kill. With the efficacy of our cameras stripped away by the new ordinances we abandoned our hopes of appealing to the public through the media, and took up the same weapons as those of the whalers. As a pod of Pilot Whales was being driven in for the slaughter we placed our own improvised metal tubes, similar to those used to capture a pod, into the shallow waters of the cove and hit them with rocks to scare the pod back into the safety of deeper waters.

With hostilities approaching a climax, I found myself alone and under constant surveillance in a town where I was anything but welcome. The harbor and killing cove now prominently displayed signs of "Danger - No Trespassing: Falling Rocks" written in English that clearly applied only to those who sought to protect dolphins rather than kill them. Death threats came as though they were salutations and I'm certain that the only reason why serious harm didn't come to me or the incoming crew was because of my assurances that any violence against a crewmember would result in the sinking of the Taiji fleet within a year. Nonetheless, Sea Shepherd had been an occupying force in Taiji for nearly two months and where an estimated eight hundred dolphins and small whales would ordinarily be killed in that time, the whalers had taken only a tiny fraction of that amount.

On November 18th, the whalers drove a pod of twelve Striped Dolphins into Hatagiri Bay and held them with a series of nets for the impending slaughter. Without the ability to legally document or witness the killing, our crew was left with no other alternative than to take direct action. Without hesitation and knowing they'd be arrested, Allison Lance-Watson and Alex Cornelissen dove into the water and began to release the heavy nets that served as the only barriers to freedom. For nearly an hour the two swam in the water cutting nets, untying lines, and ushering the frightened dolphins to freedom.

Not only did the action save lives, but it also cost the whalers a great deal of money as it was rumored that several of the captured dolphins were slated to be sold into captivity. While dolphin and whale meat is an expensive luxury product in Japan, the bulk of revenue for the "dolphin drive" operations actually comes from the captivity industry, where dolphins are forced into a life of breeding or further exploited for human greed and amusement.

Following the arrest of my two crewmates, the special task force raided the

continued on page 7

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC (8/28) – Ninety-six animal-rights activists blockade a border crossing between Czech Republic and Poland where a Lithuanian truck laden with thirteen horses was about to cross. One of the activists, Michal Kolesar, told AFP that thousands of horses are trucked every year from Eastern Europe to Italian slaughterhouses.

NEW YORK, NY (9/4) – A federal judge throws out a revised lawsuit against McDonald's Corp. that accused the largest fast food company of using misleading advertising to lure children into eating unhealthy foods that make them fat.

DETROIT, MI (9/7) – Local media reports that new car dealers across the United States are facing higher security costs and insurance premiums in the wake of recent ELF attacks.

WINCHESTER, ENGLAND (9/8) – Four SHAC activists accused of conspiring in a campaign against employees of Eli Lilly are acquitted after the judge halts the trial. Judge Keith Cutler ordered the jury formally to acquit Richard England, Lyndsey Wallace, Madeline Buckler and Mark Moore of conspiracy to cause a public nuisance and conspiracy to cause fear of violence between January and December 2001.

SAN DIEGO, CA (9/9) – The ELF claims responsibility for a $50 million arson fire that leveled a 206-unit condominium complex under construction in University City. According to the ELF communiqué, "In the largest act of environmental sabotage in U.S. history, the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) has accepted responsibility for a $50 million fire in San Diego, California, that destroyed an unfinished five-story condominium complex on August 1.

HELSINKI, FINLAND (9/10) – Between 15 and 20 activists are arrested and detained after a raid on a fur farm. There are conflicting reports on how many activists arrested and their nationalities, because several of those arrested refused to tell police their names and nationalities.

Exposing Foie Gras

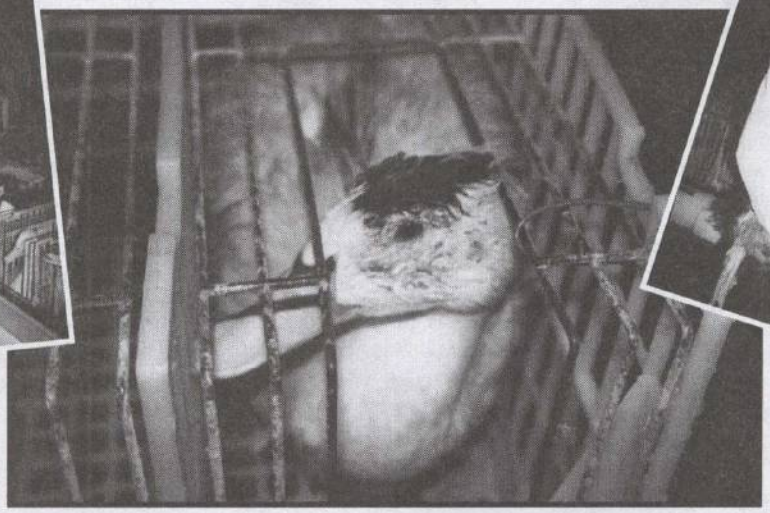
By Sarahjane Blum and Ryan Shapiro

Many people think foie gras—the grossly fattened liver of a force-fed duck or goose—is a strictly European cruelty. However, two United States companies—Hudson Valley Foie Gras in New York and Sonoma Foie Gras in California—inflict this torture on half a million ducks every year.

Determined to expose this hidden suffering, activists with GourmetCruelty.com along with Animal Protection and Rescue League undertook an investigation into both U.S. foie gras producers, fully documenting what goes on behind their closed doors.

Entering the sheds, investigators encountered tens of thousands of ducks crammed into filthy, crowded pens. In these pens, birds too weak to stand were being trampled by their cellmates or left to languish next to corpses. At Sonoma Foie Gras, investigators witnessed two wounded ducks being eaten alive by a rat. The ducks were so weak that they were barely even able to struggle.





At Hudson Valley Foie Gras—responsible for 80% of the nation's foie gras—a growing majority of the ducks are being imprisoned in even more unspeakable conditions. Increasingly, the industry giant has begun confining ducks in tiny isolation cages so small the ducks can hardly move, much less spread their wings or turn around.

In the isolation cages of Hudson Valley, GourmetCruelty.com investigators found many birds with gaping wounds on their wings where their obese bodies chafed against the sides of their cages. The bars of the isolation cages are often stained red with blood.

Investigators documented the forced-feeding process at both factory farms. Forced-feeding begins when the ducks are just three months old. From that point on, the ducks have a long metal pipe shoved down their throats three times a day. The process is so inherently traumatic that the pipe often rips open the throats of the suffering ducks. On the factory farms, ducks lie covered in their own vomit, near corpses of ducks who suffocated during forced-feeding or whose organs exploded from the violent overfeeding.

Because there is so much injury, sickness, and death in the industry, the entire science of foie gras production strives to slaughter ducks just before they would otherwise die from stress and disease. However, this science is not exact. The pre-slaughter mortality rate of ducks raised for foie gras is up to twenty times higher than the rate on other duck factory farms.

GourmetCruelty.com investigators were able to rescue fifteen of these tortured birds from Hudson Valley Foie Gras and Sonoma Foie Gras.

The fifteen ducks' ordeal was far from over when they were brought to safety from the prison of the factory farm. Many were unable to walk at first and almost none of them were able to eat on their own. Still, after emergency veterinary care and loving attention, all but one of these ducks recovered and are now living out the rest of their lives forever safe from exploitation.



Please help us save all the ducks imprisoned on foie gras factory farms. Currently, a proposed New York State bill to ban the forced-feeding of birds for food is foundering in Senate committee. Please write to the agricultural committee of the New York State Senate at State Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12207, commending them for their courage in considering this measure and asking them to bring S. 5153 to the floor. Visit GourmetCruelty.com to learn more about our investigation, request a copy of *Delicacy of Despair,* our 16-minute documentary exposing the truth about America's foie gras industry, and learn more about what you can do to help put a stop to this barbaric practice.

BREA, CA (9/13) – Federal authorities arrest Josh Connole, a Pomona solar panel installer, in connection with an ELF firebombing of a West Covina Hummer dealership the previous month. He is booked for investigation of felony arson and vandalism. He is released two days later when the police are unable to present their case to prosecutors within the required 48-hour period.

YARMOUTH PORT, MA (9/16) – The International Fund for Animal Welfare reports that Icelandic whalers have killed a minke whale in a whale watching bay, just south of Reykjavik, despite promises from the Ministry of Fisheries that the whalers would steer clear of whale watching areas.

WAIPAHU, HI (9/19) – Avid cockfighter and pig hunter Recardo Reyes kills himself and his wife. State records show that Reyes had eight petty misdemeanor and misdemeanor charges involving cruelty to animals and possessing gaffs—knives tied to roosters used during chicken fights.

GRAND RAPIDS, MI (9/20) – A former meat clerk gets nine years in prison for pouring insecticide into ground beef that poisoned over 100 people in West Michigan. Assistant U.S. Attorney Dan Mekaru likened the act to a form of terrorism and had sought a 14-year sentence.

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HOUSTON, TX (9/23) – Twenty sport utility vehicles are damaged in an attack at a Houston area car dealership, but it was not known if the incident was politically motivated or a simple act of vandalism, according to police. The attackers left no spray-paint messages as happened in an anti-SUV incident in Los Angeles the previous month.

Fighting Oppression Through the Decades:

Michael Novick is a veteran activist who has been fighting oppression since the 1960s. He was part of the editorial collective of Brother: A Forum for Men Against Sexism, which grew out of the Black Panther Party and was led by the Revolutionary Peoples' Constitutional Convention. He also joined the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, where he focused on doing solidarity work.

He went on to become the L.A. Bureau chief for the *Guardian* (an Independent Radical Newsweekly based in NY) and started People Against Racist Terror (PART) in L.A. in 1986, which became part of the Anti-Racist Action Network and now functions as ARA-LA. He began editing and publishing "Turning the Tide," an activist journal, in 1987 (available from Anti-Racist Action, PO Box 1055, Culver City, CA 90232; 310-495-0299) and has been involved with too many coalitions to list over the years.

NC: **What issues do you currently focus your activism on, and why?**

Novick: I have continued to focus my activism over many years on a struggle against white supremacy and imperialism/colonialism, because I believe these are key world-historic structures/struggles that are key to the maintenance of the entire system of oppression and exploitation. Some particularities of that are struggling to free political prisoners/ prisoners of war of the liberation movements and anti-imperialist struggles; anti-fascist work against the state, the Nazis, and the Christian right; and work against police, prisons and the criminal injustice system.

I am also an anti-racist teacher union activist, dealing with issues of oppression, liberation and racism in the education system. I am also engaged in anti-racism media activism (both through the publication of Turning the Tide and at KPFK, the local affiliate of Pacifica Radio in L.A.). I try to "wear the same hat" and be the same person as a teacher, an activist, an organizer, writer, coalition-builder, and everywhere else.

So for example, I worked on getting the teachers union in L.A. to oppose the anti-immigrant Prop. 187, and later to support freedom for Mumia Abu-Jamal. Regarding political prisoner work, I believe that a movement that abandons its imprisoned militants is worthless, useless and will never win significant allegiance. Regarding anti-fascist struggle, I believe that in any area of progressive social transformation, we must understand there is going to be organized, reactionary and potentially-labor model that was subverted by the grip of imperialism on the mentality of the oppressor-nation workers. The third wave, which arose in the early part of the last century and crested, then crashed, in the 60s-70s, was the battle for national liberation, based on a class-collaboration, statist model, which even where it succeeded in coming to power, did not fundamentally change the power dynamics of the imperialist system as a whole.

NC: **How do you feel that the activism of the late sixties and early seventies compares to activism today? How do you feel the struggles of those decades transformed into today's struggles?**

Novick: That activism took place in a period in which imperialism was objectively on the defensive world wide, in the face of its own internal contradictions and a massive, world-wide upsurge of revolutionary struggle centered on the revolutionary anti-colonial struggles of the third world. On the other hand, those movements (particularly in this country) were hamstrung by internalized racism, sexism, national chauvinism, elitism/hierarchy. I see a series of defeats that have taken place in response to 500+ of colonialism and imperialism that define the modern era.

The first was the military opposition of the people being colonized. It was defeated by the superior technology (and the divide-and-conquer techniques) of the colonizers. The next wave of resistance was a Euro-centric model (whether by communists, socialist or anarchists) based on industrial army of labor model that was subverted by the grip of imperialism on the mentality of the oppressor-nation workers. The third wave, which arose in the early part of the last century and crested, then crashed, in the 60s-70s, was the battle for national liberation, based on a class-collaboration, statist model, which even where it succeeded in coming to power, did not fundamentally change the power dynamics of the imperialist system as a whole.

However, the struggles of that period had enormous prestige and potential because of their anti-colonial, anti-imperial consciousness and program; they started to crack open the consciousness of masses of oppressed and colonized people, and just as significant, masses of young people inside the imperial powers. In particular the U.S. was exposed as an empire within its "own" borders, a prison house of nations and peoples.

Although the internal weaknesses of the national liberation movements, the so-called socialist camp, and the oppositional movements within the imperial powers eventually came to predominate, there was a window of opportunity within which the imperialist system as a whole was caught unprepared. Actual cracks began to appear in the consent and consensus it enjoyed, and it was actually placed on the defensive ideologically and militarily. However, the system launched a counter-offensive and the weaknesses mentioned were neither sufficiently well-recognized nor overcome, allowing the system to regain the upper hand and defeat all components of that threat.

Strategically, they began that by COINTELPRO attacks on the internal liberation movements, combined with "Vietnamization" and the abolition of the draft. These effectively separated the white left from the other forces. Other key elements were the grip of Zionism on the one hand, and the ability of the state to use the forces of militant Islam to defeat social-revolutionary forces in Palestine, Iran, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

A lot of folks were left high and dry as that revolutionary upsurge ebbed. In the 80s and 90s, many of them developed the careerist, NGO, and 501-c-3 non-profit, board and staff models that still predominate in the excuse for a movement that remained. There is only the beginnings of a break with that mentality coming from a fresh left that is emerging on the basis of direct action, in many different currents of anti-racism, environmentalism, animal rights, reparations, etc.

NC: **What was the Weather Underground, and what role do you feel it played in the New Left? What lessons do you think today's activists can learn from the group's efforts?**

Novick: The Weather Underground was one manifestation of a much wider set of tendencies in various struggles inside the U.S. and around the world, to understand that revolutionary social, political and economic transformation could not be made by struggling for reforms or by reformist means. It was an effort to challenge the grip of white supremacy, class collaborationism, identification with the oppressor, and acceptance of the empire and colonialism.

NORWAY (9/23) – The Norwegian Government announces it will kill 670 whales for commercial purposes next year. Norway is the only country in the world to openly engage in a commercial hunt for internationally protected whales.

WESTERN FINLAND (9/24) – Police in western Finland arrest a young man in connection with a raid on a fur farm in Kokkola. He is being held under suspicion of aggravated vandalism. Police had detained several people for questioning and later released all of them except the young man.

KOKOLA, NETHERLANDS (9/25) – It is estimated that damages from a mink farm raid, in which 7,800 mink were liberated, may exceed EUR 300,000. Fur farmer Bengt Hagstrom says, "Twenty years of work in breeding sapphire and white minks has gone down the drain."

BOSTON, MA (9/26) – A federal court blocks the stocking of pheasants at the Cape Cod National Seashore, ruling in favor of wildlife protection advocates who had sued, saying the program was illegal. Judge Patti B. Saris ordered the National Park Service to conduct an environmental assessment on all of the seashore's sport hunting programs.

BOSTON, MA (9/29) – A gorilla escapes from the Franklin Park zoo injuring two people before being captured about two hours later. "Little Joe," a 5-foot, 300-pound adolescent gorilla born in captivity, escaped from the Franklin Park Zoo minutes before closing time.

SAN JOSE, CA (9/30) – Following two explosions the previous month at Chiron (an HLS supporter), The Revolutionary Cells Animal Liberation Brigade sends an email claiming responsibility for a bombing at Shaklee headquarters in Pleasanton. The email warns that all Shaklee customers and their families are legitimate targets.

An Interview With Mike Novick

It failed because it tended to fetishize armed struggle as the only correct manifestation of those politics, and because actually saw any other tactic or activity as "counter-revolutionary," it actively sought to dismantle the new left, particularly the white student movement. It was therefore unable to organize a political breakthrough to wider forms of social, political, interpersonal, economic and community/class-based struggles against colonialism/imperialism. It was still gripped by racism, sexism, elitism, and a belief in a hierarchical vanguard.

Thus, it eventually degenerated around all the areas of political strength as well and sought to project itself, from clandestinity, as the leadership of a new communist party that would have replicated all the political and organizational weaknesses of the old one(s). Its efforts were repudiated by the Hard Times conference it tried to organize and by the members of the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee it tried to set up around its book, "Prairie Fire." At that point the organization dissolved; some members came up from underground, others found or founded new underground armed struggle organizations, which attempted to overcome the fatal white supremacy of the WUO in a mechanical and somewhat opportunist way of attaching to elements in the Black liberation or other struggles.

NC: Under the Bush administration government repression of activism has increased dramatically. How do you feel that this compares to the U.S. government's history of attempting to suppress dissent, and how do you feel that activists can most effectively combat these efforts to curtail free speech?

Novick: The best defense is a good offense. Power concedes nothing without a struggle, and it will greet that struggle not primarily with concessions but with repression. Self- and community-defense strategies must be an integral part of every campaign, and the political defense against repression and in support of comrades captured or targeted by the state must be carried in such a way that it is not a defensive, reactive struggle but a part of a proactive, offensive struggle in which our movements are pursuing our own strategy and exposing the nature of the state and the enemy. This means appealing to something other than the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Our struggles against such repression have to be based on prefiguring the kind of society we want to build and the kind of freedom we want to enjoy. Dissent is suppressed 24/7 in every workplace, in every community, in every prison, in every military formation. It is critical that we disillusion ourselves about the "freedoms" we enjoy, because holding on to the illusions holds us in bondage more effectively than the prisons, police or military could ever do.

NC: To what extent do you see various forms of oppression as being linked (e.g. treatment of animals, colonialism, racism)? To the extent that they are linked, how do you feel we can most effectively combat the underlying roots of oppression?

Novick: I think the global system of white supremacy and imperialism has superceded and incorporated all pre-existing forms of oppression and exploitation. Although the roots of that system may be in "civilization," or "patriarchy," or "class," these can no longer be abstracted or extracted from that single global world order, which is based on and elaborated through colonialism and imperialism. Many (not all) indigenous peoples had a much different relationship to animals and to nature from the one now imposed on the world through colonialism and empire. Deforestation, ecocide and the wholesale destruction of species, industrial agriculture and animal husbandry, despoliation of the air and water, and privatization of the human genome are all in the current context manifestations of imperialism, colonialism and white supremacy.

Neither can the oppression of women, hetero-sexism or sex-role oppression be ended without conscious opposition to white supremacy, colonialism, empire and class society. The USA, with nearly a quarter-billion people of European descent still actively committed to settler colonialism, is now the world bastion of reaction in all areas and on all questions, supported by other settler colonial nation-states (Israel, Australia, Canada) and by other, mostly European colonizing powers (UK, France, Germany, Italy and the rest of the EU, Russia, and Japan).

This is a holographic or fractal system; every piece of it reflects and contains the whole. Any area of authentic resistance work (work committed to a throughgoing and complete social, political, and economic transformation) is valid and useful, especially as it engages larger sectors in that struggle -- so long as it is in conscious solidarity with other oppressed and colonized people struggling for liberation.

Take up whatever struggle most engages you. Definitely struggle against your own experienced oppression and exploitation, but do so in a way that is consciously and explicitly committed to decolonization of all and to recognition of the leading role of decolonization struggles, of "freeing the land," and to the totality of struggle that must take place. People must regain a sense of our own power-- that all the wealth and all the power of this system is stolen from the people it oppresses and exploits and from the planet and our future.

Since COINTELPRO and the absorption of the national liberation struggles into the global neo-liberal/neo-conservative order, defeatism -- a belief that there is no alternative and that we cannot win -- is the principal form that identification with the oppressor takes. Our struggles must be aimed at breaking the grip of that defeatism on the consciousness of the masses of oppressed and working people.

Taiji *continued from page 4*

trailer in which we were living and seized nearly all of our equipment. Despite the twenty-four hour surveillance and police raid, video footage of the release and a previous slaughter was snuck away and released to the global media, resulting in extensive exposure of the bloody dolphin massacres of Taiji, Japan. The ensuing international public outrage has forced the Japanese government to reevaluate the anachronistic practice of *oikomi*. Even some of the people of Taiji, who are deeply embedded in the whaling industry, are reconsidering the inhumane legacy they will be leaving their children should the "dolphin drives" continue.

Cetacean populations worldwide continue to rapidly disappear as whalers like those in Taiji mercilessly slaughter intelligent and sentient beings, under the pretext of culture, for nothing more than profit. That is, until enough people stand up and take action.

For more information and updates on this campaign, please visit www.seashepherd.org.

LAS VEGAS, NV (10/4) – A tiger attacks magician Roy Horn of duo "Siegfried & Roy" during a performance, leaving him in critical condition. Said a witness "The tiger went for his neck, then drug him offstage. He looked like a rag doll."

TAIJI, JAPAN (10/6) – Three members of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society are arrested and held by police for documenting a dolphin roundup in the area with video and still cameras. They are later released and continue to confront the killers and document the slaughter.

ANNAPOLIS, MD (10/13) – It is announced that in fall 2004, Maryland will hold its first black bear hunt since 1953, targeting about 30 animals in far Western Maryland. Wildlife advocates promise to fight the hunt in the legislature and possibly the courts to block the trophy hunt.

MAINE (10/14) – The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife halts its 20 year long coyote snaring program, after the NoSnare Task Force threatened to sue the department for violating the federal Endangered Species Act and Maine Attorney General Steven Rowe issued an opinion that the state could be liable if a snare killed or harmed a federally threatened Canada lynx or bald eagle.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (10/16) – Republican Indiana Congressman Chris Chocola introduces a bill the U.S. House of Representatives that could provide prison terms from five years to life in prison for people convicted of "eco-terrorism." The bill defines eco-terrorism as intentional damage to property by someone trying to influence public opinion on environmental issues.

