resistance

JOURNAL OF GRASSROOTS DIRECT ACTION

#3 $3

"If we are trespassing, so were the soldiers who broke down the gates of Hitler's death camps;
If we are thieves, so were the members of the Underground Railroad who freed the slaves of the South;
And if we are vandals, so were those who destroyed forever the gas chambers of Buchanwald and Auschwitz."

-Unknown

speaking truth about the

Earth Liberation Front

resistance

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special issue:

speaking truth about the

E.L.F.

welcome,

Capitalism teaches us that heroic acts of sabotage against those profiting from the destruction of the natural environment are acts of terrorism. It teaches us that the systematic destruction of everything that keeps us alive; air, water, soil.... is progress.

The system murders and destroys the lives of those who are daring to do what is going to take in order to maintain life on this earth. It lays down a path to follow to achieve positive social change that is a complete waste of energy by design, because positive social change is fundamentally in contrast to the capitalist ideology. And those who recognize this contradiction, and forge new and effective ways of combating the deadly force of capitalism, are villianized by the system.

The Earth Liberation Front (E.L.F.) is an underground organization that commits acts of economic sabotage against those who profit from destroying the earth, often in the form of break-ins, vandalism and arsons, while taking extreme precautions to make sure that no human or animal life is harmed in the process. They have claimed responsibility for over a dozen actions in North America over the last three years through anonymous communiqués sent to the targets, the media and to aboveground supporters who have passed the message on to the public nation-wide. The message is simple; the true "terrorism" is coming from a system that makes commodities out of the earth and those living on it, and it must be stopped by any means necessary.

Since 1997 the E.L.F. has been responsible for well over $30 million in economic sabotage. Given the relatively low number of individuals estimated in taking part in these actions, the E.L.F., and the use of covert tactics in general, have proven extremely effective. While thousands follow the system's path to achieve social change, an increasing number are realizing that it is simply not enough to reform the system, that a much more fundamental change is desperately needed if we wish to sustain life on this planet.

The government doesn't want the public to know the social and political motives behind these actions and wishes common opinion to be that the E.L.F. is a violent terrorist organization, hence the term "eco-terrorism" widely spread throughout the media. But the true violence and terrorism is coming from the hands of governments and corporations who value power and greed over the earth and those who inhabit it. This can be seen in the rapid deforestation and species extinction, genocide of indigenous peoples, the tampering with genetic make-up in our food, the continued drive for technological advancement despite the obvious side-effects of physical and psychological illness, those murdered overseas over economic disputes and at home by policing agencies and the death penalty.... The list goes on and on and the damages massively outweigh any of the supposed "terrorism" against those perpetrating these injustices.

This issue is dedicated to the Earth Liberation Front. Resistance promises to speak truth about the motives and actions of both the E.L.F. and the system it struggles against. In a cesspool of corporate controlled media and government spread mis-information, Resistance vows to tell it like it is.

~lesliejames, editor

What is the Earth Liberation front (E.L.F.)?

Modeled after the Animal Liberation Front, the E.L.F. is strategically structured in order to maximize effectiveness. With over a dozen actions causing well over $30 million in damage in the US over the last three years alone, not only have authorities been unable to come up with (let alone apprehend and convict) any suspects, but the number and intensity of Earth Liberation Front actions are seemingly on the rise.

This is no coincidence. The E.L.F. has no central authority, no public meetings and no mailing list, and if you're looking to contact them to become involved or get an autograph you're simply out of luck. The E.L.F. is an underground organization operating under a political and social ideology and a strict set of guidelines. These widely circulated guidelines are as follows;

~To inflict economic damage to those who profit from the destruction of the natural environment.

~To reveal and educate the public on the atrocities committed against the environment and all the species that cohabitate in it.

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

Any actions which fall under these guidelines could potentially be those of the E.L.F. Therefore everyone is able to create their own cell and begin taking action in the name of the Earth Liberation Front. It can be anyone; your parents, teachers, church volunteers, your neighbor, the mayor, even your spouse could be involved. So could you!

This lose structure has created an organization which is potentially unstoppable, for even if all currently active members of all E.L.F. cells are captured tomorrow, someone else realizing the necessity for direct action would quite likely stumble upon the E.L.F. guidelines and begin taking action.

The various E.L.F. cells are not only anonymous to the public but are anonymous to each other as well. This secure structure effectively keeps members out of jail and free to engage in future actions. Even if a cell were infiltrated the agent would only be able to gain information pertaining to that particular cell, and would not be able to bring down the organization as a whole, let alone the movement.

Unlike the Weather Underground active in the 1970's who's various cells operated under a central authority, each E.L.F. cell is responsible for making it's own decisions, restrained only by the E.L.F. guidelines. Therefore actions could be carried out against anyone who profits from the destruction of the natural environment at any time. This broad focus utilizes the elements of surprise and unpredictability against it's targets. With destruction of the natural environment at it's present astonishing level potential E.L.F. targets are easily found.

It is stated nowhere that it is a goal of the E.L.F. to attempt to gain public support for the tactical implication of covert direct action. This is the job of above ground support groups. For the E.L.F. to consider public opinion while planing an action designed to maximize economic damage against those profiting from the destruction of the natural environment, is to potentially sacrifice the effectiveness of the action.

With the current expansion of the prison industrial complex and increasing power of capitalistic multinational corporations many are beginning to realize that the more traditional tactics including civil disobedience, are going to wind them up with outrageous prison sentences. Many are turning to clandestine guerrilla tactics to more effectively actualize social change. The concept of 'getting away' is gaining appeal. Those who fight and get away are free to fight another day.

Utah Philips said, "The earth is not dying, it is being killed. And those who are killing it have names and addresses." Due to the urgency of our current environmental situation we are unable to afford the luxury of choosing passive resistance as our only strategy. If we are to actually succeed in preserving all that is sacred and which keeps us alive, then we need to engage ourselves in a manner which is most effective. We need to organize and partake in direct actions, which defend ourselves from the murderous greed that is destroying our environment, and ultimately killing us all. Our deranged and bloodthirsty culture has us backed into a corner, are we to simply go limp? How much is your life and your natural environment worth to you? How far are you willing to go to protect it? If not you, who? If not now, when?

Resistance

number three

RESISTANCE, JOURNAL OF GRASSROOTS DIRECT ACTION IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY ON RECYCLED NEWSPRINT. SINGLE COPIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR $3.00 WITHIN THE US AND $4.00 ELSEWHERE. SUBSCRIPTIONS (4 ISSUES) ARE AVAILABLE FOR $10 WITHIN THE US AND $14 ELSEWHERE. COPIES ARE AVAILABLE WHOLESALE AT THE FOLLOWING RATES; 10 COPIES = $15 US / $18 ELSEWHERE, 25 COPIES = $25 US / $30 ELSEWHERE, 50 COPIES = $45 US / $55 ELSEWHERE. DONATIONS GO DIRECTLY TO THE NORTH AMERICAN EARTH LIBERATION FRONT PRESS OFFICE AND ARE VERY WELCOME. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO "RESISTANCE".

resistance
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a history of the E.L.F.

Below we have compiled a timeline/history of the Earth Liberation Front (E.L.F.). All of the following actions have been claimed by the underground E.L.F. through anonymous communiqués to media, support groups/spokespersons, authorities or targets. Keep in mind there are many more actions suspected to have been the work of the Earth Liberation Front, which are not listed here due to not officially being claimed (such as the attempted arson of a US Forest Service Ranger Station and successful destruction of a ranger's pick-up in Detroit, Oregon in 10/96).