SYRACUSE, NY (10/17) – A federal judge dismisses a five-year-old lawsuit filed by ADL activists who claimed that police violated their constitutional rights by arresting them at fur protests, "deliberately and systematically" interfering with their right to protest. U.S. District Judge Neal McCurn ruled that police had sufficient reason to arrest the activists.

Know Your Legal Rights

- A Quick Reference Guide -

By Shannon R. Keith, Esq.

GENERAL RIGHTS YOU SHOULD ALWAYS KNOW

- You have the right to remain silent
- You have the right to an attorney
- You have a Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination
- You have a First Amendment right to freedom of speech
- You have a Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures

QUESTIONING BY "AUTHORITIES"

If you are stopped by police, FBI, or other governmental "authorities," remember your rights listed above, as well as these helpful hints:

• Ask, "Am I being detained?" If the 'authorities' say, "No," then move on. You do not have to speak to them if you are not being detained. Do not allow them to trick you into speaking. For example, you may ask if you are being detained, and the authority may respond, "Not technically; I just want to ask you something," or they may avoid the question completely. The best thing to do in this situation is to keep walking. Tell them that you do not wish to speak to them and that you are invoking your right to remain silent.

• If an authorities answer that you are being detained, remember that you still have the right to remain silent. They may ask for your name, social security number, address and phone. You do not have to provide this information. However, if you are subsequently arrested, you will waste a lot of time if you do not give your name and address, because they will hold you until they get it. If you don't want to wait, the ONLY INFORMATION YOU HAVE TO GIVE IS YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS. You do not have to provide your phone number or social security number. (Note: there has been much debate over this issue. Some cases say that you must provide identification when lawfully detained, or you can be arrested for interfering with the duties of an officer. When in doubt, try to call your attorney, as many cases are fact specific.)

• Just because you are being detained, does not mean you will be arrested.

• Activists are routinely followed to their cars after protests. The best thing to do in this situation is keep walking and do not allow the 'authority' to follow you to you car and into your personal life.

• At a protest, 'authorities' will almost always ask who is in charge. NEVER divulge that information, even if you think they already know. One of the biggest mistakes anyone can make is to divulge information to 'authorities' on the grounds that they already know the information. NEVER assume they know anything, and even if you KNOW they KNOW, make them do their homework-DON'T DO THEIR WORK FOR THEM!

WHEN THEY COME A KNOCKIN' . . .

The most important thing to remember is to NEVER open the door to strangers. Not only should you follow this policy, but you should tell friends, family, roommates, and co-workers to follow this policy, as well. Unfortunately, doors sometimes do get opened, and there can be unexpected visits at your workplace that you cannot control. When this happens, remember the following:

• If you are visited at home or work by the 'authorities,' tell them you have nothing to say and wish to seek legal counsel.

Most likely, this will not deter the authorities. They will try to trick you into divulging information. One way they will do this is by playing good cop/bad cop. They might be very cordial at first, and once you assert your legal rights, they may tell you that if you don't answer their questions you can get in "big trouble." Do not let this frighten you. If they continue to harass you, close the door or walk away and ignore them.

• They may also ask if you if they can come in. They may use an excuse like they need to use the bathroom or your phone. Do not let them in! Once you let them in, you have given them consent to search your home.

'Authorities' cannot enter your home without a search warrant (absent an emergency), and they cannot arrest you without an arrest warrant (absent probable cause).

• Any competent adult can consent to a search if it appears that s/he has the authority to give consent. That means that if your co-worker or roommate is not given the heads-up, s/he might let 'authorities' into your home, and IT IS LEGAL!

If you find that your roommate or co-worker has allowed the 'authorities' onto your private property, tell them that you do not consent to the search and you are contacting an attorney.

YOU ARE YOUR BEST ATTORNEY

Your attorney and legal defense or offense is only as good as you make it.

You have a responsibility to yourself and others to be observant at all times. Keep the following in mind:

- When at a protest, always have a pad of paper and pen ready.
- Take note of the names of activists present.
- Take note of the number of officers, their names and badge numbers.
- When visited by "authorities," ask for their cards. If they refuse to give you their card, ask for their name, official title, address and phone number.
- Write down exactly what occurred, the time, date and words exchanged.

Take pictures and video whenever possible.

ALWAYS ASSERT YOUR RIGHTS. NEVER BE AFRAID OR EMBARRASSED TO ASSERT YOUR RIGHTS. THE MORE YOU ASSERT YOUR RIGHTS, THE MORE YOU WILL GET USED TO IT. AND NEVER-- UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES-- NEVER, EVER COMPROMISE!

ILLINOIS (10/18) – Illinois State Representative Bob Molaro introduces HB 3845, a bill that will ban the slaughter of horses for human consumption in Illinois. The bill comes just as the Cavel International horse slaughter plant located DeKalb, Illinois is set to reopen its doors at the beginning of 2004.

DETROIT, MI (10/28) – The FBI and Coast Guard issued subpoenas to Marie Mason and Frank Ambrose of the Sweetwater Alliance and Massasauga Earth First! The subpoenas ordered the two to submit fingerprints and DNA samples to a federal grand jury being convened in Grand Rapids. Ambrose and Mason plan to fight the subpoenas.

UNITED STATES (10/24) – USA Today reports that Whole Foods Market is implementing more humane standards for farmed animals and will require all suppliers meet these standards by late 2004. The retailer admitted that animal activists were correct about their claims of inhumane treatment of ducks. In addition to this, the CEO and founder of Whole Foods Market is now a vegan.

LOS ANGELES, CA (10/31) – Using an obscure 19th-century law forbidding the unauthorized boarding of vessels, the U.S. government sues Greenpeace over a protest action against the illegal importation of mahogany. It is the first time an entire organization has been criminally prosecuted for the activities of two members. A conviction could result in conditions being attached to Greenpeace activities that would lead to punitive fines each time an "illegal" activity was undertaken in its name.

SHELBY, MT (11/1) – The corporate owner of a Shelby feedlot pleads guilty to five counts of animal cruelty after at least 35 horses died in 2003. In response, a judge ordered Bar S Corp. to pay a $500 fine. Charges were filed after dozens of horse carcasses rotting in up to three feet of manure were found. Despite the number of dead animals, only seven counts were filed, with two later dropped.

SCENARIOS: Tips on How to Deal with Law Enforcement

These days, activists have to be prepared for all kinds of harassment from all different sectors of law enforcement. The following scenarios—and the attendant suggested responses—are just a few of the most commonplace situations an activist might find him or herself confronting on any given day.

1) *You're at a routine demo or leafleting event, and a cop starts chatting with you. Do you chat back with him? If you do, when do you know that you've crossed the line and possibly said too much?*

As a general rule, it's safer to not engage in conversation with law enforcement. Even if the subject matter seems harmless, it's all too easy to drift into gray areas. Exchanging a few friendly words in a non-adversarial environment may help "humanize" you in the eyes of the officer, but conversation should never include discussing future events, schedules for leafleting or demonstrations, or your own opinions about direct action.

2) *You're walking down the street and a cop asks you your name. Do you have to answer? Do you ignore him and keep walking, or do you stop and respond? If so, how do you respond?*

I can't think of any reason a cop would ask this question, other than to harass you. You do not have to give your name, and you do not have to respond. Try just ignoring him or her. If s/he continues to harass you, ask "Why do you want my name?" If the officer has a reasonable suspicion that you have committed, are committing, or are about to commit a crime, you may be briefly stopped so that the officer may make a probable cause determination. You may challenge the officer by asking why he wants your name, whether you are free to leave, whether you are under arrest, etc.

3) *You open your front door and there are feds/ cops standing there. They say, "Hi, (insert name)?" Do you acknowledge that's your name? At what point to you shut the door? Do you listen to them long enough to determine what they are asking about, or do you just assume it's bad and shut the door? What if it's the cops coming to visit you for some other reason, like to inform you that a family member has died? How will you know if you don't listen to them?*

I am assuming it relates to something having to do with the animals (and not a domestic disturbance next door). You should not have opened the door in the first place. If you did, close it and, through the door, ask them what they want. Tell them you cannot help them. If they ask you to open the door, ask whether they have a warrant. If not, do not open the door. If they continue to harass you, tell them you will consult with an attorney.

4) *You answer your door, and someone you don't know asks to speak to your roommate, who is a fellow activist. What do you do? What if the person(s) at your front door first identify themselves as FBI agents?*

If they identify themselves as FBI agents, see above. If not, use appropriate etiquette to determine who they are. Whatever you do, though, do not lie about whether or not the person is home, or about anything else. It is better not to answer than to give false information—or you could be arrested for harboring or obstruction. Always get their names and business cards.

6) *After you hear a knock on the door, you open it a crack but leave the chain on. Two men who identify themselves as FBI agents are there, and say they have a search warrant. You ask to see it, but aren't sure how you're supposed to know whether it's valid or not, and what to do next.*

First, ask to see a badge. Use your best judgment to determine if they are they legit. If so, unless you have reason to stall, you will probably open the door. Ask them to pass you a copy of the warrant through the crack to inspect and keep. Make sure the warrant:

- is for the right address
- allows for a night-time search if it is night
- is signed by a judge or magistrate
- identifies with reasonable particularity what they are searching for

Note what it is they are looking for. They may only look in locations where such thing(s) may be found.

7) *You have been arrested and are sitting in the back of a cop car. The cops/feds start asking you questions. Do you respond at all, or do you ignore them and stare straight ahead? Do you tell them, "I have nothing to say"? Should you say, "I want to speak to a lawyer"? What exactly DO you HAVE to say if you're arrested—just your name and where you live? If you're innocent anyway, why not just answer their questions?*

Are you accused of taking part in an act of peaceful civil disobedience, or of blowing up a lab? If the former, you may speak politely to humanize yourself, but do not talk of the alleged incident. If the latter, tell them you want to speak to a lawyer. At the station, only answer booking questions—such as name, address, and date of birth. They might also be asking questions to determine whether to release you immediately, so you might be asked things such as employment information. Don't give this information if the allegations are serious. If not serious, you may respond. But never answer questions about the alleged incident, as even innocent responses can be spun to be used against you. In fact, they may make up entire conversations, claiming you said certain things. This is harder for them to do if you say nothing. Remember: When in doubt, exercise your right to remain silent.

8) *You are leaving your home to go to school or work, and you find a crowd of feds outside. They tell you that they want to talk to you. Do you ignore them and keep walking to your destination? Or do you go back inside, call a lawyer, and then stick around to make sure they don't raid your place while you're gone?*

A crowd? I'd probably go back inside and call a lawyer. This means you should always keep the number of a good civil rights lawyer (like an NLG lawyer) handy. Get a camera and take pictures of them.

9) *You are coming home from school or work. A crowd of people are outside your home, most likely feds. Do you just walk past them into your home, ignoring them? Do you stop and ask, "Hi, can I help you?" Or do you keep walking past your home, contact an attorney and alert other activists?*

If they are not already inside the house, the best option might be to walk to safety and observe them. Call an attorney.

10) *Should we all carry a cell phone and the names of local lawyers around with us?*

Definitely.

11) *When you hear activists talking about how they think they or you are being followed by the feds, should you assume they're being paranoid? Or is paranoia a reasonable response in today's society when you're a liberationist?*

There's a fine line between being prudently cautious and needing therapy. But you never know. The story of Jan Pottker and Ringling Brothers is unbelievably outrageous (involving long-term surveillance, infiltration, and sabotage to keep her from writing a tell-all book), but undoubtedly credible in my opinion. Always be prepared for the worst.

NEW DELHI, INDIA (11/2) – The Supreme Court declares that New Delhi should be a monkey-free city after citizens filed a lawsuit demanding protection from monkeys who have bitten, robbed and otherwise tormented its human population. The monkeys also reportedly ransack files, bring down power lines, screech at visitors and bang on office windows.

ANCHORAGE, AK (11/4) – Alaska game officials approve the state's first program in more than 15 years to shoot wolves from aircraft, despite the fact that Alaska voters have banned the practice twice in the last decade by ballot initiative.

DANVILLE, CA (11/4) – A small claims court judge awards monetary damage to a woman whose cat companion died during surgery. The award for emotional distress is a break from other legal precedents that have not allowed people to sue for the emotional distress caused by a companion animal's death or injury.

HONOLULU, HI (11/5) – A 27-year old bottlenose dolphin named Akeakamai dies in captivity at the Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Laboratory. Activists had been campaigning for Akeakamai's release for years.

AUSTIN, TX (11/7) – Five Austin police officers are disciplined for going fishing while they were supposed to be protecting a power plant against possible terrorism.

NEW YORK (11/10) – Singer Pink refuses to perform at a charity musical gala after learning that fur hag Anna Wintour would be present at the event.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (11/12) – Rep. Chris Chocola, an Indiana congressman with an Hummer SUV plant in his district, introduces legislation that would define eco-terrorism and make it a federal crime. Chocola said his bill would give prosecutors the tools to put environmentalists who commit violence behind bars.

Maintaining Morale in the face of Government Harassment

It is no secret that the FBI and other law enforcement agencies have stepped up their level of surveillance, harassment, and intimidation lately, as the federal government hands them steadily increasing powers. Recently, Congress slipped a bill through that expands the power of the Patriot Act-- reducing oversight of the FBI and intelligence agencies and effectively giving them the green light to subpoena a broad, new range of documents without any approval from a judge or other outside entity.

While our civil liberties—already inadequate—are further being eroded, we face a much more serious and urgent problem: the suffering and death of billions of animals every year. Over the past several months, the FBI has been rearing its ugly head in the form of grand jury subpoenas, surveillance, home visits to activists, and raids on homes and offices. Yet those who are targeted are as determined as ever to stay on course.

No one is immune from the harassment. In early October, thirty agents raided the home of animal advocates John and Amy Feldmann (John is the lead singer of Goldfinger), simply because they had been out leafleting against a campaign target that was previously hit by the ALF Federal prosecutors also continued to harass activists with grand jury subpoenas – most recently serving Marie Mason and Frank Ambrose of the Sweetwater Alliance and Massasauga Earth First!. The subpoenas ordered them to submit fingerprints and DNA samples to a federal grand jury being convened in Grand Rapids.

The FBI will stoop as low as they can in an attempt to gather intelligence on activists. In Minnesota, FBI agents used an activist's tragic suicide as a pretext to get her family and activist friends to talk about the movement. Under the guise of investigating the death of Angie Davis, FBI agents first visited two activists in Minnesota. Shortly thereafter, they visited the work place of Angie's former partner under the same guise. They spent approximately 5 to 7 minutes asking questions. Although at first all the questions were relevant to Angie's death, they suddenly jumped to focus on other activists— their philosophies, political opinions and involvement with the University of Minnesota group S.O.A.R. (Student Organization for Animal Rights). The interview was immediately terminated.

Intelligence agencies in San Francisco used the red herring approach initially, followed by surveillance and questioning. On August 28, two pipe bombs were detonated outside of Chiron, a Bay Area pharmaceutical company and Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) customer. Within a matter of days, the FBI issued an All Points Bulletin seeking three individuals whom the agency claimed were seen driving near Chiron shortly before the explosion. After some time, news agencies managed to track down these elusive persons of interest, only to learn they had absolutely nothing to do with the explosion. Weeks later, explosive devices were placed outside Shaklee, another company with ties to HLS. The FBI soon turned its attention to a Bay Area resident, D. Andreas San Diego.

Media reports indicated that after several days of surveillance on San Diego, the FBI lost track of its "suspect" sometime over the weekend of October 4. On the evening of Tuesday, October 7, after not having heard from Andreas for several days, one of his friends went over to his home. Upon arriving at the house, the young man was detained by FBI agents and arrested on a trumped-up Attempted Burglary charge. He and his mother were informed that if they told anyone about his arrest the authorities would "throw the book at him." Another FBI agent told him that he was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. The following weekend, after almost a week in jail, the young man's mother finally bailed him out. His charges have since been dropped.

Later that night and the following morning, agents were subsequently spotted outside the homes of several Bay Area activists. At the home of activists in Santa Cruz, FBI agents remained stationed outside for the first day, using binoculars to peek inside. Meanwhile, at the home of a young woman living in the East Bay area, FBI agents informed her that her house had been "sealed" and that she would not be allowed to leave while they tried to get a federal search warrant. They claimed they were seeking Andreas and suspected she might be hiding him. The young woman was kept confined to her house for hours until another local activist arrived with two attorneys. Shortly thereafter federal agents were forced to admit there would be no search warrant forthcoming, and they released their "seal" on the home.

While the East Bay house was still "under seal," federal agents also knocked on the door of a single mother, who was home alone with her baby. They also claimed they would be getting a search warrant soon. Fearing for her safety, the young mother left with her child. Of course that warrant never materialized either, and an attorney came to the scene to assist her in dealing with this harassment as well. That same day, agents also came to the workplace of two Bay Area activists. They were turned away at the door and simply advised to talk to the lawyers of the activists in question.

After these initial actions, FBI and ATF agents continued to blatantly follow and harass activists for the next week. At this juncture any continuing surveillance has been scaled back to a much more discreet levels.

How is it that, despite these encounters, activists and their organizations continue to thrive? The simple answer is that there are significantly more important concerns: Billions of animals are dying each day only to end up on people's plates, fur farms still kill animals in the millions, animals are still suffering inside laboratories, and the list is endless.

Take for instance, a raid during the spring of this year on the home and offices of Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) in New Jersey. FBI agents swarmed the office and home for hours, leaving with nearly every piece of office equipment. Within hours, SHAC was back up and running as if nothing had happened. There are a multitude of examples over the past several years of activists enduring government harassment with little impact on their activism.

The common threads to these success stories are few, basic, and easy to learn. First, security culture can never be underestimated. Educating oneself, activist organizations, co-workers, family members, roommates, and any other potentially affected people in an activist's life about how to deal with the police and other law enforcement agencies is invaluable. San Francisco activists have said that this was the key to the FBI's failure at every attempt at questioning local activists.

Second is the old movement adage that anything they do to us pales in comparison with what the animals are enduring. While rhetorical on one level, activists should remember that the harassment is temporary, can be overcome, and is only a result of the impact we are having on our targets. Furthermore, it is rare that our lives are in danger, or that we are in risk of physical harm. While FBI visits, grand jury subpoenas, and raids are stressful and can put our jobs or living situations in jeopardy, our ability to stand up and resist in the face of these threats only strengthens our resolve.

Finally, never underestimate the power of publicity and visibility. With some rare exceptions, calling media to the site of an FBI visit not only exposes and usually scares away the agents, it gives activists a platform to talk about the more important issue: the animals. Generating attention for an upcoming grand jury date or even recurring FBI surveillance offers an avenue for activists to educate the community about these agents of repression as well as shines a spotlight on those who like to operate behind the scenes. Intelligence agencies do not like attention. Secrecy is their weapon.

It is a hard place to be when one's friends are being subpoenaed to grand juries, having their homes raided, being visited by FBI agents, enduring constant surveillance, and even being indicted or imprisoned. It is even harder to be the subject of those actions. With education on security, support from activists and friends, and the mantra that the causes you fight for supersede any inconveniences caused by harassment, the agents of repression will be impotent.

BROOKFIELD, IL (11/12) – Brookfield Zoo officials shoot and kill an 11-year-old captive northern grey wolf named Cinnamon Bear. The wolf had attacked a woman who scaled a fence and stuck her arm through chain-link to "pet" the sleeping animal.

BERLIN, MD (11/13) – Tyson Foods closes down a processing plant in one of its least-profitable plants, dissolving 650 jobs. The company offered workers jobs at its three Virginia plants, and other poultry plants near Berlin offered some Tyson workers jobs.

NETHERLANDS (11/15) – The Dutch House of Commons accepts by majority a resolution to ban the trade and import of cat and dog fur in the Netherlands. In an interview, Dutch MP Krista van Velzen (who proposed the resolution) wrote, "There is a strong need to stop all fur farming immediately. I hope this resolution is a step towards that."

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OH (11/15) – A state judge orders Buckeye Egg Farm to close down, condemning 14 million hens at the farm to death. Some 350,000 a week are expected to be killed. Activists worry that because there are so many hens, the farm may resort to burying them alive.

UPSALA, SWEDEN (11/18) – Police say they are investigating reports that someone may have injected rat poison into meat on supermarket shelves, based on reports by high school students that vegan activists had injected rat poison into meat on sale at a store there belonging to the Hemkoep chain.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (11/20) – U.S. Senator Carl Levin introduces Senate Resolution 269, condemning the Canadian seal hunt. In it, he writes, "The clubbing of baby seals can't be defended or justified, and Canada should end it just as we ended the Alaska baby seal massacre 20 years ago."

COURT REPORTS & LEGAL UPDATES

courtesy of the Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network

THREE ELVES PLEAD GUILTY Between December 2003 and January 2004, three American eco-activists - Adam Blackwell, Aaron Linas and John Wade - pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy to destroy by fire vehicles and property used in interstate commerce. The charges relate to a series of Earth Liberation Front actions that occurred in the Richmond, Virginia area in 2002.

The actions included pouring sugar into the gas and hydraulic tanks of construction vehicles & breaking the vehicles' electrical systems; defacing the glass windows of McDonalds & Burger King restaurants with etching fluid; destruction of the electrical systems, doors, & windows of homes under construction in Goochland County; attempts to destroy a crane and other construction vehicles being used at a construction site for the Short Pump Town Centre; permanently marking the windows and bodies of 25 SUVs at the Universal Ford dealership with the words "ELF" and "SUV"; destroying a vehicle at Whitten Brothers Jeep Chrysler by smashing its windows, denting the vehicle's body with a bat or pipe and slashing the leather seats; and destruction of SUVs at residences in Henrico County.