Throughout the early history of the E.L.F. (1992-1997) sending communiqués to claim responsibility for particular actions was not common practice, as actions took on a more low key sabotage. Sometime around the end of 1997 though, it seams as if the E.L.F. took to tactics more similar to those of the Animal Liberation Front (A.L.F.), where actions are publicly claimed and tactics are often more intense.

It's been stated in the media time and time again that the Earth Liberation Front is an offshoot of Earth First! As the story goes, the E.L.F. was formed in Brighton, England in 1992 by Earth First! members[1] realizing that their tactics must intensify if they are going to be truely successful in their efforts to save the environment. The following year they are said to have declared solidarity with the Animal Liberation Front[2]. Otherwise we have found no other significant documentation of the organization.

The lack of Fair representation Earth Liberation Front is frustrating to say the least, so provided is an alternative to corporate media's "eco-terrorism". After much research we present an up to date history of the North American actions of the E.L.F.

"Beltane, 1997

Welcome to the struggle of all species to be free.

We are the burning rage of this dying planet. The war of greed ravages the earth and species die out every day. E.L.F. works to speed up the collapse of industry, to scare the rich, and to undermine the foundations of the state. We embrace social and deep ecology as a practical resistance move-*ment. We have to show the enemy* that we are serious about defending what is sacred. Together we have teeth and claws to match our dreams. Our greatest weapons are imagination and the ability to strike *when* least expected.

Since 1992 a series of earth nights and Halloween smashes has mushroomed around the world. 1000's of bulldozers, powerlines, comput-er systems, buildings and valuable equipment have been composted. Many E.L.F. actions have been censored to prevent our bravery from incit-ing others to take action.

We take inspiration from Luddites, Levellers, Diggers, the Autonome squatter movement, the A.L.F., the Zapatistas, and the little people - those mischievous elves of lore. Authorities can't see us because they don't believe in elves. We are practically invisible. We have no command structure, no spokespersons, no office, just many small groups working separately, seek-ing vulnerable targets and practicing our craft.

Many elves are moving to the Pacific Northwest and other sacred areas. Some elves will leave surprises as they go. Find your family! And lets dance as we make ruins of the corporate money system…."



US Forest Service Truck damaged by arson suspected to be the work of the E.L.F.

~11/29/97

The Bureau of Land Management (B.L.M.) in Burns, OR was struck with a mysterious arson on Saturday, November 29th 1997. The office, horse pen barns, tack room, corrals and chutes on the facility were all burnt to the ground while the 488 wild horses and 51 burros[3] held captive were let free. The fire caused an estimated $450,000 in structural damages and equipment such as saddles and medicine[4] and many of the BLM people lost their personal tack and gear which they had stored in the barn[5]. While the B.L.M. was attempting to recover from their loss they received notice that they would also be getting a $1 million federal budget cut, causing them to reduce the number of wild horses they capture[6].

The B.L.M. rounds up 300 - 400 of the about 2,000 wild horses which live free on public land in eastern Oregon each year[7], some of which are known to have been illegally funneled to slaughter for the horse meat market overseas[8]. The Cavel West slaughterhouse and horse meat processing plant in Redmond, Oregon which happened to also have been burned down in an arson claimed by the Animal Liberation Front four months earlier[9] was strongly suspected to have been part of that process. The horse slaughterhouse was never rebuilt.

"The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) claims they are removing non-native species from public lands (aren't white Europeans also non-native) but then they turn around and subsidize the cat-tle industry and place thousands of non-native domestic cattle on these same lands….

….to help halt the BLM's illegal and immoral business of rounding up wild horses from public lands and funneling them to slaughter….

This hypocrisy and genocide against the horse nation will not go unchallenged! The practice of rounding up and auctioning wild horses must be stopped. The practice of grazing cattle on pub-lic lands must be stopped. The time to take action is now. From an investigation like the Associated Press' to writing the BLM to an action like ours, you can help stop the slaugh-ter and save our Mother Earth…."

Shortly after the above communiqué was released claiming responsibility for the fire the government offered a $30,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the people responsible[10].

"It looks like we won't be able to gather from the herds we want to this winter," said B.L.M. Spokesman Mark Armstrong referring to the canceling of a wild horse roundup due to the loss of their facilities.

~6/21/98

In the early morning hours of June 21st, 1998, the E.L.F. and the Animal

Liberation Front (A.L.F.) claimed joint responsibility for the destruction of two U.S.D.A. Animal Damage Control Buildings in Olympia, WA. An estimated $1.5 million in research, along with $400,000 in structural damages[11] were lost due to intentionally set fires.

The E.L.F. and the A.L.F. had not surprisingly found common cause against a government agency, which both destroys the natural environment and murders the earth's creatures for profit and 'progress'. The following communiqué declared the arson a collaborative effort by both underground groups:

"This Year for summer solstice the A.L.F. and E.L.F. decided to honor the wildlife of the great Pacific Northwest and the forests they call home by having a bonfire (or two) at facilities which make it a daily routine to kill and destroy wildlife. The arrogant humans who make money by killing and destroying nature would have the public believe that beaver, deer and other wildlife are responsible for the decimation of our public lands - not clearcutting! That cougars just trying to survive their genocide - not human expansion and habitat decimation - are the problems! So one tax-payer-supported government facility researches more efficient and economical ways to destroy our wildlife while a second tax-payer-supported agency puts that research into practice. In addition, a third tax-payer-funded organization - the State Department of Natural Resources - conducts insect control experiments and genetic research. This action was done in solidarity with Josh Ellerman and in recognition of his courage and commitment to the animals.



Earth Liberation Front burns down Two Elk Restaurant at Vail Inc.

The Real Wildlife Services"

Shortly before the release of this communiqué Josh Ellerman, who had turned himself in to authorities on June 29th, 1998 fled Utah to avoid sentencing from indictments on 16 federal counts including charges relating to building and possession of pipe bombs (a mandatory sentence of 30 years)[12] . These charges stem from the firebombing of the Utah Fur Breeders Co-op in Sandy, Utah which caused over $1 million in damages and was part of the A.L.F.'s "Operation Bite Back."



The damage estimates for the fires at Vail soared to $26 million

Soon after Ellerman surfaced and was sentenced on September 10th, 1998 to only seven years after allegedly agreeing to cooperate with prosecutors. Ten days later five other Utah activists were indicted on federal charges relating to radical animal liberation direct actions. At that point the North American Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group banished Ellerman from their political prisoner support network for giving the authorities information leading to the indictments of the others to lessen his sentence. The other Utah activists were never convicted.

~6/28/98

Just one week after the action in Olympia, on the opposite shore of the continent, another action was claimed by the still largely unheard of Earth Liberation Front. At the Mexican Consulate in Boston, MA[12] the E.L.F. painted blood red hand prints on the walls, spilled pools of red paint on the ground and painted "VIVA E.Z.L.N." on the entrance to the building. The following communiqué was sent anonymously and received by various media facilities claiming responsibility for the action:

"Minutes before midnight on June 28th, the building that houses the Mexican Consulate in Boston, MA was targeted by the Earth Liberation Front. The unjust government in Mexico is complicit in murdering the indigenous population of Chiapas.

Red handprints, symbolizing the blood on the hands of the Mexican government, were painted on the walls and spilled on the ground. 'VIVA E.Z.L.N.' was spraypainted on the entrance.

Earth Liberation Front disappeared into the night but the blood on the hands of the Mexican Government won't easily disappear.

TODOS SOMOS MARCOS
REMEMBER GUADALUPE"

The war against the environment is also the war against the people who live sustainably within it. Indigenous cultures have been living in harmony with the environment for billions of years, we should be looking to them to better understand how humans can live on the earth without destroying it, but instead we murder them.

The Zapatistas are an armed indigenous resistance centered in the resource-rich yet largely poor, indigenous community of Chiapas, Mexico. Land and business owners, and the Mexican government which protects their economic interests have been trying to eliminate the indigenous population in order to strip the area of it's vast resources; coffee, corn, cocoa, timber, cattle ranching, hydro-electric power and especially oil. Along these lines they have engaged in genocidal development practices for years where countless numbers of indigenous people have been murdered.

Zapatistas insist that the further privatization of land means the death of indigenous cultures, and have engaged in an armed struggle for work, land, housing, food, health care, education, independence, liberty, democracy, justice, peace, culture,minformation, security, combating corruption and protection of the environment.

~7/4/98

"Independence Day for Fur Farm Prisoners" was painted at the United Vaccines in Middleton, Wisconsin during a daylight raid jointly claimed by the E.L.F. and the Animal Liberation Front where holes in the fence were cut and 310 ferrets and mink were released[14]. Equipment and windows were also destroyed with damages estimated "easily over $10,000."[15] The action wasn't discovered until about 1:00 AM the next morning. The following communiqué claimed credit for the action by both organizations:

"Approximately 7pm, in the early evening of July 3, 1998, the Animal Liberation Front and Earth Liberation Front carried out a daylight raid on the United Vaccines experimental research fur farm in Middleton, Wisconsin near Madison.

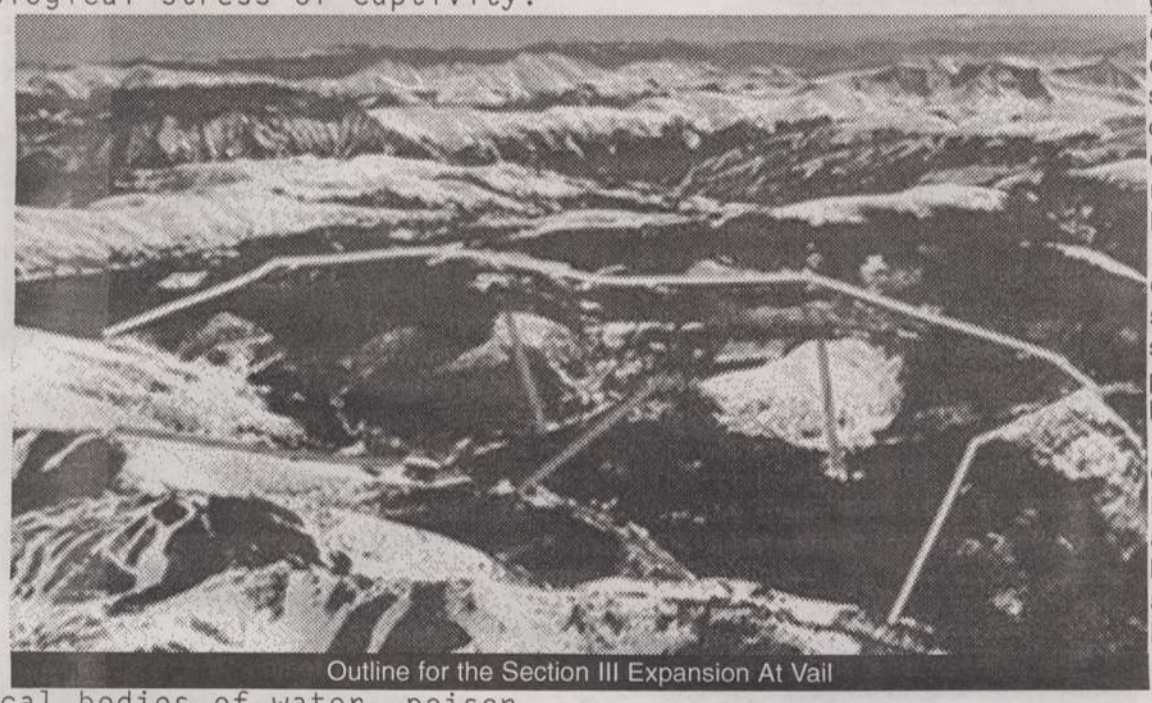
Two Large holes were cut in the perimeter fence of the compound and one large section of fence was completely torn down. Inside were 3 sheds, one empty, one containing caged mink, and one containing animals resembling possibly the black- footed ferret or a variety of the pole-cat. Near the sheds were two double rows of cages covered by liftable roof segments. All cages containing animals were opened, some requiring cage doors to be bent to allow for escape. All prisoners were seen climbing out of cages. 310 animals liberated. Each cage in the fenced in area was numbered and each mink had small black tags on both ears. Light bulbs smashed out in all sheds and a weighing scale smashed. "INDEPENDENCE DAY FOR FUR FARM PRISONERS" spraypainted on storage barn. 3 windows smashed causing alarm to go off and force liberators to evacuate before causing more damage.

This facility also contained fenced in area with empty fox cages. On top of the research building were air ducts and ventilation. This room we suspect is where laboratory tests are conducted on the animals.



The remains of one of four ski lifts destroyed by the E.L.F. at Vail

The experiments conducted at the United Vaccines' laboratories and research farms are solely to decrease "profit-losses" incurred by premature deaths on fur farms. The cause of these deaths can be attributed to the widespread diseases on farms due to close confinement, malnourshment, poor sanitation and the psychological stress of captivity. The blatant disregard for the mink and fox nations' well-being is apparent in this industry which cares only about fur quality and maximum "production" and death.



Outline for the Section III Expansion At Vail

The fur farming industry plays a crucial role in the devastation of delicate ecosystems. Fur farm waste runoffs contaminate local bodies of water, poisoning fish species and suffocating aquatic plants. Disruption of this balance adversely affects all plant and animal nations and their interdependent relationships within the ecosystem.

This action commemorates the worldwide struggle for independence from occupation and freedom from domination and is dedicated to Josh Ellerman for his dedication to defend Mother Earth and her animal nations.

Returning the prisoners back home, the Fur War continues.

A.L.F. and E.L.F."

~10/19/98

On Wednesday, October 21st 1998 the Earth Liberation Front released the communiqué below to the Sheriff's Department, the Owners of Vail Inc. and various media allegedly from an anonymous Massachusetts Institution of Technology internet address[16] claiming responsibility for what became known as the "largest act of eco-terrorism in US history."[17]

"On behalf of the lynx, five buildings and four ski lifts at Vail were reduced to ashes on the night of Sunday, October 18th. Vail, Inc. is already the largest ski operation in North America and now wants to expand even further. The 12 miles of roads and 885 acres of clearcuts will ruin the last, best lynx habitat in the state. Putting profits ahead of Colorado's wildlife will not be tolerated. This action is just a warning. We will be back if this greedy corporation continues to trespass into wild and unroaded areas. For your safety and convenience, we strongly advise skiers to choose other destinations until Vail cancels its inexcusable plans for expansion.

-- Earth Liberation Front (E.L.F.) -- "

About 100 miles west of Denver, Colorado stands the Nation's busiest ski resort, Vail. As Vail sees it, being the largest ski resort in North America isn't good enough, so, despite an extensive campaign from local environmentalists and the strong opposition of 90% of the community,[18] they decided to expand 885 acres into the nation's last of the threatened Lynx habitat.

On Friday, October 16th after extensive legal campaigns to stop the expansion, and a failed suit by environmentalists, Vail proceeded to erect fences and begin clearcutting.