All three are currently on bail and are due to be sentenced in April 2004. ELP will naturally keep you informed as to the outcome of the sentences.

ITALIAN GM TRIAL In October 2000, the eco-group *Il Silvestre* organized two days of action against GM technology in Florence. On day one, almost 100 people demonstrated against the Agriculture University and at the premises of Menarini pharmaceutical. They handed out leaflets, blocked roads, and covered walls with protest slogans. Menarini pharmaceutical was also paint-bombed.

On day two, the protests grew to 300 people who planned to march through the city center, ending up outside the DuPont building. However, the riot police decided to block the streets to prevent the march.

The protesters tried to negotiate with the police to be allowed to continue in their lawful protest. However, the negotiations ended with the police battalion charging the demonstrators. As police chased the protesters through the city centre, the demonstrators used their placards to defend themselves from the police batons.

At the end of the day, scores of protesters were injured and 26 people, six of whom were remanded into custody for a few days, were under arrest.

Over the past two years, 13 of those arrested have been subjected to prolonged court hearings in which they have been accused of resisting the police, criminal damage and various minor charges. At the latest hearing the prosecutor asked that four of the protesters, whom the prosecution claims were the ringleaders of the demonstration, each receive two-year jail sentences. The prosecution is requesting that the remaining nine be jailed for eighteen months.

All the defendants are due to appear in court again on the April 26, 2004. Naturally, ELP will keep you informed as to the outcome. In the meanwhile we urge people to send letters of support & donations to: Il Silvestre, via del Cuore, 156127 Pisa, Italy

FRENCH ANTI-GM PRISONER On January 12, 2003, Ren Riesel started a seven-month sentence for destroying GM crops at a farm in Novartis as well as crops in the CIRAD (Centre International de recherche Agronomique pour le developement) laboratory, in the south of France in 1998.

SWEDISH ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONER In February 2004, Swedish animal rights activist Hanna Ekegren, started a ten-month prison sentence for her part in an "open" (accountable) direct action against a hatchery. The activists involved sabotaged a conveyor belt and smashed thousands of eggs before turning themselves into the police.

TWO CHARGED IN CA, USA In 2003, ALF & ELF activists visited the town of Chico, California in the U.S., culminating in the firebombing of two McDonalds restaurants. The FBI investigated local activists, some of whom appeared before a grand jury.

The authorities failed to find the ALF & ELF activists. But it was alleged by a police informant that two of the local activists, Harjit Gill & Robert Brooks, who had both openly supported the ELF & ALF, had lied to the grand jury. Both men were consequently arrested and charged with two counts of lying to a federal officer and one count of lying to a federal grand jury.

Harjit & Robert are in need of support (especially financial support), and we ask that people send donations to: Harjit Gill & Robert Brooks Defense Fund, c/o 44 Galaxy Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966, USA. Please make all donations payable to Harjit Gill.

FINNISH ANIMAL RIGHTS TRIAL In late January/early February 2004, two unnamed Finnish activists were found guilty of liberating mink from a fur farm a few years ago. One activist (a woman) was given an eight-month suspended prison sentence and fined 17,400 euros. The second (a man) was given a seven-month suspended sentence and a fine of 5000 to 9000 euros.

PEACE ACTIVIST RETURNED TO PRISON On the 9th of March 2004, eco/peace activist Helen Woodson was released from prison, after having served a 27-year sentence for three separate actions: 1) Robbing a bank and then setting fire to the money whilst condemning capitalism, corporate greed & the destruction of the environment; 2) Mailing bullets to corporate directors with messages attached telling them their actions where like bullets fired into the heart of creation. 3) Using a pneumatic jackhammer to disarm a nuclear missile silo as part of a Ploughshares action.

In August 2003, while authorities debated Helen's chances of release, ELP reported that Helen had made a statement saying if she was released she would carry out another unspecified action...

Part of Helen's bail conditions upon her release were that she report to federal probation officials in Kansas City, Missouri, by March 12, 2004. Helen was true to her word, and on the 11th of March 2004 she walked into the federal courthouse, walked up to the security desk and allegedly poured a tin of red paint over the security apparatus, before making a Christian-inspired eco/peace statement.

It is also alleged that sometime between her release from prison on March 9 and her re-arrest on March 11, Helen sent four letters and made one phone call, the contents of which may have been "construed as making threats."

FEDS CLAIM ACTIVIST TORCHED SUVs On March 9, Environmentalist William Cottrell (known to his friends as 'Billy') was arrested on suspicion of an arson attack at an SUV dealership that saw the destruction of 125 vehicles. The action was claimed by the ELF.

CANADIAN AUTHORITIES ARREST U.S. ACTIVIST We regret to report Tre Arrow has been arrested in Canada. Tre is wanted by the American FBI for his alleged involvement in an arson attack on some logging trucks (which were not claimed by any particular group) and an arson attack on some sand & gravel trucks (which were claimed by the Earth Liberation Front).

AMSTERDAM (11/21) – After blockading the harbor of IJmuiden, 13 Greenpeace activists chain themselves to a cargo ship to protest against its illegal load of Cameroon timber. The action was done in protest of the deforestation of the habitat of threatened chimpanzees and forest elephants in Cameroon.

CHICAGO, IL (11/22) – USDA agents seize Delhi, an ailing elephant, from John Cuneos Hawthorn Corporation, to be transported to The Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee. Delhi has been suffering from abscesses, lesions, and severe chemical burns to her feet and is covered with scars.

LOS ANGELES, CA (11/25) – A judge issues a temporary restraining order that effectively prohibits ADL-LA activists from demonstrating at the Los Angeles Animal Services Department or at the Santa Monica home of Jerry Greenwalt, its general manager. According to Greenwalt, the last time activists held a protest at his home, his wife had a heart attack the next day.

DES MOINES, IA (11/26) – The Better Business Bureau says that egg producers should stop advertising humane treatment of hens under guidelines that allow them to be crammed in cages so tiny they can't flap their wings. United Egg Producers had developed a logo for egg cartons claiming the eggs to be "Animal Care Certified" based on scientific standards developed by a group of independent experts.

ANCHORAGE, AK (11/27) – On the same day the Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced that it had approved three teams of pilots and gunners to begin shooting wolves from airplanes near McGrath, a Superior Court judge in Anchorage issues a court order to temporarily halt the wolf-killing plan.

Some Words on Prisoner Support

By Jeff "Free" Luers



Prisoner support can be a very challenging issue. Any movement is only as strong as its support for its fallen comrades. Any movement that fails to aid and support its political prisoners or prisoners of war will ultimately fail. Each prisoner's needs will vary depending on the case, length of sentence and where s/he is imprisoned. All prisoners, however, need emotional and monetary support.

Monetary support is an easy one. If you can afford to send a few bucks, it is always appreciated. Many prisoners have to pay for their own hygiene products, as well as food to supplement the prisoner's diet. These items are often 200%-300% more expensive than on the streets. So, every little bit helps.

Fundraisers (bake sales, shows, etc.) are an excellent way to raise money and spread information about prisoners and their cases. They are also a great forum for building support.

Perhaps the hardest part of prisoner support is emotional support. It is never easy to write a prisoner for the first time. People are unsure of what to write and how their words will affect the prisoner.

As prisoners we experience the outside world through letters. There is nothing I love more than to get a letter describing a beautiful sunset or amazing wilderness someone saw. It is always great, whether you are a prisoner or not, to make a new friend. Getting to know someone through letters can be really fun. Sharing news from the outside, political ideas/views, personal experiences . . . really just about anything is good. Just getting mail raises the morale of prisoners.

Remember not to over commit yourself, though. It is easy to want to write to a lot of prisoners. But it is better to pick one or two who you can write to regularly (every one to four months) than to not be able to keep up with your letters.

When it comes to supporting individual prisoners (e.g. long-term prisoners fighting for their freedom or life), the support needs to be tailored to fit with their campaign goals. It is important to know things they support being done on their behalf. Communicating with them, or in some cases, their designated support people, and starting a support group in your area is a good way to start.

Obviously, needs will vary from prisoner to prisoner. Some will be raising legal funds as a priority; others may simply be asking people to write letters of support to governors or prison officials. Still others may be asking for solidarity actions and/or demos.

Strong support networks and visible discontent with a prisoner's sentence and/or conditions will be the number one factor in obtaining justice. It is only through the word and dedication of people on the outside that all political prisoners and POW's will gain their release.

Having said this, I do not know of any prisoner—though I can only speak for myself—who would rather have energy directed toward us than to the causes for which we fought. The absolute most valuable support that any one person can do is to continue the struggle for which we came to prison. Never give up; never stop fighting until all are free: Earth, animal and human. Onward to a world without prisoners.

Jeff "Free" Luers is an environmental activist who was convicted of torching three SUVs in an action where no one was injured. He is currently serving twenty-two years and eight months in Oregon, without possibility of parole. To learn more about Free's case, visit www.freefreenow.org.

PRISONER LISTINGS

provided courtesy of the Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network.

ANIMAL LIBERATION PRISONERS

Dave Blenkinsop EM7899, HMP Bullingdon, Oxfordshire OX6 0PZ England, UK. Serving ten years: 1) Three years for a stave attack on the Managing Director of HLS; 2) Eighteen months for rescuing 600 guinea pigs from a lab supplier; 3) Five and a half years for planting incendiary devices under abattoir vehicles.

Paul Holliday KA9328, HMP Lindholme, Bawtry Road, Hatfield Woodhouse, Doncaster, Yorks DN7 6EE UK. Sentenced to 18 months for making calls to various animal abusers including Covance staff, HLS share holders, hunt scum, farmers, agricultural suppliers, shooters and other low life.

Paul Le Boutillier KA9326, HMP Hull, Hedon Road, Hull, HU9 5LS, England, UK. Sentenced to 5 years for making calls to various animal abusers including Covance staff, HLS share holders, hunt scum, farmers, agricultural suppliers, shooters and other low lifes.

Hanna Ekegren, Box 1005, 718 92 Frovi, Sweden. Serving ten months for an accountable animal rights action that saw the damaging of a hatchery egg conveyor belt and the destruction of thousands of eggs.

ECO-DEFENSE PRISONERS

Marco Camenisch, Flughafengefangnis, ZURICH-FLUGHAFEN, Postfach 8058, Zurich, Switzerland. Serving ten years for using explosives to destroy electricity pylons leading from nuclear power stations. In 2002 he completed a twelve-year sentence in Italy for similar actions in Italy. Marco reads French, German, Spanish & Italian.

William "Billy" Cottrell #0403300535, Central Detention Center, 630 East Rialto Avenue, San Bernardino,CA 92415-0025, USA. Arrested on suspicion of an arson attack at an SUV dealership that destroyed 125 vehicles in the summer of 2003.

Iñaki Garcia Koch, Carcel de Pamplona, C/ San Roque. Apdo. 250, 31080 - Iruñez - Pamplona, Navarra (España), Spain. Serving just under five years for sabotaging the controversial Itoiz dam construction site.

continued on next page

UNITED KINGDOM (11/28) – A High Court judge throws out an attempt to end the factory farming "broiler chickens," rejecting claims by Compassion in World Farming that the cruel starvation of modern "broiler" hens is in breach of EU law. Mr. Justice Newman ruled that there had to be a balance between the needs of animals and intensive farming's commercial interests, and that he could not extend the law because of the "stark reality of the position and status animals have in the human food chain."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (11/28)- Activist Ralph Hahnheuser, of Animal Liberation South Australia, puts small amounts of pig flesh into the feed of 70,000 live sheep destined for shipment from Australia to the Middle East. The action taints the shipment and halts it. (Muslims do not eat pig-derived food for religious reasons).

KALISPELL, MT (11/30) – A bowhunter is attacked by a female grizzly bear when he gets too close to the bear's cub. After charging, knocking down and biting the man, the bear flees the scene. The man was flown to a nearby hospital, condition unknown.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (12/1) - A coalition of wildlife protection organizations, hikers, and Native Americans file suit in U.S. District Court to stop New Jersey's first bear hunt in 33 years. The groups claim that the hunt would violate federal environmental laws. The suit comes just two months after a federal court ruled that a similar hunting program at Cape Cod National Seashore was unlawful.

TRENTON, NJ (12/1) - Animal rights groups asked a U.S. District Court judge Monday to keep hunters out of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area one week before New Jersey's first bear hunt in 33 years is set to begin. The coalition says the hunt would violate federal environmental laws because no study of the hunt's impact has been done.

prisoner listing continued from the previous page

Jeffrey Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St. Salem, OR 97310, USA. Serving twenty-two years & eight months for arson on a car dealership & attempted arson of an oil truck.

Craig Marshall, #13797662, SRCI, 777 Stanton Blvd, Ontario, OR 97914 USA. Serving five years and five months for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of incendiary devices and having used the devices to destroy SUVs to raise attention to the environmentally-destructive nature of these vehicles.

Fran Thompson, 1090915, Chillicothe Correctional Center, 1500 W. Third St, Chillicothe, MO 64601, USA. Serving Life for killing, in self-defense, a stalker who had broken into her home. Before her imprisonment Fran was active in eco, animal & anti-nuke campaigning.

Helen Woodson, 03231-045 FMC Carswell, POB 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA. Viloated her parole conditions after serving twenty-seven years for: 1) Robbing a federal bank of $26,000 and burning the money whilst distributing a statement denouncing materialism, wealth and power that caused environmental destruction; 2) Mailing .38-calibre bullets with warning letters to various Government & corporate officials stating that their actions were like bullets fired into the heart of creation; 3) Using a jackhammer to carry out a Ploughshares direct disarmament against a Minuteman II missile silo.

Tre Arrow #05850722, Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre, 4216 Wilkinson Road, Victoria BC, V8Z 5B2, CANADA. Arrested in Canada for his alleged involvement in an arson attacks on logging trucks and sand & gravel trucks in Oregon in 2001. Contributions for his defense may be sent to: Tre Arrow Legal Defense Fund, 125 NE 83rd, Portland, Oregon 97220

NO COMPROMISE 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 survival as the earth and animal peoples' frontline defenders depends on it.

The No Compromise Defense Fund exists to provide support to victims of government repression who are targeted for their actions in defense our our sacred earth mother and her animal nations. Please do your part to help our people in this 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.

Please earmark donations "Direct Action Defense Fund" & send to
No Compromise 740A 14th Street #125 San Francisco, CA 94114

Writing to Prisoners

One of the main problems that puts people off from getting involved in supporting prisoners is a feeling of intimidation about writing to a prisoner for the first time. It is very hard to write a letter to someone you don't know. People find that they either don't know what to say, feel there are things they can't talk about, or think that prisoners won't be interested in what they have to say. Well, this is a problem most of us have had to deal with and get over, so we've drawn up some suggestions to help you. Obviously, these aren't rigid guidelines, and we don't pretend to have solved all potential problems in this space. Different people will write different letters. But hopefully, the guidelines below will be of some use.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Some prisons restrict the number of letters a prisoner can write or receive. Prisoners may also have to buy their own stamps and envelopes, and prisoners aren't millionaires, so don't necessarily expect a reply to your card or letter. A lot of prisons allow stamps or a self-addressed envelope to be included with a card or letter, but some don't. Letters do also get stopped, read, delayed, and 'diverted.' If you suspect your letters have been or will be nicked by the screws, you can send it 'Recorded Delivery.' Although this unfortunately costs a lot, prison officials do then they have to open it in the prisoner's presence. Also, you should put a return address-- not just so the prisoner can reply (!), but also because some prisons don't allow letters without a return address. Of course, it doesn't have to be *your* address, but be careful about using PO Box numbers, as some prisons don't allow these either!

WRITTING FOR THE FIRST TIME

Say who you are, and (if it's relevant) what group you're from. Some people reckon it's better to be upfront about your politics as well, to give prisoners the choice to stay in contact with you or not. Say where you heard about them and their case. The first letter can be reasonably short-- maybe only a postcard. Obviously, when you get to know people better you'll have more to talk about. If you are writing to a "framed" prisoner whom you believe to be innocent, letting the prisoner know that you believe them will bring them confidence.

Some people writing to prisoners are afraid to talk about their lives and what they are up to because they think either the prisoner is not interested or that this may depress people banged up, especially prisoners with long sentences. Although in some cases this may be true, on the whole a letter is the highpoint of the day for most prisoners. Prison life is dead boring, and any news that livens it up, whether or not it's about people they know, is generally welcome. Especially if you didn't know them before they went to prison, prisoners will want to know about you and what your life is like. But use your common sense; don't write about anything that is likely to either get a prisoner in shit with the screws, or get you (or anyone else) in trouble with the cops.

THEY'RE IN THERE FOR US; WE'RE OUT HERE FOR THEM

For people imprisoned from our movements and struggles, it's vital to keep them involved in the ongoing resistance. Telling them about actions, sending them magazines (if they want them), and discussing ideas or strategies with them are good ideas. Use your head, though; some people will just want to keep their heads down till they get out.

Based on the www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk adaption of a leaflet produced by the Anarchist Black Cross.

ANCHORAGE, AK (12/6) - An Alaska judge rejects an attempt by an animal rights group to stop a state-sponsored program allowing hunters to shoot wolves from airplanes in Alaska. The plaintiffs asked Superior Court Judge Sharon L. Gleason to grant a preliminary injunction to stop the shooting, part of a wolf control program intended to boost the moose population in some areas.

THAMES, UK (12/7) - A fisherman is dragged to his death in the Thames by a powerful fish pulling on his line. Stanley King, who was recovering from an operation, got tangled in his line and was pulled into the water at Windsor, Berkshire, after a tug from the 3.5lb barbell.

TAIJI, JAPAN (12/9)-- Allison Lance-Watson and Alex Cornelissen are released from prison after pay $8000. The two had been taken into custody after diving into the ocean and cutting through nets to allow dolphins, who had been slated for slaughter, to escape.

BANGALORE, INDIA (12/10)-- Unfazed by protests against its operations in India by animal activists and farmers, Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) announces that it will open 6 to 8 more outlets in the country next year, mainly be in southern India.

SPRINGDALE, AK (12/15) - Tyson Foods, the largest animal killer in the U.S., announces that it has opened an office of Animal Well-Being, seeking to assure retail and food-service customers as well as consumers that it takes humane animal handling seriously.

ALAMOGORDO, NM (12/14) News media report that Dr. Frederick Coulston, the notorious animal researcher and engineer of countless cruel primate studies, dies at the age of 89.

LOS ANGELES, CA (12/22) - Josh Connole, an activist who was arrested earlier in the year in connection with the destruction of vehicles at a Southern California SUV dealership, asks a federal court today to unseal affidavits that describe how law enforcement officials zeroed in on him.

UPDATE: Dismantling Huntingdon Life Sciences

The current record: five hours. That's how long it took for Mellon Investment Services, Huntingdon's transfer agent, to dump the lab. Early afternoon on the day Mellon was announced as a target, the SHAC USA office got a call. It was from the Mellon office in Connecticut.

"Your people are over here, running round, pamphlesizing!"

"Pamphlesizing??" SHAC asked.

"You know what we mean!" the Mellon employee yelled. "We're going to have them arrested!"

"Go ahead," said SHAC. "What do you want us to do about it?"

No one was arrested, and after a similar visit at its headquarters and a home visit from the ALF, Mellon decided a taste of the SHAC campaign was enough and, frankly, they had no interest in a full dish. Let this be a lesson to all future targets: When you get a letter suggesting you respond or face protest pressure, take your out while you have it!

HLS management has been getting the royal treatment as well, with ALF attacks against both Andrew Baker (HLS CEO) and Richard Michaelson (HLS CFO). The ALF visited Baker's "secret"



California home, covering it in slogans in red paint. They later paint-stripped Michaelson's car. Whether it's putting paint on or taking it off, the ALF are experts! Now that the word is out, above-ground activists have started protests at Baker's home. Along with bi-weekly demos at Baker's other pad in NYC, this puppy killer is not welcome on either coast!

And that's just the start of all the direct action that's been happening since the last issue of NC! While the ALF has wrecked Sumitomo surfboards and redecorated executives' houses, the 'Vegan Dumpster Militia' covered the homes belonging to Forest Labs' employees in rotten fruit and cake. Mmmmm.

But the most explosive actions, of course, are the setting off of two bombs in California by the newly-surfaced 'Revolutionary Cells' last summer. No one was injured in either attack, but both Chiron and Shaklee (HLS customer and customer subsidiary, respectively) got a taste of how far activists are willing to go to close the HLS torture chambers. As if that were not enough, Chiron has faced countless home visits, Christmas presents of 'cat crap' and a $25,000 charge made to a senior executive's



credit cards. In retaliation, Chiron has sued SHAC USA with a SLAPP suit (strategic litigation against public participation), but never fear— the SHAC legal team was near. The case is currently becoming Chiron's latest SHAC nightmare on account of that pesky little thing called the First Amendment.

Conferences across the country, from Urology festivals to pharmaceutical investor forums and 'Quality Assurance' seminars, are being met with warning letters and followed on by swarms of emails, calls, and demonstrators mingling in the crowds. At one Washington, D.C. event, HLS was greeted with "ALF Welcome Here" banners, as well as one clever activist disrupting the anti-SHAC presentation. Many HLS customers have had enough, and the faxed letters, vowing never to conduct business with HLS again, are rolling in all the time.

So is all this pressure on customers actually working?? You bet! Huntingdon's most recent financial results came out, and Brian Cass (HLS' Managing Director) admitted to a "softening of orders," and the results show that HLS' revenues are stopped dead! Now all we need to do is push them in the other direction, until they are so low, HLS cannot survive.

All of this, and it's only just the tip of the iceberg. For a full recap on all the action, direct action, and victories you've help to chalk up since you the last issue of NC – check out www.shacamerica.net. The 2003 Year in Review is jaw-dropping exciting, (new and free) literature is ready for your demos, and major Word Week for Animals in Labs (WWAIL) announcements are being posted as we go to print. What more could you ask for!