On the night of Sunday, October 18th the Earth Liberation Front took direct action to stop Vail's expansion by setting fire to three buildings and four ski lifts at Vail Inc. The luxurious (500 seat, 33,000 square foot) Two Elk restaurant, the Ski Patrol Headquarters and the Camp One picnic area, as well as the four ski lifts were all reduced to ashes causing damage estimated between 12-26 million dollars.[19]

Because of the caliber of this action much more was done than cause economic damage to Vail Inc. The term "Earth Liberation Front" went from a little known extremist group to a household name literally overnight. It put the concepts of economic sabotage and covert direct action to protect the environment in the minds of millions. Many of those who felt the earth was defenseless against the capitalistic drive to destroy it now felt hope, and many of those who felt unstoppable in their pursuits for profit at the expense of the natural environment began shaking in their boots.

"This was a surprise because it was so bold." Ron Arnold, vice president of the Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise, "They've stepped over a line they've never crossed before. Now they no longer care what the public thinks. They're also getting more professional. That troubles me a lot."[20]

"This could be the beginning, sadly, of this kind of protest movement." said Richard Dekmekin, a political science professor at the University of

Southern California in Los Angeles who studies terrorism, "This is quite nasty, and massive."[21]

Paul Witt, spokesman for Vail Inc. told ABC News exactly why Vail had become a target of the E.L.F. "We go in and cut down trees. We make roads. We put in utilities.... There are people who see us as the bad guys, as greedy corporate bastards, and all we want to do is squeeze the last dime out of this valley."

Vail's plan was to expand into 2,000 acres of rocky mountain wilderness, including 12 miles of roads, restrooms, patrol outpost, a warming building and eventually a 20,000 square-foot restaurant (see diagram). Now, even after facing $12 - $26 million in damage they still plan to go through with the expansion, once they've beefed up the security of course.

The investigation into the Vail arson fires gave birth to a grand jury which subpoenaed a number of the local activists who were working through legal routes, and civil disobedience, to try to stop the section III expansion at Vail.[22] Even the individuals subpoenaed who felt the Vail arson was bad for the environmental cause for the most part resisted the grand jury, which eventually dissolved with no indictments.

When their 'more than 200 leads'[23] failed to turn up any suspects Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (A.T.F.) offered $50,000 for information leading to a conviction in the case, and Crime Stoppers of Eagle County offered $2,000. The case remains unsolved.



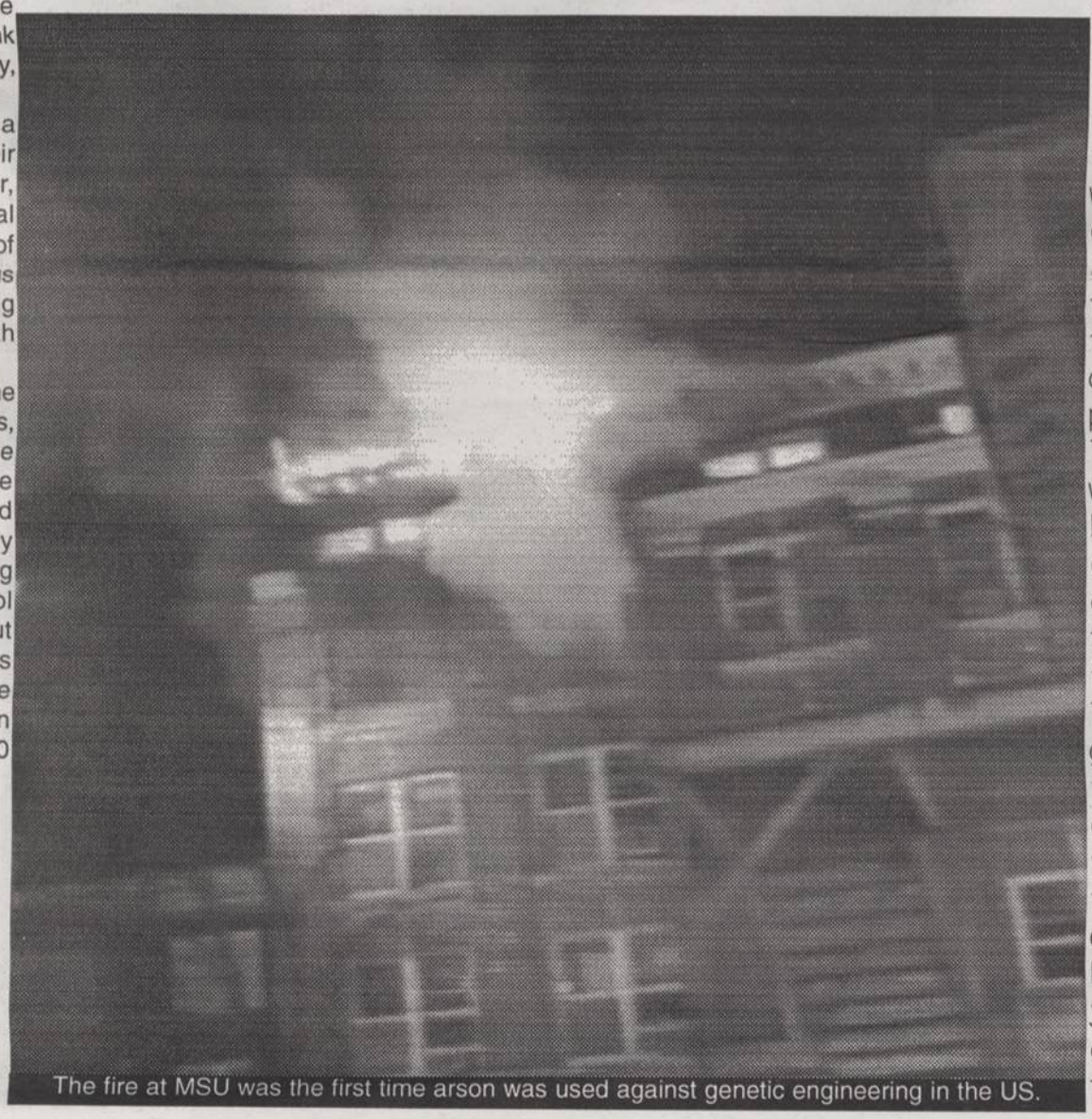
E.L.F. destroyed 3 buildings and 4 ski lifts at Vail on 10/19/98

~10/26/98

While the Vail fires were still making the headlines the Earth Liberation Front hit yet another target, the Upper Peninsula Pipkorn Mink Farm in Menominee County, Michigan.

"Five thousand animals had a chance to literally run for their lives,"[24] said Katie Fedor, spokeswoman for the Animal Liberation Front who was one of the recipients of the anonymous communiqué claiming responsibility by the Earth Liberation Front.

"This act was not done in front of us, in daylight hours, but rather during one of the darkest, foggiest nights of the year. These criminals had stealthily cased our property using airplanes and scouting techniques,"[25] said Carol Pipkorn. The E.L.F. had cut seven holes in her farm's perimeter fence, opened a large gate, and proceeded to open cages,[26] liberating 5,000 animals.



The fire at MSU was the first time arson was used against genetic engineering in the US.

"As corporate destroyers burn in the west, wildlife nations will be liberated in the north….

The farm held captive many different breeds of mink...many were seen leaving the compound and entering the surrounding woods as the liberators left….

This action was done in defiance of the recent government repression waged by the grand jury's indictment of two falsely accused activists from Washington State. The Earth Liberation Front will not be intimidated by this government's actions or fur farmers' recent threats of violence against liberators…."