WASHINGTON, D.C. (12/27) - Just days after discovering the nation's first case of mad cow disease, the United States loses nearly all of its beef exports as more than a dozen countries stop buying American beef as insurance against potential infection. In Britain, 143 people died of the human illness after an outbreak of mad cow in the 1980s.

UNION SPRINGS, AL (12/28) - As a Holiday Present for the animals, the Master Rack Hunting club catches on fire, causing more than $200,000 in damage. Firefighters attribute the blaze to a kitchen grease fire.

RICHMOND, VA (1/12) - Three men plead guilty to vandalizing more than 25 sport-utility vehicles, construction equipment and building sites on behalf of the ELF. As part of agreements with prosecutors, Aaron Linas, Adam Blackwell and John Wade, all of Henrico County, admitted to conspiring to damage and destroy property in Richmond's western suburbs between July and October 2002. Each defendant faces up to five years in prison when sentenced in April.

RICHMOND, VA (1/13) - State Sen. Val Stevens introduces Senate Bill 6114 to combat "eco-terrorists." The bill says that, depending on the amount of damage, eco-terrorism can be a misdemeanor or a felony. A suspect convicted of the worst category could face up to 10 years in prison and/or $20,000 in fines.

SEATTLE, WA (1/14) - Activist Allison Lance is arrested when she shows up for her grand jury date. She is being charged with one count of perjury.

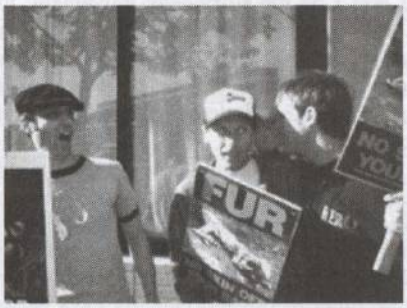
BELGIUM (1/16) - It is announced that Belgium will ban the import and sale of dog, cat and seal fur.

Gossip: Social Politics and Activism

by Neva Davis

When I started to write this article I intended to write a brief argument for not blindly believing all the rumors and gossip we hear about other activists. What seems like harmless gossip can actually cripple groups and put the brakes on our efforts to help animals.

As I researched this topic and spoke to other activists about it I began to realize that gossip is just one aspect of the kind of social politics that runs throughout the Animal Rights movement. Sometimes these behaviors can be detrimental to our cause, pushing good activists out of the movement and sabotaging projects. I hope that this article can bring some light and generate discussion on these aspects of activism we rarely acknowledge.



Why would we want to avoid gossip? First, gossip limits productivity by distracting us from the larger picture: helping animals. Gossip also breeds mistrust, as even those who are not victims of rumors begin to fear being blacklisted. Good activists may be improperly labeled as security risks, not team players, or troublemakers and they can become ostracized from participating in a productive manner. Finally, new psychological research shows that gossip can actually backfire against the gossipers themselves; people subconsciously associate the negative aspects of gossip with the person spreading it.

Why do we gossip?

But to discuss the social politics of the movement, we need to look more at why we gossip, how it affects those we gossip about, and what it ultimately does to our work to help animals.

Gossip is a tool used in establishing a social hierarchy and vying for power. Those who use gossip do it for the following reasons:

1) it makes the speaker important, i.e. he or she is sharing vital news that others do not know;
2) it bonds individuals—they share in the pleasure of a secret and now have something in common;
3) it establishes allegiances, i.e. I think you're important enough that I'll tell you this secret, but now you owe me the same regard;
4) it can damage adversaries without the display of an open attack, while depriving them of the chance to defend themselves.

As cold and calculating as this sounds, it is very basic human behavior, and to a certain extent we all do it, often without realizing it. We may rush home to tell a best friend or partner a bit of news and enjoy the moment as a bonding experience; we revel in being the first to know something exciting or important. Activists use gossip to bond with one another in groups and form friendships. Unfortunately none of those reasons have anything to do with our cause; they are only about ourselves.

The fallout of gossip

The consequences of unfettered gossip can be very dramatic. Good activists may be ostracized from groups because of negative gossip, and their skills and contributions lost. Some of those who suffer under such negative campaigns may never feel able to return to animal rights work. This means fewer people helping animals, which is never a good thing.

Activists who actually have done poor work or engaged in negative behaviors are denied an opportunity to address those shortfalls and improve; they find themselves suddenly personally attacked. They may be kicked out of their AR group entirely. Again, this is to the great detriment of our movement, because they may have a great deal to contribute to the cause if their energy can be directed properly.

Sometimes, even the truth spread as gossip can be harmful. Real concerns need to be addressed in an open, professional manner, though that is often the most difficult road to take. Unfortunately when someone realizes, for example, that there is a real problem with a group, they may feel powerless and only voice their concerns confidentially to friends. The friends then pass the story on and it becomes gossip. That gossip spreads until it begins to polarize the community, as activists choose sides based on limited or distorted information.

How do we deal with gossip?

Bringing up concerns about activist behavior, management of groups, or security concerns in an open and honest manner requires a great deal of courage and commitment, often more than individuals feel they can muster. There is too much fear of retribution within our movement currently for most individuals to feel empowered to stand up and address problems.

This is why I feel it falls on those in leadership positions in the movement to teach by example. They should distance themselves from rumors. They should encourage group members to speak up without fear of retribution, while at the same time setting limits on discussion so that it cannot continue endlessly. Leaders in the movement should also address their concerns about individuals or groups honestly and openly, even though it may place them in an uncomfortable position. This can only strengthen our groups and make our work to help animals more effective.



In conclusion I would ask all of you to think twice before you believe, start, or spread gossip about activists. Try placing yourself in the other person's shoes. Is there an alternate explanation for their behavior? Also consider whether gossip is beneficial or detrimental to the project at hand and to the movement as a whole. Does repeating this help the animals in any way?

Be kind to each other.

NEW YORK, NY (1/21) - A federal appeals court rules that protest groups cannot cloak themselves in the First Amendment to escape a state law banning masks at public gathering. "While the First Amendment protects the rights of citizens to express their viewpoints, however unpopular, it does not guarantee ideal conditions for doing so," the appeals court wrote in the ruling.

TACOMA, WA (1/26) - A state Court of Appeals in Tacoma establishes for the first time just how much pain is needed for an animal cruelty conviction. The court said "mild discomfort" was enough to convict an animal abuser, and it defined pain as everything from "mental uneasiness" and "dull distress" to "unbearable agony." The court's broad definition of pain will make it easier to convict people under the second-degree animal-cruelty law.

CAMBRIDGE, UK (1/26) - Plans to build a primate research lab are axed after it is determined that the costs, including measures needed to protect the facility from animal rights militants, would make the laboratory uneconomic. "We can't afford to build and run Fort Knox," a source connected with the Project told the BBC.

LOS ANGELES, CA (1/27) - For the first time, a federal judge rules part of Patriot Act unconstitutional. The section declared unconstitutional bars giving expert advice or assistance to groups designated foreign terrorist organizations.

LOS ANGELES, CA (1/27) - Former activist Geoff Kearns is subpoenaed to appear before a Seattle grand jury on Thursday, January 29, 2004.

ENGLEWOOD, NJ (1/30) - A pre-dawn blaze sweeps through a McDonalds on Palisade Avenue. The restaurant had stood between William Street and Humphrey Street since 1975, a McDonald's spokeswoman said. The owners, who have run it since May 1984, plan to rebuild, she said.

CONTEMPLATING POLITICAL VIOLENCE

by Craig Rosebraugh

For political activists, it is crucial to constantly analyze strategies and tactics to ensure that the activities we engage in are effective and worthwhile. For those who do continually engage in the analytical process, the time comes when each individual must answer the question "Am I involved in particular strategies and tactics because they are truly capable of advancing the movement and stopping a given injustice, or am I primarily acting only to appease my own personal conscience?" Failing to ask this question and to honestly answer it commonly leads to burnout and dropout on an individual level and ineffectiveness and ultimate failure for movements as a whole.

When pondering the above question it may not be easily understood how to determine if a particular tactic and strategy has been exhausted or is ineffective. The simplest answer is that when a tactic or strategy has been repeatedly unsuccessful over a lengthy period-- thus causing not the growth but often the stagnation and even demise of a movement-- that tactic and/or strategy on its own should be deemed ineffective and exhausted. The desirable question then becomes "What tactic and/or strategy needs to be implemented to progress a given movement?"

Here in the United States, societal norms dictate that anyone involved in activist politics has a right to voice opinions and advocate for change-- as long as it is done in accordance with certain guidelines. These rules specifically pertain to a strict adherence to lawful and nonviolent behavior, with the only exception being the occasional use of nonviolent civil disobedience. Yet, even this strategy is commonly looked down upon and is only considered valid if those committing the act work closely with the police and then agree to face all penalties resulting from the disobedient behavior.

Owing to the power and enforcement of these societal norms, nearly all individuals and organizations involved in social and political movements in the United States adhere to this lawful and nonviolent policy. The most obvious question then needs to be considered: Has a strict adherence to lawful and/or nonviolent activities ever solely advanced a social or political movement in U.S. history? How about internationally? The answer to both of these questions is a firm "no," and that is precisely why those in power positions in the United States are so adamant about people adhering to the state-sanctioned, society-approved methods of political and social change. These people realize that if the lawful and nonviolent policies are followed religiously, no progress will ever be made in various movements, and thus, their power positions will never be threatened.

Many in this country believe that nonviolence has a rich and successful history in the United States and internationally. Unfortunately, this mythical perception has taken a dominant position in many westernized societies resulting from many western writers and filmmakers refusing to provide an accurate portrayal of nonviolence history and its relationship with political violence. In nearly every popular case of reported nonviolence success, the progress that came resulted only from the assistance of politically violent actions.

By far, the most commonly referred to example of successful nonviolence application is the case of Gandhi advocating for civil rights in South Africa and independence in India. The overwhelming majority of books available in the United States, and even the legendary Gandhi film, would have readers and viewers believing that Gandhi's nonviolent methods forced the British to give up colonial rule of India, thus granting its independence. Nothing could be further from the truth. In addition to Britain's suffering from the involvement in two World Wars and the declining rate of colonial occupations during that time, there was also a fierce and violent contingency to the independence movement. This violent element successfully instilled an atmosphere of fear into the British government, making Gandhi and his nonviolent followers the more appealing of two opponents. Churchill realized that if his government did not deal with Gandhi, they would be faced with the more unruly and uncontrollable violent masses. Thus, India's independence, achieved in 1947, resulted from a combination of strategies, both nonviolent and politically violent.

A similar story is repeated in the U.S. civil rights movement, another commonly cited example of successful nonviolence application. While the enfranchisement and desegregation campaigns, of which King became a major focal point, did achieve some success, it was only made possible by the less popular, violent elements of the civil rights movement. Similar to the Indian independence movement, the violent contingency of the civil rights movement made individuals such as King appear much more attractive to white racists. They knew that if they did not deal with King and the nonviolent sector, they would be forced to face the violent elements, which sprouted up with the likes of Marcus Garvey, Robert Williams, Malcolm X and the black power movement as a whole. To assume that nonviolence was responsible for the success of the civil rights movement is misleading at best. Not only has the civil rights movement never been fully realized, but the progress of the 1950s and 1960s came from mixture of strategies, both violent and nonviolent.

In addition to the civil rights movement, each and every major social and political movement throughout U.S. history has relied upon a mixture of tactics that did include political violence. From the terrorism, armed insurrection and warfare involved in the War for Independence that formed this country; to the numerous violent slave revolts in the abolitionist movement; to the effects of World War I on the suffragette movement; to the riots, bombings and property destruction in the labor movement – no movement has gained a recognizable degree of progress or success without the implementation of political violence.

While no one in his or her right mind would glorify political violence, the question remains: Why is political violence necessary to advance political and social movements in the United States? The simplistic answer is "because other tactics individually have never worked, will never work, and most importantly, cannot work to achieve justice in this country." This is fundamentally a result of the inability for non-violent approaches to actually confront and threaten the opponent-- or in the largest and most crucial sense-- the political structure of the United States.

Gandhian nonviolence-- the predominant school of thought behind nonviolent action in the United States-- dictates that the opponent must be weaned from error by sympathy for the non-violent activists. It states that the opponent must see the evils in his or her own actions and voluntarily change. This, it is too often argued, is the only methodology for creating lasting, positive, social and political change. Nonviolent theorists and practitioners also believe that even if the opponent does not have a healthy and working conscience, he or she could be pressured by a third party who would have sympathy for those engaging in the nonviolent self-suffering that Gandhi prescribed. Martin Luther King, Jr. strongly believed in the third party theory and applied it in various desegregation and enfranchisement campaigns.

The fundamental requirement in order for the above-mentioned non-violent theories to be successful is the opponent's ability to have a healthy and working conscience. The healthy and working conscience is needed to allow the opponent to decipher between right and wrong, good and evil, just and unjust.

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NEWARK, NJ(1/30) - A jury in a U.S. District Court rules for PETA in a lawsuit brought against the group and its former investigator, Michele Rokke, by veterinarian Howard Baker, rejecting his claim of malicious use of process. The suit came after Rokke documented Baker's assaults on animals in his care, which included punching and choking dogs and cats.

TULANCINGO, MEXICO (2/1) - Seven people are killed after a fight breaks out between two families at an illegal cockfighting den. The two families began fighting and relatives drew pistols and began firing wildly after one person was beaten to death, the regional attorney general's office said.

NEW YORK, NY (2/4) - The New York City Council passes Bill of Rights Resolution Res. 60-2004, in opposition to the USA Patriot Act. Part of the resolution "actively work for the repeal of those sections of the USA PATRIOT Act and related federal actions that unduly infringe upon fundamental rights and liberties as recognized in the U.S. Constitution and its Amendments.

UNITED KINGDOM (2/9) - Staff at Chiron Corporation are granted exclusion zones around their homes and workplace to keep out animal rights protesters. The High Court order covers about 900 staff in Uxbridge, west London, Oxford Science Park, Speke in Liverpool and Cranford, Hounslow.

HUNTINGDON, UK (2/9) - Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) says it is preparing private prosecutions against animal rights protesters whom it says are harming its business. The company wrote to Ken Macdonald, director of public prosecutions, last week complaining about the lack of action against demonstrators who are driving away customers and suppliers.

One of the direst questions that needs to be asked then is "Does an individual who is knowingly and purposely involved in unjust activities have a healthy and working conscience?"

Do executives from cigarette corporations, who have knowingly and purposely sold deadly products to people for years have healthy and working consciences? Do vivisectors, who blindly continue their fraudulent and appalling research purely for monetary gain, have healthy and working consciences? Do executives of corporations such as Pacific Lumber, who have been engaged in chopping some of the last remaining old-growth trees in this country strictly for financial gain, have healthy and working consciences? In all these examples, the answer is no. A healthy and working conscience would not allow someone to knowingly and purposely engage in atrocities.

Additionally, those believing in the third party theory are taking for granted the third party having a healthy and working conscience, as well as the desire and ability to actually pressure the primary opponent into changing. In most cases the third party theory proves to be extremely unsuccessful, as that entity has neither the desire, power, nor influence to stop the injustice caused by the primary opponent. For instance, some non-violent elements of the U.S. anti-war movement (if you can even call it a movement, as opposed to an extreme failure) will suggest that when the movement commits massive nonviolence in the United States and is met by repression from the U.S. government, some third party will intervene out of sympathy for the non-violent protesters. Unfortunately, this is a very skewed view of reality, for as the U.S. government is a global bully, terrorist regime, and world power, no country will likely even attempt to intervene. A fine example can be seen currently in the case of the Iraqi massacre. People and governments all around the world know that the U.S. government invaded Iraq unjustly and remains there committing daily atrocities. But what governments are standing up to stop the U.S. government?

Realizing that nonviolent approaches on their own cannot be successful, it seems apparent that those continuing to adhere to a strict code of nonviolence are attempting to appease personal consciences far more than actually attempting to progress their given issue or movement. This ability to engage in strategies and tactics that lie only within the moral guidelines set by the nonviolence religion suggest that non-violent practitioners-- especially those in westernized societies such as the United States-- are acting from a position of privilege and security and not out of a necessity to stop a particular injustice. The obvious difference occurs when someone (as in the case of the PLO in Palestine for instance) commits an act of political violence because she or he is in life-and-death circumstances.

The point I am making here is that the purposeful adherence to the nonviolence religion is actually allowing a heightened degree of violence and injustice to exist, because the unjust entity is never threatened. White liberals can preach the ethics and morals of nonviolence adherence to eternity, but the fact remains that the environment continues to be destroyed, animals continue to be murdered en masse, and people continue to be exploited, tortured and murdered because activists are not engaging in strategies and tactics that will actually stop the injustice. And by not even confronting these areas of injustice, we are all guilty of allowing them to continue.

Today the threat to life on the planet is so severe that political violence must be implemented in justice pursuits. To refuse this consideration constitutes a refusal to acknowledge the dire state of the world and the historical legitimacy of political violence in justice movements. The ability for justice to ever become a reality-- especially in regards to the United States-- directly depends on the willingness of individuals to do whatever it takes, to use any means necessary, to stop the global murder, exploitation, and destruction of life.

Dealing with Media Sensationalism: Compassionate Activists, Not Violent Terrorists

Whenever doing media, it's important to keep in mind two closely related factors: 1) who your target audience is, and 2) what message you want to get across to them. When dealing with questions about controversial subjects, it is also necessary to think about whom you are representing—yourself as an individual, a specific group, the movement as a whole, etc. Some general tips and guidelines that can help you negotiate this media minefield are as follows:

- *Consider whether all media really is good media.* If a reporter wants to do a hit piece on animal rights activists, you may want to consider trying to find a way to kill the story (e.g. by not talking to that reporter).
- *Remember: The media is there to make a story that sells.* Often that means finding an angle to sensationalize a story. Pitch stories to media that let them do this but still enable you to get out the message you want. Be sure the comments you make stay focused on getting that message out and fit into the story you're trying to create.
- *Develop sound bites* that get across key points of the story you want to see run.
- *Don't let the media stigmatize us with labels like "violent" or "terrorist,"* but don't be afraid of these words either. Don't waste time arguing semantics. Try to bring the focus back to the animals, but in a way that won't make you look like you care *only* about animals.
- *Be careful!* During interviews reporters will often use initial questions to try to get you to relax, then spring the tough questions on you at the very end, when you're more likely to have let your guard down.
- *Consider doing an anti-sound-bite* (a long, rambling, uninteresting response) if you're doing an interview for a TV news show and get a question you don't want to answer, and you can't think of a way to spin the question to fit it into the story you're trying to create.
- *Don't make something up if you don't have an answer for a question.* "I don't know" is a completely valid response.
- *Never let the media focus on disagreements over tactics within the movement.* Find a way to bring the focus back to the animals in a sensitive way. If you or the group you're representing are uncomfortable being associated with a particular tactic, there's nothing wrong with distancing yourself from that tactic, but this can be done without condemning those who engage in such activities. You can express sadness that something has happened without condemning it. For example, you could say something like the following:

  I think it's tragic that things have come to this. The animal protection movement has a long history of non-violence, but we don't live in a country of pacifists, and it can't come as that much of a surprise that as our movement grows, some people will be so outraged by the abuse of animals that they may resort to violent actions. When you see a monkey's chest being cut open while he's still alive and conscious, or a beagle puppy being callously beaten, it's human nature to want to do whatever you can to try and stop it.

While we can never be totally prepared for every possible interview snafu, keeping these tips in mind whenever you're in a public forum should help you safely navigate through the most common media pitfalls.

SEATTLE, WA (2/19) - Activist Allison Watson has her preliminary hearing and is officially charged with four counts of perjury in connection with a grand jury appearance she made on October 23, 2003 in Seattle. She pleaded not guilty to all charges and her trial has been set for April 19th.

FORT DETRICK, MD (2/19) - A civilian Army researcher is in isolation after possibly being exposed to the Ebola virus. The researcher accidentally pricked herself with a needle that contained a weakened form of the Ebola virus while she was injecting mice with the virus as part of a research effort.

BOSTON, MA (2/21) - A Superior Court judge dismisses 39 charges against a dozen animal rights activists who protested outside the home of Marsh USA, an insurance broker for Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS). The attorney general's office had brought charges of extortion, threatening, stalking and conspiracy against the activists, but Judge Janet L. Sanders dismissed the charges, saying most of the activists' actions were constitutionally protected free speech.

HONOLULU, HI (2/26) - The last of the bottlenose dolphins at Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Laboratory dies, only months after the facility lost two others to cancer. Hiapo, a 20-year-old male Atlantic bottlenose dolphin, was found dead early Tuesday by a staff member at the University of Hawaii facility. Atlantic bottlenose dolphins have a life span of 35 years or more.

EMERYVILLE, CA (2/29) - Biotech firm Chiron Corp sues animal-rights activists who have targeted the company, asking a judge to order a halt to actions that have "moved from harassment and intimidation to full-blown terrorism." The lawsuit claims that after months of making threatening phone calls and visits to employees' homes, vandalizing employees' private property, and so forth, Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty USA (SHAC USA) had a hand in last August's bombing of Chiron's headquarters.

DIARY OF ACTIONS

8/28/03, USA: Two bombs go off in front of Chiron Corp. (an HLS customer), causing small damage and breaking several windows. No is one injured. The Revolutionary Cells–Animal Liberation Brigade later take credit.

8/29/03, Sweden: A vivisector in Umea has his house painted with 'Murderer - we see you" and "DBF."

9/1/03/03, Italy: A fur farm in Udine has the cages of 3,500 mink opened.

9/1/03/03, Norway: A fur farm feed producer, Fossland Pelsdyrfôr BA in Otterøya, Norway, is attacked. The fur farm feed factory burns to the ground, and the damage is estimated to several millions of Norwegian krona.

9/1/03, Sweden: A greyhound racing track in Alvsbyn (in Pitea) is sabotaged, and a tower is destroyed.