The two individuals indicted to the Wisconsin grand jury went on the run instead of facing charges relating to freeing animals at seven fur farms during October 16-27, 1997[27]. One of which, Justin Samuel, was arrested in Belgium on September 5th and has been awaiting extradition back to the US since then. He is expected to return this summer and be released on bail until his trial.

Since Justin's arrest the Belgium Animal Liberation Front engaged in their first ever mink liberation, dedicating the action to Justin. The other individual indicted on these charges has never been caught.

~10/30/98

Just before Halloween the E.L.F. released the following communiqué calling for a week of "International Earth Night(s)." This communiqué expressed an alliance with radicals representing various social movements and declared solidarity with the armed Zapatistas of the E.Z.L.N.

"INTERNATIONAL EARTH NIGHT
OCT. 31 - NOV.7, 1998
THE HOLLOWEEN SMASH

The Earth Liberation Front (E.L.F.) invites you to join them in celebrating it's annual International Earth Liberation Nights.

This is a chance for all radical groups - be they earth liberation, animal liberation, anti-nuclear, indigenous land rights, women's, anti-fascist or revolutionary - to join together and target those who are destroying this planet and our lives. No matter what the target, be it road contractors, oil companies, vivisection labs, genetics/biotechnology labs, repressive governments, whaling nations, logging companies, nuclear offices, trans-nationals, etc. etc, the E.L.F. asks that you use the night constructively. The time for words is over! Only direct action can put fear into the enemy's heart. The E.L.F. also asks that this Earth Night be celebrated as an act of solidarity with the Zapatistas (E.Z.L.N.) who are presently being forced off their land by the Mexican Government.

ONE EARTH, ONE CHANCE TO SAVE IT!

(As always we call for no loss of life - only property)

Taking the night back,
Earth Liberation Front"



"It seams to me as if anybody who's engaged in genetic research is potentially a target."
~ Stephen Peifer, District US Attorney Oregon

Let this be a lesson to all greedy multinational corporations who don't respect their ecosystems.

The elves are watching.

Earth Liberation Front"

~12/27/98

US Forest Industries suffered damages estimated between $500,000 - $800,000[28] from a three-alarm arson, which gutted their offices in Medford, Oregon. The target located at 2611 Whittle Ave.[29] served as the corporate headquarters for four mills; a White City veneer mill and a Grants Pass plywood mill in Oregon, a sawmill in Florida and a stud mill in Colorado.[30]

"Just like in Ireland, everybody jumps up to take responsibility for these things, but nobody knows if they really did them or not," said Jerry L. Bramwell, president of US Forest Industries. He seemed to be the only one in denial after the E.L.F. sent the below communiqué claiming responsibility for the action and clearly stating details of how the fire was set.

"To celebrate the holidays we decided on a bonfire. Unfortunately for U.S. Forest Industries it was at their corporate headquarters office….

On the foggy night after Christmas when everyone was digesting their turkey and pie, Santa's ELFs dropped two five-gallon buckets of diesel/unleaded mix and a gallon jug with cigarette delays; which proved to be more than enough to get this party started.

This was retribution for all the wild forests and animals lost to feed the wallets of greedy *fucks* like Jerry Bramwell, U.S.F.I. president…. payback and it is a warning to all others responsible, we do not sleep and we won't quit."

~12/25/99

Boise Cascade based in Boise, ID has been extremely active turning the lush forests of the northwest into barren clearcuts. Realizing that their "resources" will soon be running out in this part of the continent they have teamed up with Maderas Condor, a Chilean company, to be able to continue their decimating practices of deforestation in the Pureto Montt area of Chile, one of the few remaining areas in the world which has never seen a chainsaw.



The inside of Ives's office after the E.L.F. Fire

On Christmas of 1999 Boise Cascade found their 8,000 square foot Northwest Regional Headquarters in Monmouth, Oregon reduced to a pile of ashes. The forestry office primarily employed 25 people to 'manage' the timberlands which supplied three mills in northwestern Oregon.[31] The blaze caused the timber giant $1 million in damages. A few days later the following communiqué was released by the E.L.F. proudly claiming responsibility for the arson:

"Boise Cascade has been very naughty. After ravaging the forests Pacific Northwest, Boise Cascade now looks towards the virgin forests of Chile. Early Christmas morning, elves left coal in Boise Cascade's stocking. Four buckets of diesel and gas with kitchen timer delay destroyed their regional headquarters in Monmouth, Oregon.

The federal grand jury convened in Oregon to look into several actions claimed by either the E.L.F. or the Animal Liberation Front, or both, is currently focussing specifically on this particular action at Boise Cascade (see grand jury article).

Many of those in the northwest who struggle on the side of the natural environment have received massive amounts of repression due to the supposed investigation into crimes committed by underground groups. This repression has come in the form of grand jury subpoenas, false arrests and serious injury at the hands of local police, surveillance, vandalism, harassing phone calls and death threats, 'chance' meetings and home visits by federal agents, and a suspicious amount of infighting. This is likely due to the frustration of authorities, which have been unable to come up with legitimate suspects for these crimes, let alone prosecute and convict anyone active in the E.L.F.

Unable to capture the clandestine, underground members of the E.L.F., authorities resort to targeting aboveground environmentalists in hopes that without their support the underground will dissolve. Fortunately they have been unable to eliminate the movement completely, but perhaps by keeping those who struggle for liberation a small number, unwilling to do what's necessary to free ourselves and the environment, they have been equally successful.

Imagine how quickly and effectively liberation would be achieved if everyone who believed in freedom were to abandon their faith in this worthless system which has done nothing but decimate the planet and the lives of those living on it, and joined the revolutionary struggle for true social change!

~12/31/99

At 8:15 PM, on New Year's Eve Y2K, a member of the faculty working in Agricultural Hall at Michigan State University (MSU) reported a fire.

The blaze ignited in room 324, the offices of Associate Professor with M.S.U.'s International Institute of Agriculture, Catherine Ives. Ives receives funding from Monsanto and the US Agency for International Development (USAID), through MSU, to conduct research to further develop genetically modified crops resistant to the corporation's pesticides, and to lobby developing countries to abandon their traditional practices of sustainable agriculture,[32] and become reliant on genetically engineered crops, and thus corporations like Monsanto.

The business of genetically engineering food crops isn't just a threat to the diversity of the earth and the health of those who live on it; it is part of a scheme of dominance over the worlds food supply and knowledge by large multinational corporations. If these corporations have their way the already devastating growing practices of westernized countries will spread and become the sole method of food production across the globe. Farmers will be forced to purchase patented seed seasonally from Monsanto, which is genetically engineered to be resistant to increasingly large doses of Monsanto's agricultural chemicals which the farmer will also have to purchase from Monsanto. A monopoly of the very fiber that keeps us alive will develop, and the knowledge and ability it takes to grow food sustainably will greatly suffer.

"Companies like Monsanto put profits ahead of lives. No one is exempt as long as they continue profiting form the destruction of the earth,"[33] said E.L.F. spokesperson Craig Rosebraugh as he informed the media that he'd received an anonymous communiqué from the E.L.F. claiming responsibility for the action. The communiqué read as follows:

"The E.L.F. takes credit for a strike on the offices of Catherine Ives, Rm. 324 Agriculture Hall at Michigan State University on Dec. 31,

1999. The offices were doused with gasoline and set afire. This was done in response to the work being done to force developing nations in Asia, Latin America and Africa to switch from natural crop plants to genetically engineered sweet potatoes, corn, bananas and pineapples. Monsanto and USAID are major funders of the research and promotional work being done through Michigan State University.
According to local newspapers, the fire cost some $400,000 on damage.
Cremate Monsanto, Long live the E.L.F.
On to the next GE target!"