9/1/03, Italy: Tons of newly-bought mink feed is sabotaged and ruined.

9/1/03, Sweden: A greyhound racing track in Alvsbyn (in Pitea) is painted with messages.

9/2/03, Italy: Arco Spedizioni (a transport company for Morini labs) is visited again and vandalized with paint.

9/2/03, Italy: Arco Spedizioni (a transport company for Morini labs) has locks to its gates glued.

9/2/03, Canada: Sumitomo (which has ties with HLS customer Sumitomo Chemical) is targeted; messages reading, "Sumitomo, drop HLS NOW!!" are spray painted on the front entrance, walls and sidewalks.

9/3/03, UK: Directors of Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance (which has ties with HLS customer Sumitomo Chemical) is targeted. Allan Guest of Petersfield has his driveway spray-painted with a warning, and John Pelly of London has his doorstep and driveway spray-painted (again) with a warning.

9/3/03, Russia: The ALF spray-paints slogans on three shops (2 fur and 1 hunting).

9/3/03, UK: Director of Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance (which has ties with Sumitomo Chemical, HLS customer) is targeted, and Peter Foreman of Guilford has his car paint stripped.

9/5/03, Denmark: The Danish acronym for the Animal Liberation Front is painted on a wall of a fur farm that had 8,000 cages opened.

9/5/03, UK: An F2 Chemicals (subsidiary of HLS customer) director in Lancashire has paint bombs filled with red paint thrown at his house and vehicle, despite the presence of security at his house.

Revolutionary Cells' Animal Liberation Brigade Targets HLS Clients

by Jenny Lambert

Undercover investigations at Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) have exposed rampant neglect and abuse of animals. In particular, in one experiment conducted on behalf of Chiron Corporation, Michelle Rokke recounted seeing primates cut apart while still alive.

...He brought her in wrapped up like a baby - in a garbage can liner, with just her head sticking out. They put her on the wet and bloody necropsy table. Brian picked up his razor knife and grabbed a chunk of hair on the upper arm lifting the skin up. Then he began hacking at the arm. His razor was dull and took several swipes before removing a chunk of flesh the size of a lemon. I was so shocked I couldn't even ask what he was doing - the primate was still very much alive!

Despite Chiron's insistence that it is committed to the "humane care" of animals, it still refuses to disassociate from HLS. The animal liberation movement will not tolerate this kind of hypocrisy and abuse of animals. This summer the campaign against Chiron began in earnest with protests, visits to the homes of executives and call-ins to the corporate headquarters.

The campaign escalated to a new level with the widely-publicized bombing of the company's headquarters in Emeryville, Calif. in the early morning hours of Thursday, August 28th. There were no injuries and only minimal damage to the office building. But a strong message had been sent: Anyone supporting the abuse of animals at HLS is a valid target, not only for peaceful protest, but for more aggressive tactics as well.

A new group , the Revolutionary Cells – Animal Liberation Brigade (RC-ALB) soon claimed the action. The bombing was a featured story on local news with undercover footage exposing horrible treatment of animals at HLS, interviews with anti-HLS activists, and a strong message to animal abusers that they had better start looking over their shoulders! Chiron executives also began back-pedaling in their support for HLS, stating that they wouldn't work with HLS right now, but still refusing to rule out doing so again in the future.

Security for Chiron was substantially increased, but the RC-ALB was not about to just call it quits! Just one month after the first bombing, the group struck again. On September 25th a ten-pound ammonium nitrate bomb strapped with nails was set off at the headquarters of Shaklee (a subsidiary of HLS client Yamanouchi). Again the bombing was timed so that there were no injuries, and again there was extensive media coverage.

The communiqué from the second action indicated that this is just the beginning. Revolutionary Cells units will continue to escalate their tactics until the last collaborators with HLS stop supporting animal abuse:

...We have given all of the collaborators a chance to withdraw from their relations from HLS. We will now be doubling the size of every device we make. Today it is 10 lbs, tomorrow 20....until your buildings are nothing more than rubble. It is time for this war to truely have two sides. No more will all of the killing be done by the oppressors, now the oppressed will strike back. We will be non-violent when these people are non-violent to the animal nations. ...

With the group's second action, the Animal Liberation Brigade clearly demonstrated its members' ability to strike when and where law enforcement least expects it. There can be no predicting when and where they may strike next, and animal abusers everywhere are running scared.

WHO ARE THE REVOLUTIONARY CELLS?

The following was received in a communiqué from the Revolutionary Cells . . .

The revolutionary cells exist as a front group for militants across the liberation movement spectrum. We are anarchists, communists, anti-racists, animal liberationists, earth liberationists, luddites, feminists, queer liberationists, and many more things across various other fronts. Where ever there is oppression there are those unwilling to idly stand by and let it occur, and those people make up the nucleus of the revolutionary cells.

Who are the Revolutionary Cells? It is an anti-GMO activist destroying a GMO crop, it is a Basque youth driving a car packed with explosives destined for a Spanish politician, it is a queer bashing back, a rape victim putting a bullet in the rapist, a Corsican nationalist planting a bomb at a French bank, it is a Cincinnati riot in response to police brutality, an animal liberationist shooting a vivisector dead on his doorstep. In short it is the spirit of resistance realized. It is moving from politics to praxis.

Anyone who takes part in the war against the oppressive hierarchies in this world can consider themselves a member of the Revolutionary Cells.

Revolutionary Cells Guidelines:

1. To take strategic direct action (be it non-violent or not) against the oppressive institutions that permeate the world.
2. Make every effort to minimize non-target casualties, be they human or non-human.
3. Respect a diversity of tactics, whether they be non-violent or not.
4. Any underground activist fighting for the liberation of the humyn, earth or animal nations may consider themselves a Revolutionary Cells volunteer.

9/5/03, Denmark: The cages of 8,000 mink at a fur farm in western Denmark are opened.

9/6/03, Italy: A car is set alight in the car park adjacent to the Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) offices in Carrugate, Italy, damaging an electricity box and cutting off power to the office for the entire day.

9/7/03, Holland: J Heeney (Vrijburgstraat 25/03, Voorburg), head virology of the primate center BPRC is visited, and two of the locks on his home are super-glued.

9/7/03, Holland: Ronald Bontrop, director of the primate center BPRC is visited and has a window of his home smashed.

9/9/03/03, Holland: A fur farmer in Putten has bricks thrown at him (it is unknown if they hit him).

9/9/03/03, Holland: Between 100 and 200 mink are released at a farm in Putten.

9/9/03/03, Holland: A fur farm in Putten has 50 mink farm cages destroyed and cameras smashed.

9/9/03/03, Sweden: Vivisectors Ingrid Stromberg and Ola Winso have various slogans painted on their houses.

9/10/03, UK: A senior sales representative for Asahi Glass Fluoropolymers (an HLS customer) has his car paint-stripped.

9/10/03, Italy: One thousand fish are liberated by cutting the nets of a "farm" inside the sea.

9/10/03, UK: A senior sales rep for Asahi Glass Fluoropolymers (HLS customers) has his car painted with the messages "Puppy Killer" and "HLS."

9/13/03, UK: Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) is spray-painted with the message "Puppy Killer" and has paint thrown over the front of its offices.

9/16/03, Italy: Solvay (an HLS customer) is painted with the message "SAB SOLVAY."

9/16/03, USA: Activists openly rescue three ducks from a foie gras producing farm in Sonoma County, following a year of continual investigation and rescues by other activists.

9/16/03, Italy: Solvay (an HLS customer) has an electricity cabin, which operates 4 pumps transporting water and salt from local mines to the Solvay factory some 20 km away, torched.

9/16/03, Italy: A Marine research center using Morini rats for vivisection gets 3 gates locked.

9/16/03, Italy: A Marine research center using Morini rats for vivisection gets spray-painted slogans as "Murderers" and "Dump Morini."

9/17/03, New Zealand: A.E. Prestons (butcher shop) is painted with, "MEAT IS MURDER, ANIMAL LIBERATION NOW! ALF." Halal Butchers Newtown is sprayed with ALF slogans. The Cancer Society is painted with slogans reading, "VIVISECTION IS SCIENTIFIC FRAUD" and "SMASH ANIMAL CRUELTY." A milk truck on Webb St is painted with the slogan "MILK IS RAPE!"

9/17/03, New Zealand: A.E. Prestons (butcher shop) had their trucks paint stripped.

9/17/03, UK: F2 chemicals (part of Asahi Glass, an HLS customer) director has fireworks let off over his house. The police got the helicopter out but failed to catch anyone.

9/18/03, Sweden: The DBF (Swedish ALF) visits Dotetorp Kontrollhönseri (a battery hen farm). They pour acid over equipment and sabotage cables, clothes, machinery and 16,000 eggs.

9/18/03, Sweden: Forty hens are liberated from Dotetorp Kontrollhönseri.

9/19/03, USA: One piece of equipment has dirt put in its diesel.

9/21/03, Sweden: A beagle is liberated from a lab near Almunge.

9/21/03, Sweden: An employee from a lab near Almunge tries to stop a dog from being liberated and is sprayed in the face with something believed to be pepper spray.

9/21/03, New Zealand: The ELF and the ALF slash tires of SUVs at Tory St. car sales yard.

9/21/03, New Zealand: The ALF and ELF target two fur stores and Live Lobster Restaurant by gluing their locks.

9/22/03, New Zealand: Several businesses that profit off the murder of animals have their locks glued.

9/22/03, Finland: Almost 8,000 cages are opened and mink liberated on a fur farm in Kokkola, 30 miles north of Helsinki.

9/22/03, UK: Sunlight (HLS supplier) in Grangemouth has the messages, "HLS SCUM, ANIMAL ABUSERS, WWW.SHAC.NET and ALF" painted on its front office.

9/22/03, New Zealand: KFC is redecorated by ALF activists, with slogans such as "Animal Liberation NOW" and "KFC Cruelty."

9/23/03, Spain: Slogans such as "Vivisection equal torture," "F.L.A." "more than words" and "vivisection scientific and moral fraud" are painted on the walls of a farm in Tulebras, Navarra.

9/23/03, Spain: Local media reports that approximately 250-300 rabbits are taken from a farm in Tulebras, Navarra.

Harlan & Covance Campaigns

In April of this year, twenty-five beagles and cross-breeds were rescued from a future of torture in vivisection laboratories.

The following communiqué was received anonymously by above-ground groups in Europe:

In the night of 31/03/03 we visited Harlan Winkelmann gmbh, Kleeberg 2, in Borchen-Alfen (NRW) and liberated 25 dogs.
The Harlan company is one of the biggest breeders in the world for so-called lab animals and delivers them also to animal torturing places like Huntingdon Life Sciences and Covance in England. Harlan is also doing tests. In the hell of Borchen, thousands of dogs are imprisoned.
Hundreds of kennels full with sad looking dog eyes, who're not aware of the worst torture waiting for them in animal testing centers. We wanted to take them all. At least 25 will have a happy natural life.
For the animals, TBF



Together with this communiqué was a CD of photos taken from inside the breeding facility and of the actual liberation. These pictures show hundreds of dogs and puppies packed into cramped and barren enclosures with no bedding and not the slightest comfort-- just bare, concrete floors covered with excrement. The dogs, who had never been treated with respect by a human before, look on with frightened eyes at the strange figures who have entered their kennels.

The next few hours surely must have been frightening for them. First, they were placed into dark sacks and taken from their kennels. Then they were carried over an eight-foot fence and taken to delivery vans that would then bring them to their new lives-- lives of freedom and love, lives which had until this day been denied them.

May they now live long and happy ones.

Yet another animal testing laboratory has been exposed for committing grave acts of cruelty to animals. An ex-animal technician at Covance has told the gruesome details about what goes on in this Hell-hole. In the year 2000, around 500 primates were illegally killed, directly contravening the Animal Protection Act.

The laboratory near Münster, Germany holds about 1,500 primates, mainly cynamolgus monkeys and other macaques, in solitary confinement cages only 80 x 80 cm.

The ex-animal technician has now come out and stated that the company had no use for around a hundred of these animals and "disposed" of them for financial reasons. Some of the monkeys were killed through injection of an authorized substance, but after this ran out, the vivisectionists turned to anything available in the labs. Many animals were killed with formalin, a completely unsuitable substance that caused severe pain and suffering and a long, slow death.

The ex-employee told press members:

After brief instructions from the laboratory heads, we got on with the work. With two dozen men, we took monkey after monkey from the cages and brought them into the treatment room. Some of the monkeys tried to defend themselves by biting and scratching but all to no avail. We restrained the animals and then they were given the lethal injections. While one animal was still in death throes, the next one was brought over. This went on into the evening and carried on the next day. When the extermination was over, after one week, we had to get rid of hundreds of dead monkeys.

On the 21st September 2003, the German Doctors Against Animal Experiments filed a complaint against the company for breach of Animal Welfare Laws.

Two years ago, on 27th November 2001, around thirty activists scaled the perimeter fence and gained access to primate enclosures. They were able to document some of the conditions the monkeys are held in and filmed piles of frozen monkey and cat corpses in the laboratory refrigerators. Long rows of caged rabbits and rats could also be seen through laboratory windows.

Since the exposé, Covance has found itself subject to many and varied protest actions. With demos at the laboratory and at the homes of vivisectionists and animal technicians, two blockades of the main gates and the company party (held just meters away from the primate enclosures!!) disrupted, activists have shown the animal abusers they're not going to get away with this scot-free.

Finally, other actions have included the disruption of a "Primate conference" organized by Covance. And recently, primate dealer Michel de Clavière (the sales head of Centre de Recherches Primatologique from Mauritius, whose main German customer is Covance) had two buckets full of paint thrown over him by activists wearing monkey masks.

9/24/03, USA: The Louisiana State University Inhalation Toxicology Research Facility is targeted by the ALF. Three whole-body gas chambers, a cigarette-smoking machine, computers, and other equipment used in the experiments are all destroyed, causing an estimated $300,000.00 in damage. Paint is splashed everywhere.

9/26/03, USA: A small bomb explodes at Shaklee Corp. (a subsidiary of HLS customer Yamanouchi) headquarters in Pleasanton, injuring no one and causing minor damage. The Revolutionary Cells--Animal Liberation Brigade later take credit. Employees are told to not to show up to work.

9/27/03, Italy: Arco Spedizioni (transport company for Morini labs) is visited for the third time with paint.

9/27/03, Italy: Arco Spedizioni (transport company for Morini labs) is visited for the third time and locks are glued.

9/28/03, Belgium: A mink farm is raided and 3,500 mink are freed.

9/28/03, USA: Sand is poured in diesel of one piece of equipment.

9/29/03, Sweden: Svenljunga Mink AB, has several timed incendiary devices put in the area of the lorries, office, and the factory.

9/29/03, Sweden: All of the windows are smashed at a leather shop in Visby.

9/29/03, Sweden: Products in a leather shop are covered in paint.

9/30/03, New Zealand: The Animal Liberation Front super-glues the locks at 15 different locations, including butcheries, fisheries and restaurant/takeaway places. A total of 20 locks are super-glued, with the estimated damages in excess of $6000.

10/1/03, Russia: Three fur and one hunt shops are spray-painted with slogans such as "Stop murder of animals," "Fur is murder," and "ALF."

10/1/03, New Zealand: A KFC billboard is painted with various messages and a meat wholesaler is spray-painted. A poultry processor and McDonalds are also modified.

10/1/03, New Zealand: A meat wholesaler has its locks glued.

10/3/03, USA: The home of Jerry Greenwalt (Animal Services Head) was painted with several messages.

10/3/03, Cyberspace: $25,000 is charged to a Chiron (an HLS customer) employee's credit cards.

10/8/03, Holland: Daniel Panduric, controller of Bayer (an HLS customer) has spray-painted messages left on his house and parking lot.

DIARY OF *ACTIONS*

10/9/03, Sweden: An owner of 2 McDonalds has his house and car painted.

10/10/03, Italy: A fur farm in Jolanda di Savoia has the cages of 18,000 mink cages opened. The farmer says the damages are in the several hundreds of thousands euros.

10/10/03, Italy: A message reading "Free at last, ALF" is spray-painted on a fur farm that has 18,000 mink released.

10/10/03, Italy: Fences ripped and other damage is done at fur farm.

10/12/03, Sweden: The Swedish hunting association has a few traps destroyed.

10/12/03, Sweden: The Swedish hunting association is covered in paint with various slogans.

10/12/03, Sweden: The Swedish hunting association has its windows smashed.

10/13/03, Holland: Forty-three hens are taken from a battery farm in Ernst.

10/14/03 & 10/15/03, Holland: An employee of Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) has ALF initials left on the side of his house a liter of butyric acid put through the mailbox of his house.

10/16/03, New Zealand: Twenty-three locks are glued at 12 butcheries, 2 fisheries, a leather shop, 3 milk trucks, and 2 police stations.

10/19/03, Holland: Chiron (an HLS customer) director van de Kwaak (who has resigned as a result of this action) has his car painted.

10/22/03, UK: A building owned by Newchurch guinea pig farm is set ablaze. The building is destroyed, after firefighters spend 3 hours fighting the blaze.

10/23/03 & 10/19/03, Sweden: A fur shop in Malmo has several paint-bombs thrown over the window and wall by the ALF. The ALF also produces a pictorial on how to build paint-bombs.

10/23/03, UK: Professor O'Grady of Daiichi (an HLS customer) receives a bomb hoax. His road is sealed off for most of the day and night. The bomb squad sent in a robot, and it is blown up by a controlled explosion.

10/24/03, Australia: Yarra Glen racetrack steeplechase fence is doused with a flammable liquid and set on fire.

10/24/03, Australia: Various damage is done to Yarra Glen racetrack.

10/25/03, Norway: Several hundred foxes are released from a fur farm in Heidal.

SHADOW ACTIVIST: PHYSICAL EDUCATION



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Dear Shadow Activist,

I've seen video footage of A.L.F. volunteers kicking down laboratory doors and read about cells scaling electrified fences; it all seems so physically demanding. How does the A.L.F. physically prepare for such actions?

-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Two key aspects of nearly every successful action are stealth and speed. For both, one must be physically fit, and simply being vegan doesn't quite cut the mustard. I'd suggest getting into a regular routine that, over time, escalates the degree of physical exertion. You might want to start with bicycle riding or jogging, in addition to push-ups and sit-ups in the morning. Combine cardiovascular exercise, like jogging, with muscle-building exercises, like weight lifting.

Of course, proper planning and stealth will reduce the possibility that one will have to run long distances through a field or sprint away from the police, but every action necessitates physical preparation, and scaling a wall or climbing a fence may not come naturally to everyone. I can remember one occasion where I narrowly escaped a startled fur farmer because I hopped a fence much faster than he could. It's safe to say that I had more experience at it than he did.

Practice makes perfect, and the physical preparation for nighttime activities begins long before the reconnaissance and planning phases of an action. Pick up a copy of *No Compromise* and read through the Diary of Actions to help you keep your "eye on the prize."

Dear Shadow Activist,

I've read about dozens of dogs being rescued in a single raid and hundreds upon hundreds of chickens being whisked away from factory farms... How do they transport so many animals at once, so quickly?

-Baffled



Dear Baffled,

Different actions require different modes of transportation. Sometimes, it's possible to back a truck or van up to the building and just load the animals directly from there without having to travel too much distance. When rescuing a large number of animals it's the repetition-- not the weight-- of carrying them a great distance that starts to wear me out. The key is utilizing a mode of transportation that will temporarily house the animals safely and keep them properly confined so that one doesn't exert any more energy than necessary rounding up loose dogs or chicks jumping about.

Physical fitness is a particularly important factor when transporting animals over long distances, either through a field or from one end of a building to another. So before undertaking such an action, one had best be intimately familiar with push-ups and those morning jogs. In terms of physical requirements, a well-planned action is one part brute force to four parts stamina/ endurance.

For chicks, something as simple as sturdy laundry baskets or large Tupperware bins with air holes cut out of the lid can do the trick. These allow for secure housing and comfortable handling. Use your imagination, but be sure not to pack chickens together too tightly or in a carrier that doesn't keep a solid shape.

For rabbits and puppies, large duffle bags are tried and true. These can get expensive, so one might have to do some bargain shopping for roomy, durable bags that have a secure closure (such as a locking draw string or zipper). When rescuing rabbits and rambunctious puppies, one should take special care to minimize the stress to the animals. As rabbits and puppies often resist being picked up and shoved into a bag, it may be necessary to first put the bag over the animal's head and then body, and then carefully flip the bag over with her inside.

And remember to keep all tools free of fingerprints and DNA (hair fiber, skin particles, etc) before and after procurement... This goes for laundry baskets and Tupperware bins as well as duffle bags (particularly nylon bags that may retain a fingerprint).

Dear Shadow Activist,

What's the best way to overcome obstacles like fences, walls, and barbed wire? Is it better to cut through a fence or just climb it?

-Anonymous

continued on the next page

10/25/03 & 10/26/03, Italy: Arco (Morini supporter) in Ravenna has its windows smashed two arrows shot through them.

10/31/03, UK: Tires are slashed and paint stripper is poured over the car of Mr. Brown in Epsom, Surrey, and the locks of his front door are glued. Mr. Brown is the director of a Japanese bank with major shareholding in Japanese HLS customers.

10/31/03, New Zealand: Thirty-five businesses and one government department involved with animal abuse are targeted, and 55 locks are glued. Estimated damage is more than $15,000.

October-November/03, Scandinavia: A massive undercover investigation on 76 fur farms generates negative press for the Scandinavian fur trade.

11/1/03 & 11/2/03, Germany: a fur shop in Enssle in Stuttgart is attacked with paint.

11/3/03, UK: Industrial Supplies (HLS supplier) has its windows smashed.

11/3/03, Sweden: A fur farm in Solvesborg has100 cages opened, and the fur farmer reports 60 missing mink.

11/3/03, USA: Mellon Investment Services (HLS transfer agent) employee has car and house windows smashed, and various messages are painted on his house. [Mellon has stop being a transfer agent to HLS as a result of this action.]

11/3/03, Norway: Five hundred foxes are painted with henna dye, to prevent their killing for their fur. The fur breeding cards are also torn apart.

11/4/03, UK: A director of Yamanouchi Pharma (an HLS customer) has various messages painted around his village.

11/5/03, Spain: Forty chinchillas are taken from a fur farm, in memory of Barry Horne.

11/5/03, Spain: One rabbit is taken from a fur breeder, in memory of Barry Horne.

11/6/03, Norway: Two homes of employees of the Norwegian School for Agriculture (a vivisection lab) are painted with slogans.

11/6/03, USA: Yasutsugu Kawahara, assistant to Sumitomo (an HLS customer) president, has various anti-HLS messages painted on his house.

11/7/03, UK: Mr. Teramura, director of Sumitomo Mitsui Asset Management (a collaborator with Sumitomo Chemical, HLS customer) has the tires of his car slashed.

11/7/03, UK: Mr. Teramura, director of Sumitomo Mitsui Asset Management (a collaborator with Sumitomo Chemical, HLS customer) has his car paint-stripped.

11/9/03, USA: Andrew Baker (HLS CEO) has his LA home (2324 Sunset Plaza Dr.) painted with various messages.

11/11/03, UK: Brian Lanaghan, a director of Mizuho Bank (a shareholder in HLS Japanese customers) has his family car paint-stripped and various messages painted on his house.

11/11/03, Australia: Doors and windows are smashed at leather shop in Melbourne.

11/12/03, UK: Stephen Lightfood of Sankyo (an HLS customer) has his house attacked with a bucket of paint and a bucket of dog feces.

11/12/03, UK: Trevor Wellburn's (an HLS employee) car is attacked in the driveway of his house, causing extensive damage.

11/13/03, USA: HLS CFO Richard Michaelson's BMW is paint-striped.

11/13/03, UK: Professor O'Grady of Daiichi, who recently received a bomb hoax, receives a communiqué stating, "Next time, it may not be a dud."

11/14/03, UK: Roderick Ryme, director of Yamanouchi (an HLS client) in Hampshire, has two cars paint-stripped and their tires slashed.

11/14/03, UK: Dudley Ferguson, director of Yamanouchi (HLS client) had various messages sprayed around his village.

11/15/03, Australia: ALF activists damage a rodeo facility, removing metal pins joining sections of the arena fence holding yards and marshalling areas and cutting off chains using to securer gates. The steer-wrestling chute is also rendered inoperable by dismantling and removing various steel components of the chute and gate.

11/15/03, Sweden: In less than one week The ALF attacks over 34 fur shops in six different towns, destroying 136 windows with glass etching fluid.

11/15/03, Germany: One hen is openly rescued.

11/17/03, UK: Two cars belonging to Daiichi (HLS client) employees are paint-striped.

11/17/03, UK: Ian Fairey of Daiichi (an HLS client) has his house locks glued.

11/19/03, Australia: In an attempt to stop the shipment of sheep to the Middle East, meat to the feed of sheep due to be exported. The action animal liberations add pig was done in order to taint the shipment, because Muslims do not eat pigs or related products.

11/20/03, Italy: An electricity plant serving nearby HLS client Bayer factory is bombed. The explosion damages the electricity plant, and some unexploded incendiary devices are found. The action is claimed against the involvement of Bayer crop Science in GMOs.

11/20/03 & 11/21/03, Netherlands: Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) senior-director Jan Willem Schotel in Grote Beer has nine paint-bombs thrown against his house.

11/23/03, New Zealand: Ten hens are taken from a battery hen farm in Kingseat Rd, Waiuku.

11/24/03, UK: Stephen Paul Wallis (director of State Street Investment Management Solutions, investor of HLS client Yamanouchi) has three cars paint strippped and the tires slashed.

11/26/03, UK: A member of Dunston Harriers Hunt has the front of his newly-built house covered in yellow paint.

11/26/03, UK: Otis Lifts (HLS supplier) and ADT Security and Fire (HLS supplier) have paint sprayed on their property, their tires slashed, and their locks glued.

11/27/03, Sweden: Palskonfektion (a fur shop in Malmoes) has paint bombs thrown all over the walls and windows. A couple of weeks earlier "Blechers Pals" closed due to repeated direct actions.

11/28/03, UK: Phenomenex (an HLS supplier) employee has its windows smashed.

11/28/03, UK: M&J Seafood's (on Brook Road in Wimeborne) has 3 trucks set on fire, resulting in 11 trucks being burned.

11/28/03, UK: F2 chemicals (an HLS client) director William alias Bill Denison is woken up to firecrackers going off.

11/30/03, USA: Kevin Wiseman of Forest Lab (an HLS client) had house covered with rotten vegetables.

12/1/03 & 12/2/03, Italy: Seminoles Farm (a financial supporter of Morini labs) has various messages painted. Later it is reported that Seminoles Farm will no longer do business with Morini labs.

12/2/03, UK: Dudley Henry Ferguson, head of Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) for the UK, has two of his cars, including a Mercedes, paint stripped.

12/3/03, Sweden: A huge U-lock is locked to the gates of Nordiska Pals (a fur shop).

12/3/03, Sweden: Two fur shops have various messages painted.

Dear Anonymous,

It depends on the circumstances. Regardless, every single activist should know how to quickly scale a fence and wall. Climbing fences and walls requires a good deal of upper-body and abdominal strength, but true skill is being able to clear a shaky chain link fence with silent expertise. Most people, activists included, run with as much stealth as a herd of buffalo or jump a fence sounding as if a sack of soup cans has just been dropped from a five-story building. Being physically fit allows nighttime warriors to move slowly and deliberately--quietly descending a fence rather than just awkwardly tumbling over it and landing with a thud.

In the reconnaissance phase of an action, it is unwise to cut through a fence, as doing so will likely raise suspicion with anyone who later happens upon the evidence. Being able to silently scale a fence is crucial to conducting effective recon, and practice is necessary. When dealing with barbed wire, one can simply throw a thick blanket or jacket over the barbs to safely and quickly eliminate the possibility of being cut or snagged.

For practice, find a random chain link fence somewhere isolated, and try climbing with speed (for fast getaways) and eventually with stealth (for recon missions). One might want to find a fence to routinely scale as part of those morning jogs. Or a construction site with a security guard who will give chase will do. This enables one to test one's level of stealth while at the same time feeling the rush of a chase should a security guard take notice.

In terms of cutting through a fence, every fence is different and the design of the cut depends upon the nature of the operation. Generally, with a minimal amount of cuts running down the fence, perpendicular to the ground, one should be able to "peel" away a section of the fence. This is an ideal escape route or for taking animals through. To learn how to "peel" a fence, one might want to find a random fence far away from the target or obtain a sample of chain link from a hardware store or construction site and practice with hand-held wire cutters or a small set of boltcutters.

At the target site, a small, discreet opening is likely necessary to avoid detection by a security guard or passerby. A larger opening is more practical when the point of entry is isolated and can be used as an escape route or transfer point for animals during a liberation. In a fur farm raid, one needs to completely remove a substantial portion of the perimeter fence so as to provide multiple openings for the animals to find freedom.

After the action, be sure to dispose of all tools. The markings left by boltcutters can be tied to the boltcutters themselves; so obviously, we don't want those lying around the house.

ALF GUIDELINES

The Animal Liberation Front consists of small autonomous groups of people all over the world who carry out direct action according to the A.L.F. guidelines.

These groups are called cells that range from one individual to many individuals working closely together. Activists in one cell do not know A.L.F. activists in another cell because they remain anonymous. This is what helps to keep activists out of jail, and free to be active another day.

Since there is not a central organization or membership guide to the A.L.F., people are driven only by their own personal conscience or cell decisions to carry out actions. The A.L.F. is non-hierarchical in it's structure which allows for only those people involved directly in the action to control their own destiny.

Anyone in your community could be part of The A.L.F. without you knowing. This includes P.T.A. parents, church volunteers, your spouse, your neighbor, or your mayor. No one is immune to the suffering of animals, which includes even the workers themselves in any animal abuse industry who cannot bear to watch animals withering in pain any longer.

Any action that adheres to the strict nonviolence guidelines, which follow, can be considered an A.L.F. action. Economic sabotage and property destruction are considered A.L.F. actions, as well as live liberations. Volunteers carry out actions across the world to bring animal liberation a little closer to the victims of untold agony.

Since there isn't a way to contact the A.L.F. in your area, it is up to each of us to take the responsibility ourselves to stop the exploitation of fellow animals. In the words of a convicted A.L.F. activist "when you see the pictures of a masked liberator, stop asking who's behind the mask and look in the mirror!"

The Animal Liberation Front consists of small autonomous groups of people all over the world who carry out direct action according to the A.L.F. guidelines:

- ››To liberate animals from places of abuse, i.e. laboratories, factory farms, fur farms, etc, 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 and non-human.

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

DIARY OF *ACTIONS*

12/5/03, Italy: A RMB (CRO lab) employee has his car windows smashed, tires slashed and "No RBM" message painted on his car.

12/5/03, Finland: Five hundred foxes are dyed with henna. Also all breeding cards are taken.

12/6/03, UK: Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) employee Clare Apel has various paint attacks on her house, and two of her cars are paint stripped.

12/6/03, UK: A CED (an HLS supplier) director in Romford has his new 4x4 covered in paint stripper and bricks thrown at the windows. Also hit is the secretary of Pioneer Chemicals (an HLS customer).

12/6/03, UK: Industrial Supplies (HLS supplier) has bricks thrown at the windows.

12/7/03, USA: The regional offices of Sumitomo (an HLS customer) are covered in various slogans, and their locks are glued.

12/7/03-12/8/03, Spain: A group of activists go into a fur farm in Segovia, open 20 cages or more and take 12 mink to a forest near a river.

12/8/03, USA: One mouse is released from glue trap in Anacortes, Washington.

12/9/03 & 12/10, Germany: The houses of Covance (CRO lab) workers Eberhard Buse (Director of Pathology) and Birgit Niggemann (Studies supervisor, Eye toxicology) are attacked with rotten vegetables.

12/10/03, Italy: IMS Health (a company involved with Aventis Pharma, HLS client) in Milano has fecal matter placed in its main entrance.

12/10/03, UK: A worker of Asahi Glass fluoropolymers (HLS client) has his house and road painted with anti-HLS slogans.

12/12/03, Norway: Fifteen hundred mink are released from a fur farm at Vinderup in Denmark.

12/13/03, Russia: The HLS website is shut down, and @huntingdon.com receives 100,000 e-mails in 24 hours.

12/13/03, UK: Seven hundred mice are liberated and numerous confidential documents are taken from Wickham Labs in Hampshire.

12/15/03, Finland: A fur farm storage building is burned down in Veteli, Finland.

12/14/03, UK: Twenty-one goats are taken from Water Farm Goat Centre (an HLS supplier) near Bridgewater, Somerset.

12/15/03, Italy: Four sheds containing mink at Castel di Sangro, L'Aquila (fur farm) are emptied.

Remembering Barry Horne

March 17 1953
November 5 2001

In 1997, Barry Horne was sentenced to eighteen years in prison for a firebombing campaign against animal abusers in the UK. Barry died in prison on November 5, 2001, simply because the British government failed to keep its promises in establishing a body to investigate vivisection. But Barry's death was more about the failure of the British government—and of all governments— to afford any protection to animals.

Barry first launched a hunger strike in 1997, demanding an end to vivisection. He called it off when the Labour party was coming to power, with promises of taking action on the vivisection issues. Unsurprisingly, the Party reneged on its promises. Barry started another hunger strike, which ended after thirty-five days. Most friends attribute his death to his third hunger strike, during which he went sixty-eight days without food—an ordeal that caused his body and mind such devastating damage that he was never able to really recover.



While deeply saddened by the death of Barry and the manipulation by the British government, activists worldwide did—and continue to do—what they knew Barry would want, what Barry lived, acted, and died for: action. This year, the anniversary week of Barry Horne's death was no different.

Around the globe, November 3-9, activists took fierce action on behalf of the animals, including a host of underground actions. Most centered around the campaign to close Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS). The Animal Liberation Front took credit for spray-painting the home of the president of Sumitomo America; an HLS supplier in England and an executive from had its windows smashed; the lab—Mellon a financial collaborator had his car windows Investment Services— about his home and cars, smashed, paint strewn on his property. and slogans spray-painted

The actions did not stop at HLS targets. In Norway, ALF volunteers targeted the homes of two vivisectors, armed with spray paint and superglue for their locks. The following night, they paid visits to the homes of two of the leading employees of a fur farm and fur industry research business.

Finally, at least forty-two animals were liberated on November 5, the anniversary of Barry's death. Begona Chinchilla Fur Farm, Spain's only fur farm, was targeted by the ALF, resulting in the freedom of forty chinchillas, one rabbit, and one ferret. The communiqué read, "During the first hours of the 5th of November our ALF cell decided to remember our comrade Barry Horne, in the same way as he would like to: by targeting the animals abusers and saving lives. We went to the only chinchilla farm that exists in Spain…"

The people who were closest to Barry Horne remind activists that Barry would not want people to be sad about him, sad about his death; he would want them to be angry, and to take that anger and use it to be productive for the animals. Activists owe it to Barry and to the animals to do everything in their power to fight for to the very thing that Barry died for—animal liberation.

> *"The fight is not for us, not for our personal wants or needs. It is for every animal that has ever suffered and died in the vivisection labs, and for every animal that will suffer and die in those same labs unless we end this evil business now. The souls of the tortured dead cry out for justice, the cry of the living is for freedom. We can create that justice and we can deliver that freedom. The animals have no-one but us, we will not fail them."*
>
> *- Barry, September 1998*

Mid-December 2003, UK: Various anti-HLS messages painted on the walls of Industrial Supplies (an HLS supplier) and windows smashed.

12/17/03, UK: CED (HLS supplier) in South Benfleet, Essex has cars paint-stripped and his tires slashed.

12/18/03, UK: Kenneth Broadley, who tests on guinea pigs from Newchruch Farm has his new BMW paint stripped.

12/18/03, UK: A manager of Industrial Supplies (an HLS supplier) has his car paint stripped, tires slashed and his locks glued.

12/18/03, UK: ADT Secretary (HLS security) in Harrow had some cars paint-stripped, tires slashed and locks glued.

12/19/03/03, USA: Marc Peckman of Sumitomo (an HLS client) has various messages painted on his house denouncing HLS, and his SUV & company car have all their locks glued.

12/19/03, Austria: butyric acid is placed in four different parts of the ground floor of P&C (fur store).

12/20/03, Italy: RBM lab worker finds his car ruined with paint stripper and the windows of his home smashed.

12/21/03, New Zealand: Four cars are paint-stripped at the homes of three directors of Tegal (a chicken producer).

12/23/03, UK: Two cars belonging to an employee of Yamanouchi (an HLS client) are covered in paint stripper.

12/23/03, UK: Letters are sent to 200 employees of HLS, Yamanouchi, and Daiichi claiming that violent retribution would occur if they do not sever their links by the end of 2003.

During week of 12/23, UK: Three cars belonging to two employees of Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) are attacked with paint stripper.

12/24/03, Canada: Several threatening letters are publicized, stating that frozen turkeys had been injected with arsenic.

Around Christmas, UK: The water supply in the home of John Hall (owner of Newchurch guinea pig farm) is turned off and covered with cement.

12/25/03, UK: Weston Super Mare of Yamanouchi (HLS client), has his car's tires slashed and his car paint-stripped.

12/25/03, UK: Cardiff Yamanouchi (HLS client) employee has two cars paint-stripped.

12/25/03, UK: Vitech Security (security for HLS) has its windows and front entrance door smashed.

12/26/03, UK: An employee of Gregory Friar Associates (a company set up to do drug

registration for HLS) has four cars damaged with paint-stripper.

12/27/03, Italy: A worker for RBM lab has his car windows smashed and car covered in paint stripper

12/27/03, UK: An employee of Cardiff Yamanouchi (an HLS customer) has his house covered in paint.

12/28/03, UK: Annie's Place (a fur shop) has slogans painted across front of the shop.

12/29/03, Sweden: Palskonfektion (a fur shop) has a bike locked to its gates.

12/29/03, Sweden: Local media reports that they received poisoned meat, and the messenger claimed that nine other meat stores have poison meat on their shelves.

12/29/03, Sweden: Nordiska Pals has their sunscreens slashed with a knife.

12/29/03/03, Spain: Tires are slashed on a hunter's vehicle.

12/29/03 & 12/30/03, Norway: Five different fur shops in three different cities are painted with various anti fur messages, and paint is thrown through broken windows.

12/29/03, Russia: Slogans are painted on five fur shops, as well as the headquarters of the Society of Hunters and Fishers.

12/29/03 & 12/30/03, Norway: Windows are broken on five different fur shops in three different cities, totaling 20 broken windows.

12/29/03/03, Italy: Fire destroys a hunting facility.

12/29/03, Sweden: Nordiska Pals and Palskonfektion (fur shops) have slogans painted all over the walls.

12/29/03/03, Italy: Nine circus trucks are torched in the city of Milano.

12/30/03, Finland: Fire destroys a fur farm storage building.

12/31/03, Italy: Four windows are smashed at Mitsubishi Bank (which has connections with HLS).

12/31/03, Spain: A truck owned by a slaughterhouse has 12 liters of gasoline placed under it, causing it to burn down.

12/31/03, UK: David Hall (of Newchurch Guinea Pig Farm) has several bottles of paint thrown through smashed windows at his house.

For a complete and up to date list of direct action for the animals, visit:

WWW DIRECTACTION INFO

Free Lolita

It's 3:35 pm on a hot July afternoon, and the Killer Whale show at the Miami Seaquarium is about to begin. Loud pop music rattles around the old stadium and sunburned tourists funnel through the breezeways, eager to be entertained.

Dolphins whirl through the air on command and plunge deep into the pool. Lolita (the seven thousand pound orca) blasts through the surface and crashes down on her belly, soaking dazzled spectators in chlorinated salt water. A dead mackerel is the reward for the perfectly executed trick. While visitors to the Lolita stadium may believe they are watching happy animals, what they don't realize is that these animals have been broken. They are misfits of the wild whose identities have been stolen; they are tortured souls. Especially Lolita.

Lolita was scooped from the waters of Puget Sound, Washington, on August 8, 1970. At six years old she was violently separated from her mother and hauled off to work at the Miami Seaquarium. She is the remaining survivor of the massive Puget Sound round-ups and has been entertaining the endless stream of spectators for 34 long years. The campaign for her rescue has been treading water almost just as long.



But none has ever been able to convince Seaquarium owner Arthur Hertz to do the right thing and retire Lolita to a more natural environment: a sea pen. She has performed more than 23,000 shows and has earned Seaquarium owners over 160 million dollars. Between shows she pines away in her concrete tub, swimming in circles, waiting to die.

So why would I sit here in the sweltering heat, squinting into the sun, watching this pathetic display of human arrogance? During the summer of 2002 my partner Valerie Silidker and I entangled ourselves in the Seaquarium's twisted net of lies when we began production of a documentary entitled *Lolita: Slave to Entertainment*. The video has screened at schools and festivals around the world and has received 6 festival awards thus far. We have since joined forces with The Dolphin Freedom Foundation (DFF) and are currently the only organizations monitoring the Seaquarium and its captive residents. Today it's my turn to videotape the Lolita show and document the violations, of which there are always plenty.

The Seaquarium has been virtually above the law since the 1950s, when it was capturing dolphins and selling them for $300 a piece, systematically depleting Biscayne Bay of its entire wild dolphin population. The dolphin capture trend was so devastating to the wild population that the Marine Mammal Protection Act was drafted in 1972 to protect the animals. It was a miserable failure. Then along came the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), another failure.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the USDA is the governing body designed to monitor the parks and enforce the AWA. But their yearly inspections of the Seaquarium always come up clean. No mention of the fact that Lolita resides in a tank too small by their own standards, that the Seaquarium has been promising critics a new, larger tank for 26 years, that she has no shelter from the elements, that the trainers dump buckets of old fish blood and wash their grimy hands in her pool— all violations of the AWA. Not to mention the fact that the entire park is literally falling apart.

So, naturally, when a DFF volunteer documented hundreds of safety violations while monitoring the animals, we knew it was time to act. DFF president and former dolphin trainer Russ Rector collected the evidence and delivered the goods to Danger, Suarez, Seaquarium's financers, its insurance company, and all the media. We then held a press conference with Life Safety Inspector John Wallace in front of the park. The press conference and subsequent investigations made, and continue to make, headlines in Miami. One video, an unrelenting Mr. Rector, and a small group of determined activists sent a shockwave through the Marine Mammal Park Alliance that won't soon be forgotten.

Seaquarium officials are now having difficulty with financing (small wonder), and ticket sales are at an all-time low. But with the Seaquarium sideshow on its last flippers, our main concern is still with the animals. History tells us that the trend is dying and as these dinosaurs go belly up the animals become neglected, mistreated, and severely traumatized. They are often sold to the third world. (Ocean World's dolphins went to Honduras upon its demise and all finally died there, in captivity.) There will be more deaths at the Seaquarium. Many deaths. It's part of the merciless process, the perpetual cycle. Therefore, there is little alternative but to kill the facility to stop the killing. And that's exactly what we are going to do.

Thus, we have targeted the Miami Seaquarium for extermination and will not relent. We are Lolita's (and the other animals') only hope for rescue. That, and the Seaquarium happens to be prime location for a much-needed green space on Key Biscayne; a cruelty-free park we can all enjoy.

To stay current with the campaign visit www.miamiseaprison.com and please help support the battle by ordering your copy of *Lolita: Slave To Entertainment* (www.slavetoentertainment.com) and arranging a local screening.