"I lost basically my entire professional life," said the targeted researcher, Catherine Ives. "I've lost every paper I've ever wrote that analyzed the benefits and risks of this technology."[34]

Investigators discovered evidence of accelerates used to help spread the fire and had originally estimated the damages at $100,000, then later raised it to $400,000, then $900,000 once they realized the damage done by water leakage on all four floors. "Many computers and office materials were destroyed and part of the roof was damaged" said M.S.U. spokesperson Terry Denbow.[35] MSU has since increased security.[36]

This action marks an increase in pressure from the already radical "crop busting" tactics being used in the US adopted from Europe. The fire at M.S.U. was the first time arson had been used to further the cause against genetic engineering in the US.

This is also at least the 2nd politically motivated arson at MSU. On February 28, 1992 the Animal Liberation Front also set offices ablaze destroying over 30 years of files on animal-based research.

~1/23/00

On the night of January 23rd, 2000 the Earth Liberation Front struck again this time burning down a luxury home being built in the upscale Sterling Woods development on natural land which was threatening the watershed of the Bloomington, IN area. The Communiqué claiming responsibility read as follows:



The remains of a luxury home in the Sterling Woods development

"Greetings from Bloomington, IN:

The Earth Liberation Front would like to take credit for a late night visit to the Sterling Woods development on the evening of January 23rd.

During our visit, we torched one house that was under construction. It was completely destroyed. The walls had caved in by the time the fire department arrived. Damage has been assessed at $200,000. When finished the house was to be worth $700,000. 'NO SPRAWL, ELF' was painted on the developer's sign.

The house was targeted because the sprawling development it is located in is in the Lake Monroe Watershed. This is the drinking water supply for the town of Bloomington, IN and the surrounding area. It is already being jeopardized by existing development and roads.

Once again the rich of the world are destroying what little we have left in terms of natural areas and collective holdings (the water). Hopefully they will get the message that we will not take it anymore."

"They claim they burn the environment to save it, and they proudly take credit for what is said to be the largest act of eco-terrorism in US history. Now this radical underground group called the Earth Liberation Front is turning up the heat again, they're fighting fire with fire, igniting devastating blazes all across the country. And ironically members claim it's all in the name of saving nature."[37]

Thus went the lead-in to the national cable show Court TV where Vincent Scott, the owner of the 6,500 square-foot home, appeared to debate E.L.F. spokesperson Craig Rosebraugh.

The host continued, "His dream-house was burned to the ground earlier this month causing an estimated $300,000 in damage.... And on New Years Eve a devastating fire at Michigan State University's agriculture building caused $400,000 worth of damage. These Blazes are no freak of nature, they're the purposeful work of a group called the Earth Liberation Front, or E.L.F. Their goal? They say they are saving the environment."

"Last Year the E.L.F. transformed the peaceful mountain range in Vail, Colorado into.... a pile of sticks and rubble, with damages estimated at $12,000,000. The group also admits to torching the corporate headquarters of a timber company last year in Oregon, and E.L.F. warns it has no intention of quitting. A threat experts on these so-called eco-terrorists say are not idle."

Scott began the live debate portion of the show claiming that while no one was hurt the action it "put about 40 people out of jobs" and that his 10-year-old son has "struggled with this." Scott continued "This is something that's wrong, it's very wrong, and people need to know about it and understand that you can't fight.... these principles that these people think that they have.... with crime. This is dead wrong, this is a federal crime and somebody needs to be caught and prosecuted."

Rosebraugh responded, "To give a perspective as to why the actions did occur.... the home in the development at hand was threatening the Lake Monroe watershed which supplies the Bloomington area with it's drinking water. People are tired with going through what are considered the more traditional means of legislation and legal means of social change because it's not working."

Scott then ads, "I know the developer personally.... I know that he spent many years trying to develop this property the right way...."

"How do you develop a property the 'right way'?" interrupts Rosebraugh.

"Well he took all the concerns that you have as far as the environmental issues of keeping the trees and minimizing the damaging of the water that you guys claim is happening in this particular development. He hid everything he possibly could.... He spent thousands and thousands of dollars.... He went over and above the law," said Scott.

"He used all the legal possibilities except for one thing, he could have chose not to develop that natural land thereby not threatening that water supply" said Rosebraugh.

Scott responded, "What right does it give you to tell him what he can and can't develop? There is a court of law, there is a way that you guys could do things right.... crime is not right Craig, and that is wrong...."

"Throughout social movements in the United States there has been both legal and illegal means of positive social change and at times when it appears legislation and laws in this country are promoting the destruction of the natural environment it is obvious...." Rosebraugh got in before being interrupted by the host and then Scott.

"Craig, you burnt down my home, and we've got to use more wood, and more of your environmental products which is wood, and stone, we have to use more of that to build this."

"You could.... instead of investing $750,000 - $1,500,000 in a house which to me is ridiculous, you could invest that money into some sort of recycled material to build a house with" said Rosebraugh.

At this point the host interrupts asking Rosebraugh to defend this "act of terrorism".

"I don't consider this to be violence, I don't consider it to be terrorism...." said Rosebraugh before again being interrupted by the host.

"Arson? You don't consider arson to be any type of violent act?" she asked Rosebraugh.

"Not at all. How can you be violent towards a piece of property? That's ridiculous."

"Well you've seen the devastation that it's caused for Vincent here" argued the host.

"That's the goal of it, it's economic damage, it's called 'economic sabotage'." stated Rosebraugh and the host and Scott began shouting until the host got out the question if this type of action has ever got any results.

Rosebraugh replied, "Yes. In a case in point a horse slaughterhouse that was burnt down in Redmond, Oregon in 1997 never was rebuilt. It was a $1,000,000 fire and (Cavel West) was put out of business. So it was an instant success."

Scott, who was designated the last word then said "I ask that Craig

hands over (imaginary information leading to suspect/s) and let us do our work that we need to do to find this particular person or people, because this is wrong Craig, and I ask you to stop it! And I hope that people in the government and people around the country hear what I'm saying and that something gets done, because if not, the next thing that's going to happen.... someone's gonna' get hurt."

"Is there going to be a next instance Craig? Can you tell us?" asked the host.

"As long as there are individuals and corporations within industries profiting off the destruction of the natural environment there will be future actions. Yes."

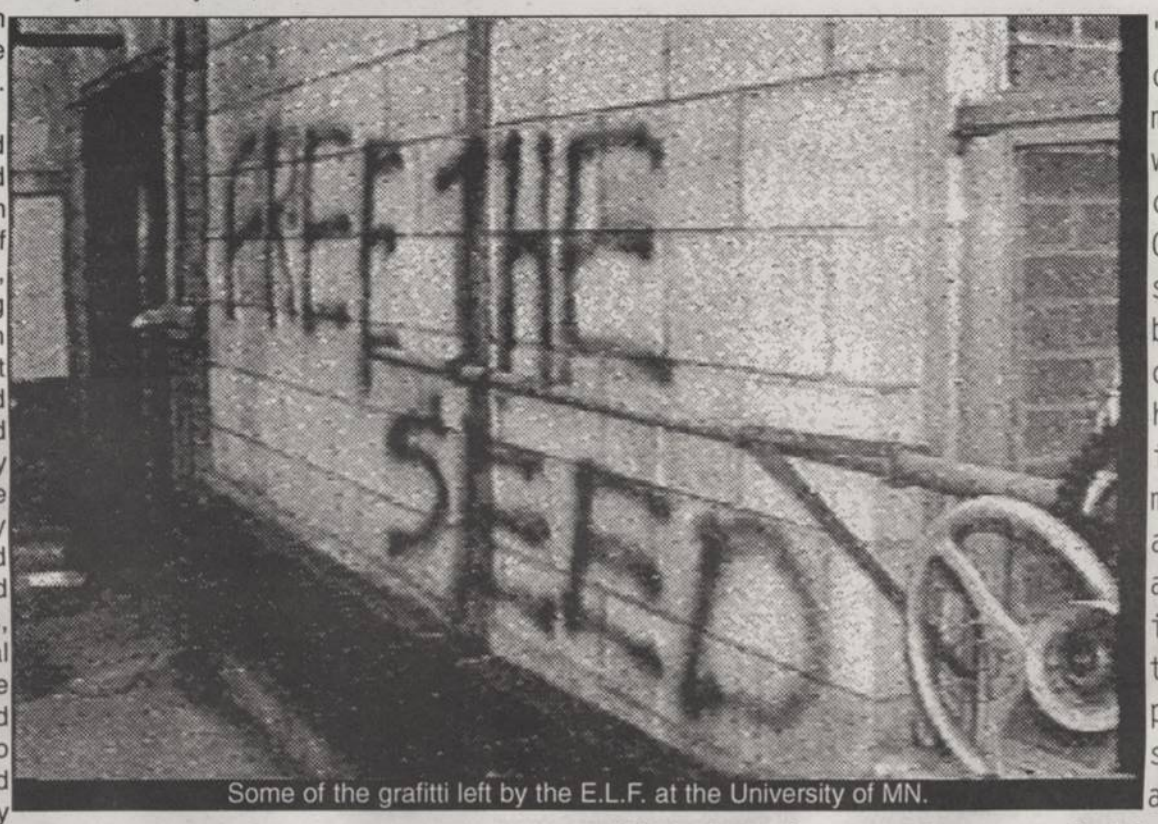
"Craig, how am I profiting off this natural destruction?" asked Scott.

"It's a 1.5 million dollar house you're building. It's disgusting." And with that the show ended.

~2/9/00

On the morning of Wednesday, February 9th, 2000 the Earth Liberation Front paid a visit to the Green Hall greenhouse at the University Minnesota of St. Paul.

Professors David Somers, Howard Rines and others, with funding partly from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Quaker Oats, had been genetically altering oat plants for three years with the goal of developing an oat crop resistant to disease and fungus. Had they completed their experiment successfully their trans-genic oats would be marketed and could have very likely cross-pollinated with wild plants releasing their altered genes into the wilderness, potentially causing ecological disaster. Experiments like these done on plants grown for food also pose health threats as to the side effects of sustained consumption of genetically modified organisms.



Some of the grafitti left by the E.L.F. at the University of MN.

The E.L.F., believed by university officials to have gained access to the building by use of a key[38], up-rooted all 800 of the four foot tall plants successfully destroying the experiment, then proceeded to paint "FREE THE *SEED" and "E.L.F." on the exterior* of the building after superglueing three locks shut.

The dean of the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences, Charles Muscoplat, stated that "the damage was not expensive -- *maybe thou*sands of dollars.... However, it set back the work of several professors many months."[39] He was also quoted saying that the action was "significant in months worth of lost effort."[40] Furthermore, Professor David Somers stated that he was "concerned about the psychological impact on (the university's) ability to do research like this."[41] The university also plans to change more locks on campus and will review who holds keys to certain facilities.

On February 10, 2000 E.L.F. spokesperson Craig Rosebraugh, along with various news outlets received this anonymous communiqué from the Earth Liberation Front claiming responsibility for the action:

"In the early hours of February 9 the Earth Liberation Front paid a visit to Green Hall at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul, MN. The target was trans-genic oat research crops. The research was being done by University Professors David Sommers and Howard Rines.

All the oats found in the greenhouse were destroyed, messages were spray painted and the locks were glued on the way out.

Oat research is simply one of the projects that the University is taking part in, in partnership with gross corporations, that are adding to the destruction of the Earth.

Let this action be a warning to the University of Minnesota and the entire biotech industry, that if you continue to destroy biodiversity on the Earth your profits will continue to fall.

The elves are always watching. Stop genetic engineering or we will.

For freedom and wilderness, the Earth Liberation Front."

In a press release Rosebraugh sent to media nation-wide he stated "a growing movement has erupted internationally against genetically modified organisms (G.M.O.'s) including genetically altered food. Contrary to claims surfacing from some of the scientific community, genetically modified plants are not the answer to the world's food shortage. Crops which have been genetically altered promote further pesticide use in larger doses which only end up in the food chain and leaking into the environment. G.M.O.'s exist for one reason, the drive for profit by large multinational corporations."

~3/24/00

"Over the weekend of March 24th, maintenance work was done to vehicles belonging to CS McCrossan construction, and were being used for the construction of the highway 55 reroute in Minneapolis. 4 machines had wires and hoses cut, dirt and sand poured into gas tanks, oil tubes, and exhaust pipes, engine parts smashed, removed and destroyed, which has happened several times before and gone unreported. This site is only a quarter mile from Coldwater Springs, a sacred site to the Dakota people, and the last source of fresh spring water in the twin cities. After cutting hundreds of old trees and decimating a once wild area, the road now threatens to cut off Coldwater's underground source, which has already happened to other springs in the city because of road construction.

Also on 3 separate occasions, large amounts of rock and table salt was mixed into the sand piles being used for cement. The piles are now gone and it is assumed that they were used in the cement building the land tunnel. This is being told because salt will weaken the integrity of the cement.

The road is not nearly done and neither are we.

Earth Liberation Front"

The rerouting of Highway 55 plans to destroy parkland and prairie, sacred and historic sites and the 10,000 year old Clearwater Spring. Last December it succeeded in cutting down the Four Sacred Oaks which many have been fighting to protect since the rerouting began on August 10th of 1998, and it's not finished yet.

Many different strategies have been employed in efforts to stop the road's decimation of sacred areas from spiritual ceremonies to direct action, including the Minnehaha Free State which the longest urban occupation in American history lasting well over a year.

The resistance against the highway 55 reroute tells a story of Native Americans, anarchists and environmentalists all working together to stop the destruction of sacred areas. If the reroute of Highway 55 is not stopped the system will have decimated what little is left of the people rightfully belonging to this land.

~4/30/00

Crider and Crider Construction, the same developer responsible for the Sterling Woods subdivision hit by the E.L.F. on January 23rd, 2000, was struck a second time just outside Bloomington, IL, on Sunday, April 30th, 2,000.

Authorities suspected that the Earth Liberation Front was behind the action even before the communiqué was released since "ELF", "GO DEVELOP IN HELL," and "THIS MACHINE IS EVIL" were spray painted on the scene. The communiqué reads as follows:

"Greetings,

Early Sunday, April 30th, the Earth Liberation Front struck again in Bloomington, IN. We entered the site of a massive clearcut on the west side of town, and poured sand into the engines and cut hoses of 6 large earth destroying machines. We then set fire to a trailer full of wood chips destined to become paper trash.

According to the local paper, the damages caused by our midnight soiree were in the vicinity of $500,000. Not bad for one night's work, though certainly no Vail. The reason that this site was targeted was the ongoing development of the wooded areas around Bloomington have turned what was once forested land into parking lots, luxury houses for rich scum and expanded roads. The government and developers are mad with greed and there will be no limit to what they destroy until we take away the profit from their schemes. The local paper was right when they wrote that we take direct action when we don't get what we want through the usual bureaucratic channels.