THE ECOLOGICAL IMPACT

By Rod Coronado

Opponents of mass mink releases claim that such liberations are harmful both to the mink and to the natural ecosystem. The bulk of industry and scientific data refute both of these arguments. Not only do mink survive in feral populations, but they are able to revert to pre-domestic behaviors quite easily. Though some do die as a result of release, all would die in slaughter for their fur otherwise. Mink are in fact natural, native American predators whose wild populations have been depleted. Once reintroduced to their natural environment they do not cause undue harm to most native animal populations. Mink farms do not exist in pristine wilderness settings, and so most releases will occur in areas where there are few rare or endangered animals that could be harmed by the mink.

The August 26, 2003 release of thousands of mink from a Snohomish County, Washington fur farm by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) marks the 57th such raid since the group began opening the cages on North American mink farms in 1995. The tactic is not new, however, with the British ALF having first introduced this strategy against the fur trade in the 1980s. Since then, the intentional release of farm-raised mink by animal liberationists has spread to Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, and Sweden.



"It has been asked by opponents of such views as I hold, how for instance, could a land carnivorous animal have been converted into one with aquatic habits; for how could the animal in its transitional state have subsisted? Look at the Mustela vision (mink) of North America." - Charles Darwin, Origin of Species 1859

Fifty million years ago, ancestral mustelids stalked their prey with the same streamlined body and pointed head their descendants-- the American mink-- hunts with today. Fossil records compared with the living species suggest that modern day mustelids have changed little from their primitive forest-dwelling ancestors. Of the fifteen distinct subspecies of mink in North America, only three to six of these are the source of all fur farm-raised mink.

Though remnant populations of European mink survive in isolated numbers in pockets of Northern Europe, the sub-species of mink raised by the fur industry-- Mustela vision-- are native only to North America, having only been commercially captive-bred since the early 1920s. In the last eighty years, the only genetic manipulation to occur through selective breeding has affected the color, length and quality of their fur. Outside of these factors, the mink intensively raised on the 400 fur farms in the U.S. are genetically identical to their wild cousins. That released and escaped mink so readily adapt to feral life indicates only that man's attempted domestication has so far had a negligible effect on their race.

The question is less 'can mink survive?' than 'what is the ecological impact such introductions have on native wildlife?'

This has posed a sometimes difficult question to environmentalists who oppose the commercial domestication native wildlife, but fear the impact mass mink releases have on the surrounding environment. However, according to Nigel Dunstone in his well-researched 1992 book, *The Mink*, "While the mink is no model of benevolence, many years of research in the field have revealed no evidence of the ecological disasters so often predicted."

Following the August raid, Theresa Platt, executive director of Fur Commission USA, was quoted in the national media saying the mink released by the ALF had been hand-raised at the Roesler Brothers Fur Farm and did not know how to hunt for food and water. Platt's statement was fur industry spin doctoring, as her group itself sells Dunstone's book on its website. Her statement and others following ALF mink releases intentionally fail to acknowledge the healthy populations of feral mink in Scandinavian and European countries where the animals were released both intentionally and accidentally.

At the 1991 Seattle Fur Exchange auctions, I interviewed numerous mink farmers who testified that without a scientifically-formulated diet, outside of captivity, mink lose their recessive genetic characteristics in just two to three generations. Not a single mink farmer questioned the potential survivability of farm-raised mink in the wild, which is why most states require mink farms to have encompassing fences to prevent escapes. In fact many American mink are newly domesticated, barely removed from their wild parentage. For example, the Jordan Mink Ranch in Coalville, Utah began captive breeding of mink when the owners trapped live, wild mink in their chicken coop in the 1930s.

The question is less "can mink survive?" than "what is the ecological impact such introductions have on native wildlife?" In Britain, research on the effects of feral mink on salmonid stocks revealed mink did little more than impact surplus populations of smaller fish in places and seasons of abundance. Where mink co-inhabit areas with their larger, wild cousin-- the otter-- body size and better adaptation at underwater hunting allow otter to forage a more extensive range for larger fish than the mink. In countries like Russia, otters have been documented hunting mink, while in America they have been observed inhabiting a shared area. So it appears that mink do not unduly threaten wildlife in areas inhabited, or previously inhabited by predators of similar size. Nor do the mink out compete native predators. The majority of animals preyed upon by feral mink are abundant, with rabbits and rats topping the list.

Mink do appear to threaten native animal populations in some isolated areas, particularly on islands previously protected from predators. For example, sea bird nesting colonies have been especially vulnerable to feral mink's territorial predation. In a few islands off Scotland, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and Norway, sea birds have been heavily preyed upon by feral mink, sometimes forcing nesting onto islands further offshore. In America, an entire colony of spotted sandpipers was once wiped out by marauding mink.

Nonetheless, even a hundred hungry and fierce small predators are capable of wreaking havoc on domestic and wild animals. In Snohomish County, half-a-mile from the Roesler mink farm, escaping mink raided homes and farms, killing chickens and other animals. One resident lost 29 exotic birds to mink attacks.

OF MINK RELEASES

Trout farms in Britain report high predation from feral mink. In the wild, mink are known to kill beyond their immediate needs, often stockpiling prey for future consumption. These domestic animals are vulnerable due to their artificially-high population density [as well as domestic animal conditions such as rampant obesity, debeaking and declawing, cages, and their unnatural breeding which leaves them defenseless, unable to run, and often extremely weak –ed.]. As biocentrists, this should be the last reason to oppose the return of captive mink to their rightful home in the wild [Keep in mind, the majority of these domestic animals faced certain slaughter anyway, and their unsanitary and crowded conditions are harmful to the environment as well –ed.].

Both recapture efforts and the mink's own solitary nature offset the threat posed mass releases. In Washington, where there have been seven such actions since 1996, that impact is unnoticeable as these normally shy and solitary animals quickly distribute themselves over a large area. A week after the release of 10,000 mink at the Roesler Brothers Fur Farm, between 1-2,000 animals remained unaccounted for. In 1997, of 10,000 mink released from a Mount Angel, Oregon fur farm, 6,000 were recovered. The same year in Cle Elum, Washington, of 2,000 mink released, approximately half were recaptured. On average, ALF raids on mink farms result in 15-40 percent of the released animals actually escaping into the surrounding environment.

According to Dunstone's research, a mink's intolerance of other mink will always ensure a low population density. Once wild, mink regulate their numbers according to availability of suitable habitat and prey, remaining fiercely territorial. Aggressiveness towards their own kind makes mink their own number one predator. British studies once again prove that conflict with native species has always been localized to a particular mink's territory, and nowhere in the UK have feral mink caused widespread prey population declines.

Any ethical debate on the merits of causing such a predator-prey reaction must first be leveled against the mink farm industry itself. They are solely responsible for sustaining large concentrations of native predators in cramped and unnatural conditions. The attempted domestication of any wild animal is fraught with problems, ranging from physical neurosis in the forms of self-mutilation to diseases unknown to wild mink populations and should be fundamentally opposed by wildlife advocates.

The often rural and mountainous regions where mink farms are located are far from pristine, untrammeled wilderness areas, unaffected by threats much greater than those posed by released mink. Nowhere that feral mink impact has been studied has the problem compared to that of habitat destruction, water diversion and pollution, particularly from organochlorine pesticides.

In North America, no biological evidence has been documented or published revealing any long-term negative ecological impact as a consequence of the ALF's mink release policy. Dunstone ends his book with a verdict on the feral mink question:

Worries concerning the impact of mink as a significant predator of native fauna and domestic stock, or as a competitor with native carnivores are largely without foundation. It is time to cast off emotive reactions and come to understand the new balance being struck in our riparian community.

The ALF's campaign against mink farming is two-fold. While offering an often slim chance for permanent freedom, it is a chance nonetheless, and one arguably better than their otherwise certain death. In North America, where mink are native, the ALF has always favored simple release as a tool of economic sabotage and the quickest avenue towards animal liberation. The financial impact such an action has on fur farms is monumental. Each mink raised in the US fetches approximately $36.00 at auction. But that value is determined by fur quality, which is dependent on the selective breeding of mink with certain traits.

These "breeder" mink are of greater economic value, and when released to mingle with hundreds, if not thousands, of other unidentifiable mink, years of an individual mink farm's genetic knowledge is destroyed--costing untold thousands and often ushering in bankruptcy for smaller farmers.

While offering an often slim chance for permanent freedom, it is a chance nonetheless, and one arguably better than their otherwise certain death.

Following numerous ALF raids, released mink are often killed by automobiles and some animals suffer fur damage in fights with other mink. While unfortunate, the result is still to further deny income to mink farmers. At the Roesler Brothers Fur Farm, the cost of the ALF's raid was an estimated $500,000. While an ethical dilemma for some, fur farmers and liberators alike acknowledge the financial impact of such a consequence to the stability of mink farms.

Still, there comes a responsibility with the mass release of mink. The targeted area for mink releases should be carefully researched and raids carried out in consideration of possible threats to threatened or endangered native wildlife. The single most effective solution remains the permanent closure of all mink farms and the ecologically-responsible rehabilitation and release of their native prisoners.



We live in a time where there are no easy or ethical answers to the problems posed by exotic non-native species, Euro-American Homo sapiens being at the top of the list. As biocentrists, we must balance our idealism with pragmatism when attempting to reach a solution. In regards to farm-raised mink, the answers come easily. Earth First! and other deep ecologists should oppose the attempted domestication of North American mink by the fur industry before they become yet another, human-dependent species existing solely for our commercial exploitation. In this regard, the ALF stands as the only organization actively pursuing this goal.

DEBATE: COMPASSIONATE VIOLENCE SAVING ANIMALS BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

by Erica Mendes

If you were to happen upon someone beating a dog to death, would you really limit yourself to merely asking the person to stop? If you're doing a hunt sab and the hunters start shooting at you, are you really willing to die anonymously rather than fight back, if that's what it takes? If you answered "yes" to both these questions-- congratulations you're a truly pathological pacifist! If, on the other hand, you answered "no," then you must admit violence can be a valid tactic in pursuit of compassionate goals.

Vegan outreach is all fine and good - the number of vegans in this country is steadily growing. The only problem is that the number of animals being killed each year is growing even more. While animal rights activists dress up in costumes, go naked, campaign for welfare reforms, and speak out for the animals, the number of animals exploited, abused and killed continues to grow. Let's face facts: We're fighting a losing battle.

For every two steps forward our movement takes, it seems to simultaneously take four steps back. It is time to take a step back and see if we're really doing everything we possibly can for the animals. Do we really shy away from violence because of valid strategic and ethical concerns, or are we simply scared of doing anything so serious?

Billions of animals are tortured and killed every year. If it takes violent action to save some of these animals, then taking such action is truly compassionate. To turn our backs on animals in need, out of some kind of abstract concern about the intangible "appropriateness" of such action, would make us speciesist hypocrites too steeped in our own privilege to address the immediate needs of animals who are dying while we debate. The question we face should not be "Is it ethical to engage in violence?", but simply, "In which situations are violent tactics effective?"

When it comes down to a simple question of effectiveness, the value of violence becomes apparent. What could possibly be more persuasive than the threat of personal physical violence? Does anyone really think that a few protests are going to be more persuasive to your average corporate executive, than the knowledge that he and his family may be beaten or killed for his company's continued support of the abuse of animals? It's sad but true-- violence is the ultimate persuader.

As compassionate activists, it's very hard for us to accept this cold hard truth, but every successful mass movement for change has included violent factions. Of course, history books like to credit the nonviolence advocates as being the impetus for change. But in reality, even the most respected nonviolence advocates such as Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. were only able to achieve their successes because of the underlying threat of riots and violent uprisings. This fact does not make them any less movements of compassion.

The recognition that violence can be a valid tactic does not mean that any act of violence is justifiable under any circumstances. Violent actions can have serious repercussions. They may result in enhanced government repression, infighting in our movement, and a bad public image. Thus it becomes even more important that we evaluate when such tactics are appropriate.

The guiding principles with violence must be to always use the minimum amount necessary, and to only use it when there is no better choice. As members of a compassion movement our most fundamental priority must be to do whatever we can to most effectively and efficiently help animals and further our cause. With this sort of judicious selection of tactics, an act of violence can become the ultimate act of compassion.

RETORT TO VIOLENCE

E. Mendes implies that anyone who opposes violence in the animal rights movement would not act defensively against hunters' bullets or against a murderous dog beater. However, these situations are simply not applicable to the current debate. Of course, any person with a shred of conscience would act defensively and with force in these situations. That does not mean, however, that force and violence are useful in the broader context of challenging institutionalized animal abuse.

Put simply, perception is reality. The way the public perceives our movement means everything. In the above two examples, a person who fought defensively would be forgiven in a court of law and, more importantly, in the court of public opinion. There would be no political fallout, no federal government crackdown. That is far different from the fallout, say, from a cold-blooded, premeditated murder of an opponent by an animal rights activist.

As I said before, the public is unwilling to accept or support unadulterated violence. Until it is, the person who risks squandering the fate of the entire movement for the infinitesimal chance that it might accelerate animal liberation is not only irresponsible, but unethical. Are we prepared to sacrifice decades of hard-fought victories in because a handful of brash, violent actions? That seems, at best, foolish.

Vegan options are commonplace in most supermarkets, animal testing for cosmetics has all but ended, and fur farming bans have taken hold in a spate of European countries. It took decades to gain women's suffrage, hundreds of years to abolish slavery; there is no reason to expect the timeline for animal liberation to radically differ.

It's ironic that E. Mendes tells us that "we're fighting a losing battle." Declaring war on 99 percent of the U.S. population-- out of brash impetuosity and impatience-- would be the REAL losing battle.

DEBATE: AGAINST VIOLENCE

by Jae Wong

"Direct action brings satisfaction," or so the saying goes. It's also possible that direct action, when taken to violent extremes, can bring disaster upon a movement -- especially if the movement is not prepared to fully support the act of violence.

The foundation of the animal rights movement is compassion. We act out of compassion for the suffering of others, and we win our allies by appealing to their basic sense of compassion. Resorting to violence to 'enforce' our sense of compassion is, at best, hypocritical.

Even worse, it can be ineffective, counterproductive, and downright disastrous. Without the fundamental support of a progressive political and social movement, violence typically leads to alienation, backlash and animosity among the public, and it can foster the kind of crackdown by law enforcement that can set a movement back decades.

The anti-abortion movement has shown us this quite well. In the late 1980s, the anti-abortion movement was gaining support among many in the mainstream. News media abounded with stories of clinics blockaded and protestors arrested. The publicity peaked with the 1991 "Summer of Mercy" rally in Wichita Kansas, which thousands attended and in which hundreds were arrested, fighting for their compassionate cause.

But the following year, this powerful protest faction was all but dead, and the anti-abortion contingent was steadily losing its hold over the press and the public. The reason? The emergence of a violent faction that shot abortion doctors dead and bombed clinics into oblivion. The violence snuffed out individual lives-- and along with it, the credibility of an entire movement.

In the eyes of the public, abortion doctors displaced aborted fetuses as the 'victims' in the abortion war. Authorities came down hard on anti-abortion activist groups everywhere. People who formerly cared about the movement turned away, partly out of disgust and partly out of fear of being lumped into the violent crowd and targeted by the feds. A few protestors stayed true and stuck it out, but most of the crucial, mainstream support for the cause dissolved. The issue was forever occluded by negative media spun out of the few acts of violence.

More recently, the 2002 assassination of a conservative politician by an activist in the Netherlands has shown how violence can hurt the animal rights movement. In that country, fur farming was on its way out and had been all but eliminated by a ban on fox farming in '94 and a ban on chinchilla farming in '98. The group that achieved those bans, Bont Voor Dieren ("Fur is for Animals"), was on its way to procuring a ban on mink farming in 2002. Then came the assassination of conservative politician Pim Fortuyn-- an outspoken opponent of the fur farming ban—by one of the group's volunteers.

The negative fallout was swift. Public sympathies flew toward Fortuyn's previously obscure political group, which went on to win the next election, despite the death of its candidate. Politicians who had been working with Bont Voor Dieren toward the mink farming ban refused to talk to activists. The mink farming ban, once considered a done deal, was dead. And so the slaughter of 2.5 million minks a year in the Netherlands (a death toll equivalent to the number killed in the U.S.) continues, with no end in sight.

Both of these situations exemplify how the intrusion of violence can topple, or at least significantly hinder, a compassion-driven movement. Both show how strategically foolish it is to squander precious public support for the naïve notion that the entire populace can be controlled by a tiny number of activists bent upon violence.

Every second of every hour of every day, animals are suffering. They are being stalked and exterminated in their own ecosystems. They are being mutilated by the millions laboratories and butchered by the billions in slaughterhouses. The situation is desperate, and it seems to only be getting worse.

Knowing this, shouldn't we be taking the next logical step—to retaliate with equal vigor, vehemence, and violence?

The answer, for the sake of the animals, is decidedly "no."

REBUTTAL TO NONVIOLENCE

The idea that it is justifiable to engage in violence to protect the innocent is understood by the vast majority of the public, so why do those in our movement continue to argue we must be pacifists when it comes to standing up for animals? While we equivocate real animals are being tortured and killed.

Jae Wong's fear that a backlash from violent actions will cause a substantive setback for our movement fails to recognize that our movement is ineffective. The underlying premise that we can achieve animal liberation by continuing and expanding education efforts simply is not borne out by history. Social change is typically caused by one of three forces: the threat of violence, technological innovation, and major disasters (natural or otherwise).

As to his concern that we may face a crackdown from law enforcement if our movement starts engaging in violence: *You better believe it!* But a movement that can't even stand up to pressure from the feds, even if it costs us a few lives, can't really be taking the deaths of billions of animals seriously. If we were, we would set aside our own fears for our own well being and focus on doing whatever we can to help save as many lives as possible.

Interestingly Wong uses the examples of the violence within the anti-abortion movement and the assassination of a conservative politician as examples of how much damage violence can do to a movement. Listing a couple of examples where there's been some backlash does not mean all acts of violence do more harm than good, nor does it even necessarily mean this was the case in those instances. In fact, the pro-life movement has been revitalized and we're seeing more and more restrictions placed on abortions. And as quickly as Pim Fortuyn's party gained power, it fell apart and lost that power.

Humans have a very violent history and it's easy to think of examples where violent conflict has won the day, but it gets much harder to think of examples of mass social change that were achieved by peaceful protest. The question we need to ask ourselves is not whether violence is ethical or effective, but rather, *in what specific circumstances can violent tactics be used strategically?*

When Grand Juries Attack

In the past two years, our movement has seen a marked increase in the number and scope of federal investigations targeting activists and the movement as a whole. Since just the beginning of 2004, activists have been visited by federal agents with regards to the 1999 A.L.F. raid on the University of Minnesota, and at least three activists have been subpoenaed to appear before a Seattle, Washington grand jury. The federal probe in Seattle continues to be one of the most exhaustive political fishing expeditions our movement has seen in quite some time.

On February 19, 2004, after years of FBI visits, subpoenas, court orders for handwriting exemplars, and countless demands to testify, Allison Lance-Watson was indicted on four counts of perjury by the federal grand jury in Seattle. Federal prosecutors maintain that statements she made before the grand jury in October 2003 were knowingly false. Allison had been granted immunity and was compelled to testify under a court order about her involvement and associations with other animal rights activists.



After a barrage of invasive questions about her political beliefs, direct support for action, even and a vegetarian restaurant she dined at with friend four years prior, Allison was asked a series of questions about a rental truck. Not satisfied with the answers and lapses in memory she allegedly the truck rented in May of 2000, the Seattle grand jury, under Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Friedman, charged Allison with four counts of perjury. She now faces five years in prison and/or $250,000 in fines for each count of perjury.

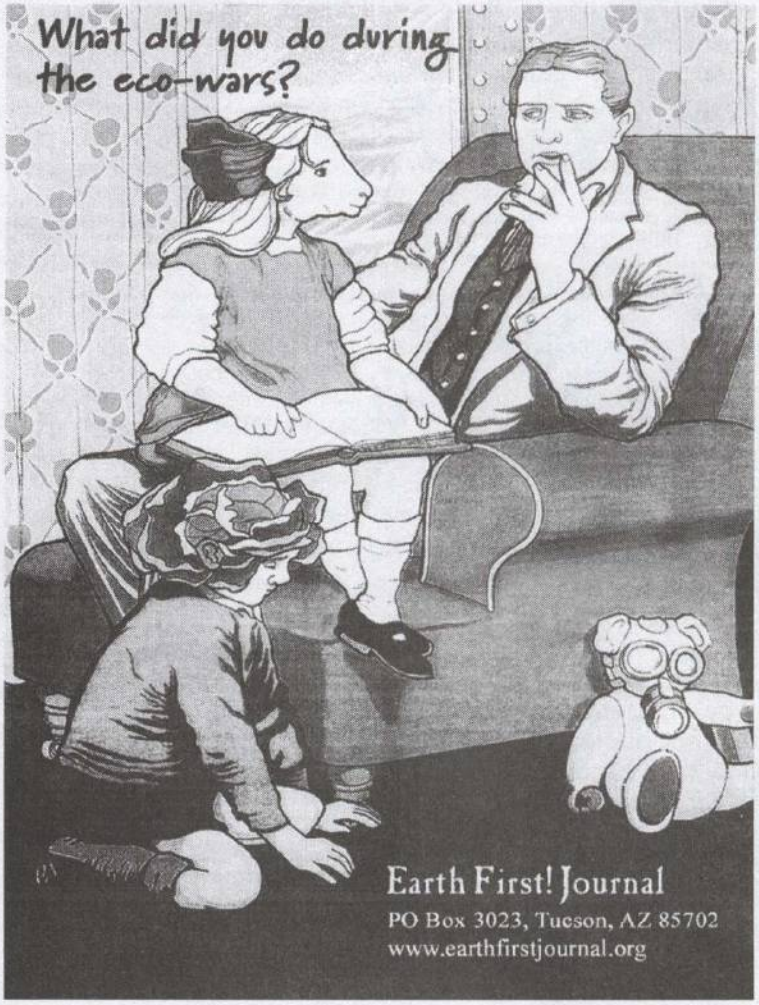
The State contends that the truck was used in an A.L.F. raid on Dai-Zen Egg Farm in upstate Washington. They are desperately grasping at straws in efforts connect it to an arson at the headquarters of Holbrook, Inc., a timber company based in Olympia, Washington—simply because the two occurred around the same day. Federal investigators aren't charging Allison with any crime in relation to the incidents under investigation; rather, the perjury indictments levied against her are based upon a truck rental and are part of a futile effort to get her to provide testimony against other animal rights activists.

Operating under the pretext of investigating the A.L.F. raid on Dai-Zen, federal investigators are utilizing the grand jury system as a means of gathering intelligence on the animal rights movement and its constituency. Despite funding for the Joint Terrorism Task Force going through the roof in the frenzied post-September 11th climate, the FBI still can't close its cases—whether they be the University of Minnesota, Dai-Zen or Holbrook, Inc.—with good old-fashioned detective work.

The perjury charges looming over Allison's head must be seen for what they truly are: a wholly fruitless attempt by the U.S. Attorney's office to create another snitch.

When faced with this sort of gratuitous harassment, we must refuse to validate the government's efforts by refusing to provide any information—even seemingly harmless information—about other activists. We must join together in support of Allison and all activists who remain strong despite being targeted by the grand jury system. It must be realized that the FBI all too frequently seeks the cooperation of activists to put other activists behind bars. We cannot give into our fears and provide the federal government with the ammunition it seeks to disrupt our movement.





The Tragic Death of Jane Tipson

by John Duerk

In the early hours of Wednesday, September 17th, a British animal activist named Jane Tipson was murdered while driving home from work on the small, Caribbean Island of St. Lucia (off the coast of Venezuela, north of Grenada). The circumstances surrounding her death are still a mystery, despite the fact that the local police arrested three men following the incident. Jane was shot in the neck at close range, and it is believed that she might have known her assailants because she slowed down and opened her car window before being killed. Unfortunately, violence has become far too common on this island, especially since tourism is a vital part of its economy.

For two and a half decades, Jane lived on St. Lucia and worked diligently for the animals there. According to her sister, Barbara Tipson: "Jane had been rescuing them [animals] since she arrived, and felt that there was a need for a society that could provide help for people who didn't know what to do with their animal problems." In 1997, Jane founded an organization called the St. Lucia Animal Protection Society, which provided a variety of animal services to the local community. "I admired her persistence and determination," read an editorial by Eliza Francis, who was shocked to learn of Jane's death (*St. Lucia Star*, September 20 2003).

Beyond addressing domesticated companion issues such as spay and neuter, Jane also took on business interests that promote "swim with the dolphin" centers. These operations bring in thousands of dollars a year in both the Caribbean and Central America and are becoming increasingly popular. In places like Cancun, Mexico, "thousands of tourists come to swim with dolphins expecting mystical encounters or unmatched educational experiences." The price for an hour's swim is about $100, "not counting the videos, photographs, t-shirts or dolls" (*New York Times*, October 2, 2003) people also buy to remember their day. This is what makes the circumstances surrounding her death all the more suspicious.

While Jane was described as "caring, funny, outspoken, and hardworking" (*St. Lucia Mirror*, September 19, 2003) though not a 'confrontational' activist, her commitment to animals was unwavering. Thus, is it possible that her death was a result of a campaign to keep the "swim with the dolphin" centers off of St. Lucia? Barbara thinks that it was a "bad choice of words" for the police to say that they think Jane was "deliberately targeted," as reported on October 31st in the *Western Morning News*. While Barbara doesn't feel that Jane's murder was politically motivated, one has to wonder, given the circumstances. Tourism is a major source of income for the island -- even Jane and Barbara owned a waterside café together to make a living. So, could Jane's animal activism have threatened someone's interests enough that they resorted to violence to undermine her efforts?For an island of approximately 160,000 people, Jane's death was the twenty-second homicide of the year. According to another local editorial, people have "virtually tolerated and cultivated a climate that has enabled crime to flourish," (*St. Lucia Mirror*, September 19, 2003). This comment leaves us with questions after reflecting on the few facts we already know. If Jane stopped her vehicle and rolled the window down before being killed and she wasn't robbed, then what motivated the killer? Moreover, if it is widely known that the police department is short on resources (*BBC News*, October 31, 2003), thereby affecting its investigative abilities, then isn't it possible someone took advantage of the situation?

With all of this in mind, it seems dismissing Jane's murder as a random act, might be inappropriate.

If you would like to learn more about the organization that Jane Tipson founded, access the following website www.stluciaanimals.org (St. Lucia Animal Protection Society). Newspaper articles and an email correspondence with Barbara Tipson were used to research this story.

Dear No Compromise readers,

Esperanza de Libertad is a group of animal rights advocates dedicated to forming an animal sanctuary in Northern Bolivia. The project coordinators are Stella, a long-time animal rights activist from the United States and Franci, an Aymará Bolivian womyn who has dedicated her life to helping the animals of Bolivia. I lived in Bolivia for a year and have seen first hand the devastating situation the land and animals of Bolivia are in. I have just returned from my second trip to Bolivia were Franci and I worked on the project for two months. We accomplished a lot but also found out that things for the animals of Bolivia are getting worse, fast. Every logging truck that passed or monkey we saw chained to a tree broke our hearts. But they also inspired us more to make Esperanza de Libertad a reality.

We are in the process of forming a non governmental organization (NGO) in Bolivia.
As an NGO, we can only use the land we purchase in order to further our mission, which is to start a sanctuary and to help all animals in need. With $20,000 we will be able to buy 700 acres of land in the rainforest. Though it sounds like a lot for a grassroots project, this is hardly any money in the scheme of things, and I know we can raise it by July 2004.

I am looking for people interested in joining Franci and myself on a weeklong Ecotour we are leading in July 2004. (See (www.esperanzadelibertad.org/ecotour.html for a full itinerary). One hundred percent of the money raised from this Ecotour will go toward Esperanza de Libertad's projects. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience in which we will take you to the heart of the rainforest on a three-day river trip on the Yacuma River. You will be able to see monkeys, pink river dolphins, capybaras, anacondas, turtles, alligators and many other animals with the knowledge that the money you spend will go to helping them survive. Please consider joining us or passing the word on to people who may be interested.

I am selling raffle tickets for an all-expense-paid, July 2004 Esperanza de Libertad Ecotour, as well as an $800 voucher for airfare to Bolivia. The drawing will be held May 15, and the winner will be notified within 24 hours. Raffle tickets are $10 each, and you can send checks to Esperanza de Libertad. Make sure to write your name, phone number and email address so that I can email you your raffle number and enter you into the contest as soon as I receive the check. Please also let me know if you are able to put up flyers for the Ecotour in your home, office or local co-op (I can email or send them to you) or help sell raffle tickets. If you would like to plan a benefit in your area please get in touch with me.

After leading the Ecotour, Franci and I will be looking for land. We already know the area we want to buy the land in and expect to spend a few months finding the exact piece of land. We will be using all of the money received from the Ecotour and the fundraising being done in the USA to buy land. The more money we get in the next few months, the more land we will buy when we are down there. The rainy season ends in April 2005, and this is when we will be looking for volunteers to come down to Bolivia and help with construction on the land. We will need help both in the United States and in Bolivia and want to give the opportunity for anyone interested to get involved. If you have any skills you could offer please contact me, and I will find a way to use them.

Sincerely,

Stella Sythe
Esperanza de Libertad Project Coordinator USA
P.O. Box 587
Sebastopol, CA 95473

Dear No Compromise,

Homeland Security has been at the PETA building so much over the past year, we are thinking of giving them an office in the parking lot. It would have to be out there as they never come inside. Officially, that is.

If they have people inside here, working here-- great. If they work hard, we'll keep them; it saves us on want ads, and maybe they'll go veg and we'll start seeing lots of slim agents. They're out there by our wildlife area and our dog park and on the bridge a lot, taking pictures. Either they're really bad photographers, double agents who keep pretending the camera didn't work the last time, or they're test driving some sort of psychological warfare technique (hey, it doesn't work!).

When asked (yes, we have asked), they say they are "sending the photos to Washington in case of a terrorist attack on the PETA building by Al Qaeda." Now we can all sleep nights. Just as the soldiers in Iraq can, now that "the war is over!" They also came in asking for the thickness of the glass on the PETA windows in case they had to "take down a sniper holding PETA people hostage." Pardon?

And, could they have our security codes, emergency plans in case of robbery, and, oh, the ventilation system plans would be nice. Er, no!

Now, the House Ways and Means subcommittee would like to talk to me about this and that. I don't think so, as long as this country continues to bear any resemblance to America! Are the plainclothes men in the white SUV who followed me from the parking lot at 9:03 p.m. the other night (but missed my quick turn) holding the subpoena? Who knows?

We went through all this before about ten years ago during a heyday of multiple grand juries and harassment. It's all most interesting and will make a neat contribution to the history books documenting yet another legitimate movement's harassment and the abuse of power at the highest levels of our government.

In a way, I'm comforted. Look at PETA, spend time on surveillance at our building, assign manpower to watching our activists going about their business quite legally-- doing things like sending out copies of the Vegetarian Starter Kit and "Free Me!" (if you'd like some to give to people, just ask, we'll provide them free, just drop me a line or email customerservice@peta.org), spend months going through our records (oh, yes, the IRS has notified us that it is coming in now) and may some of the dear souls whom they really want to talk to, be left in peace.

I've always said that people who bitch about ALF-type actions need to ask themselves one question: "What am I doing legally to stop animal abuse?" If the answer is "Nothing," then they are responsible for every illegal act committed to right the biggest injustice on earth.

Best wishes, chins up, eyes about you, feet forward, and onward!

Ingrid Newkirk



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If you would like to put your skills to work making a difference for animals, consider joining PETA's team of committed employees at our international headquarters in the seaside community of Norfolk, Virginia.

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PETA
Attn.: Human Resources
501 Front St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
Fax: 757-628-0789

Internship opportunities are also available.

For more information, visit PETA.org.

TO MY FELLOW ACTIVISTS:

I am requesting any video, CD, or mini-DV footage of liberations and economical sabotage for an upcoming documentary. ALL EXPENSES PAID (including tapes, shipping & handling, and time). Please send to:

Shannon Keith
3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd. #831
Studio City, CA 91604

Footage can be sent anonymously with a note stating where to send reimbursement.

In the Trenches: Grassroots Animal Liberation Organizations

No Compromise's policy for inclusion is that groups listed in our "In the Trenches" directory must be grassroots, abolitionist organizations. Groups must be pro-direct action/ A.L.F., must not denounce other groups fighting for animal liberation and must not have snitches working within their ranks. To be listed in this directory, please send an e-mail with your organization's contact information to nc-trenches@nocompromise.org.

Animal Activists of Alachua
300-25 J. Wayne Reitz Union
P.O. Box 118505
Gainesville, FL 32611-8505
Office Phone: 352-264-9805
Mobile Phone: 352-317-5280
E-mail: fgomez@animalactivists.org
Website: www.animalactivists.org

Animal Commandos
Website: www.LCA-Arizona.org
www.peacework.com
www.AnimalCommandos.org
Contact: Shaynie Aero
shaynie_aero@yahoo.com
Joe First: mediattack@lycos.com

Animal Defense League Amsterdam
E-mail: adl_amsterdam@yahoo.com
Website: www.adl-nl.org

Animal Defense League Chicago
P.O. Box 10022
Chicago, IL 60610
E-mail: adlchicago@yahoo.com

Animal Rights Hawaii
Honolulu, HI 96816
Phone: 808-941-9476
Email: arh@pixi.com

Animal Watch Aotearoa
PO Box 5067
Dunedin
New Zealand
Phone: 027 415 1739
E-mail: animalwatch@paradise.net.nz

Compassion Over Killing
P.O. Box 9773
Washington D.C. 20016
Phone: 301-891-2458
E-mail: info@cok.net
Website: www.cok.net, www.vegdc.com, www.tryveg.com, www.eggscam.com

East Bay Animal Advocates
710 Shady Glen
Martinez, CA 94553
Phone Number: 925-487-4419
E-mail: info@eastbayanimaladvocates.org
Website: www.eastbayanimaladvocates.org
Contact Person: Christine Morrissey

Freedom for Animals
3001 Bridgeway Blvd. 202
Sausalito, CA 94965
Phone: 415-756-4233
E-mail: info@freedom4animals.org
Website: www.freedom4animals.org

In Defense of Animals - Silicon Valley
500 W. Middlefield Rd. # 178
Mnt. View, CA 94043
Phone: 650-965-8705
E-mail: bkind2animals@comcast.net
Contact: Alfred Kuba

In Solidarity with Animals
PO Box 980751
Houston, TX 77098-0751
Phone: 713-858-0074
E-mail: AnimalSolidarity@aol.com
Website: www.solidaritywithanimals.com

Mercy For Animals
P.O. Box 363
Columbus, Ohio 43216
Phone: 937-652-8258
E-mail: Info@mercyforanimals.org
Website: www.mercyforanimals.org
www.eggcruelty.com, www.vegohio.com
www.Rodeoabuse.com

Northwest Animal Rights Network (NARN)
1704 East Galer St.
Seattle, WA 98112
Phone: 206-250-7301
E-mail: info@narn.org
Website: www.narn.org

Portland Citizens for the Closure of HLS
E-mail: animallibpdx@lists.riseup.net

SHAC Germany
Postfach 60 07 35
D-81207 Mnchen (Munich)
E-mail: info@shacgermany.net
Website: www.shacgermany.net

SHAC UK
6 Boat Lane
Evesham
Worcestershire
WR11 4BP
Phone: 0845-458-0630
E-mail: info@shac.net
Website: www.shac.net

Activist Resources

BOOKS

Free The Animals, Ingrid Newkirk
Earth First Direct Action Manual
Ecodefense, Dave Foreman & Bill Haywood
Earth Force, Paul Watson
War At Home, Brian Glick
Agents of Repression, Ward Churchill and J. Vander Wall
Animal Liberation, Peter Singer
Vegan: The New Ethics of Eating, Erik Marcus
Becoming Vegan, Vesanto, R.D. Melina, Brenda Davis
Being Vegan, Joanne Stepaniak
Vegan Handbook, Debra Wasserman and Reed Mangels
Animal Ingredients A to Z
An Unnatural Order, Jim Mason
The Dreaded Comparison, Marjorie Spiegel
The Sexual Politics of Meat, Carol Adams
The New Farm Vegetarian Cookbook

DIRECT ACTION BOOKLETS

The Final Nail #2
Memories of Freedom
Against All Odds
Keep Fighting: Three Interviews with Britain's ALF Press Officers
Animal Liberation Primer

RESOURCE GROUPS

STOP HUNTINGDON ANIMAL CRUELTY (USA & UK) - Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty is leading the campaign to shut down Huntingdon Life Sciences. Literature, posters, videos, t-shirts and other campaign material available. In the U.S.; PO Box 22398, Philadelphia, PA 19110, Phone: (732) 545-7560, E-mail: shacusa@envirolink.org, Website: www.shacamerica.net; In the UK: 6 Boat Lane, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 4BP, Phone: 0845-458-0603, E-mail: info@shac.net, URL: www.shac.net

VIVA! USA - Viva! has great resources on factory farming, veganism and other animal issues. Vegan Basics - Guide for New & Aspiring Vegans is now available! Other resources include guides highlighting the environmental impact of a meat-based diet and the nutritional advantages of a vegan lifestyle, plus videos, posters and other materials; P.O. Box 4398, Davis, CA 95617, Phone: (530) 759-8482, E-mail: info@vivausa.org, URL: ww.vivausa.org

ANIMAL RIGHTS AMERICA- ARA maintains a directory of grassroots animal rights groups; PMB 274, 15 Starrett Dr, Belfast, ME 04915, E-mail: ara100@adelphia.net

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

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS - free posters, leaflets, and stickers focused on veganism, fur, leather, vivisection, rodeos, circuses, and a free guide for grassroots activism with tips for starting a group, organizing, and more. They have graphic stickers (one sticker shows a skinned cow's head) and cards to promote vegetarianism and oppose fur or leather that you can carry in your pocket. Their new KFC leaflets, stickers, and posters show a psycho Colonel Sanders torturing a chicken and the KFCCruelty.com Web site. Web sites: www.PETA.org, www.GoVeg.com. E-mail: MeganH@peta.org; 501 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510, Phone: (757) 622-7382.

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

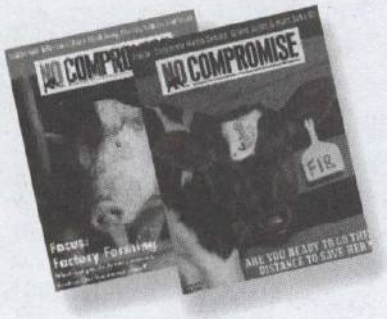
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Bite Back - 222 Lakeview Ave, Ste. 160-231, West Palm Beach, FL 33401, E-mail: biteback@directaction.info, URL: www.DirectAction.info

EF! Journal - PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702, Phone: (520) 620-6900, Fax: (413) 254 0057
URL: www.earthfirstjournal.org

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Issue #21: Focus section on Factory Farming - How to Do An Undercover Investigation; UK Live Export Campaign; Interview with Jim Mason; Virgil Butler Exposes Tyson Cruelty; Dealing with Disruptive Behavior; Shadow Activist - Planning and Stealth.

Issue #20: Making It Personal Focus Section; Rod Coronado's Triumphant Return; Reflections on the Anti-Fur Movement; Boycott Adidas; Horse Killers on the Run.

Issue #19: RICO; Legal Defs; Depositions; WWAIL 2002; Interview with Greg Avery; RMCP RAids NAALFPO.

Issue #18: HLS; Barry Horne Dies; Civil Suits; Working Undercover; Finish A.L.F in the 1990's; CD Debate; Group Dynamics; Becoming a Political Force.

Issue #17: ALF's Freedom Summer; Interview with David Barbarash; HLS; Faroe Islands; Speaking in Schools; Genetic Engineering; Building an Activist Community.

Issue #16: Operation Biteback; Fur Farm Raid Tactics; Circus Addresses, Profiles and Info; Shamrock Farms Closed; Arson Debate; Angling Info and Sabbing Tactics.

Issue #15: 80's Lab Raids; An Insider's Perspective on Raid at U.C. Harbour; Lab Supplier Directory; Lab Raid Tactics; Fur Industry Takes Beating; WTO; ALF Strikes WA.

Issue #14: West Coast Lab Raids; Hillgrove Closed; ALF Rocks Wisconsin; ALFers Acquitted.

Issue #11: Barry Horne; Starting a Grassroots group; #12M ELF Blaze; Eco-Warrior killed by logging operation.

Issue #9: Government's war on wildlife; Focus Section: Strategies and Campaigns; Interview with Swedish liberators.

Issue #8: One man's attempt to end the Canadian Seal Slaughter; Personal account of a Mink Raid.

Issue #3: Organizing CD; Representing yourself in court; ALF Press Officer, Robin Webb interview.

Printed Media

Agents of Repression by Ward Churchill $22

Animmal Experimentation: A Harvest of Shame by M. Fadali, M.D. $15

The Animal Liberation Graphic Guide by Lori Gruen and Peter Singer, Illustrated by Davie Hine $13

The Dreaded Comparison by Marjorie Spiegel $12

Free the Animals by Ingrid Newkirk $12

If An Agent Knocks: Federal Investigators and Your Rights $2

Rage and Reason by Michael Tobias $10

NEW! Snitch Culture by Jim Redden $14

War at Home: Covert Action Against Activists by the U.S. Government and What We Can Do About It by Brian Glick $9

Postcards: Set of 3 postcards commemorating DBF beagle release in 1999. Communique excerpt on back. $1

Audio Media

NEW! The Logic of Political Violence: 65-minute live recording of Arissa Media Group co-founder Craig Rosebraugh speaking about the historical roots of non-violence and political violence by social justice groups worldwide. $10

On the Run CD Set Ingrid Newkirk/PeTA Daring, real life ALF adventure stories of animals rescued from laboratories. Listen to heartening, exciting rescue stories from the animal liberation underground in this six-hour abridged addition of Ingrid Newkir's - perfect for commutes and roadtrips. $10

T-shirts

CLEARANCE! Circle A Magenta on white circle A.L.F., reads "Support the Animal Liberation Front." Available in XL. $8

Direct Action Black on ash photo of liberator rescuing a rabbit, says "Direct Action Speaks Louder than Words - Support the A.L.F." Available in XL. $12

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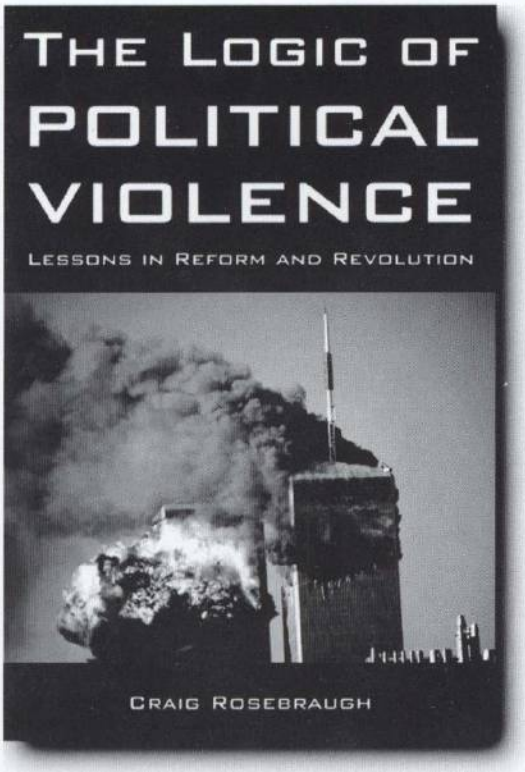
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