We dedicate this action to Craig Rosebraugh and other Earth Warriors that are being persecuted for their beliefs.

For the Wild and an End to Sprawl!
ELF"

14 pieces of equipment were damaged by packing crankcases with sand, pouring sand into gas tanks and cutting fuel lines and hoses, as well as setting a trailer full of wood chips aflame. Early estimates set the damages at $500,000.

"It's unbelievable for people to express their opinions in actions and words like these," said Steve Crider, co-owner of Crider and Crider construction, "You just don't think these things happen in Bloomington, but I guess they do."

The equipment destroyed on the site was being used to create yet more roads, specifically a new-terrain stretch of Ind. 46 to connect South Pike to Ind. 37. Roads open up otherwise relatively protected areas to exploitation. Once a road is cut through a wild land there is little one can do to save the rest from man's destructive exploitation. There are so few remaining wild lands in this country that at this point it is hardly radical to suggest that any roadless area should be protected from development, by any means necessary.

1 'The Earth Liberation Front (E.L.F.) Claims Vail Arson' by Dave Sauer, CNN - 'Amid Embers of Vail Fires, Questions Over Lynx Habitat' by Michael Lovell, the Associated Press 10/23/99 - 'Ecology Group Issues Warning' by Nadia White, the Daily Camera 10/22/98 etc....

2 'Eco-terrorists pledge action against "guilty"' the Mail Tribune 1998

3 'B.L.M. Offers Award in Burns Corral Blaze' by Richard Cockle the, Oregonian

4 'B.L.M. Offers Award in Burns Corral Blaze' by Richard Cockle the, Oregonian

5 'Arsonists Apparently Strike the Burns Adoption Center' 11/30/97

6 'B.L.M. Cuts Roundups of Wild Horses' by Richard Cockle, the Oregonian 10/30/98

7 'B.L.M. Offers Reward in Burns Corral Blaze' by Richard Cockle, the Associated Press

8 'Animal Rights Group Claims Responsibility for Fire' the Associated Press 12/6/97

9 'Animal Liberation Front Sparks Horse Fire' the Associated Press 12/6/97

10 'B.L.M. Offers Award in Burns Corral Blaze' by Richard Cockle, the Oregonian

11 'E.L.F. Anti-Genetic Engineering Action' North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office press release 6/28/98

12 NA ALF SG Utah Update

13 'Earth liberation Front Targets Mexican Consulate in Boston' Native Forest Network press release 7/1/98

14 'Freedom Not So Sweet for Released Critters' the Associated Press 7/8/98

15 'ALF/ELF take credit for Joint Crime Against Research Facility' Coronado, CA 7/6/98

16 'Ecology Group Issues Warning' by Nadia White, Daily Camera 10/22/98

17 'Pros and Cons' Court TV 1/31/00

18 'Fire on the Mountain' by Daniel Glick and Sarah Van Boven, Newsweek

19 Common media estimate: $12 Million, Estimate from Grand Jury $26 Million

20 'Environmental Activists Criticized' by the Associated Press, New York Times 10/23/98

21 'In the Name of the Planet' by Jeff Kass, the Christian Science Monitor 10/26/98

22 'Subpoenas withdrawn in Vail fires' by Nadia White Daily Camera

23 'Feds offer reward in Vail Fires' by Sandra Fish Daily Camera 2/26/99

24 'ELF Claims Responsibility for Release of 5,000 Minks' the Associated Press 10/30/98

25 'An Open Letter to Our Neighbors from Pipkorn Mink Ranch' signed Tom and Carol Pipkorn

26 'ELF Claims Responsibility for Release of 5,000 Minks' the Associated Press 10/30/98

27 'Two Indicted In Mink Release' the Associated Press 9/22/98

28 'Environmental Terrorists Claim Medford Fire' the New York Times 1/19/99

29 'Eco-terrorists pledge action against "guilty"' the Mail Tribune 1998

30 'Eco-terrorists target developers, Forest Service HQ'

31 'Earth liberation Front Burns Boise Cascade' Dateline 2/20/00

32 'E.L.F. Torches M.S.U. Building' Potato Grower Magazine 1/26/00

33 'Caller says group set M.S.U. fire, Pesticide researcher was New Year's Eve's target' by Laura Potts Detroit Free Press 1/22/00

34 'Green Terror, Eye on America Investigation' CBS Evening News

35 'Evidence finds arson at M.S.U., Accelerates detected; no guesses on damage' by Laura Potts Detroit Free Press 1/4/00

36 'E.L.F. Torches M.S.U. Building' Potato Grower Magazine 1/26/00

37 'Pros & Cons' Court TV, 1/31/00

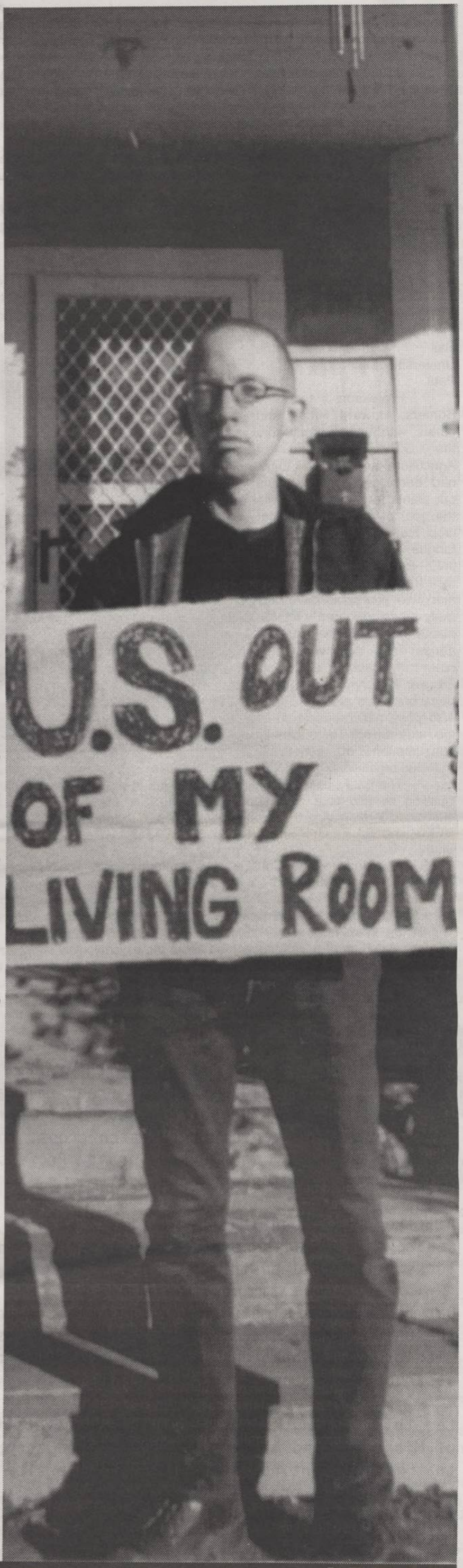
38 'Crop Experiments Damaged at University of Minnesota' Associated Press 2/11/00

39 'Earth liberation Front Strikes U, Destroys Oats' St. Paul Pioneer Press 2/12/00

40 'Crop Experiments Damaged at University of Minnesota' Associated Press 2/11/00

41 'University of Minnesota greenhouse vandalized, crops destroyed' by Anthony Lonetree Star Tribune 2/12/00

42 'University of Minnesota greenhouse vandalized, crops destroyed' by Anthony Lonetree Star Tribune



GRAND JURIES TARGET ELF ACTIVITY;
THREE YEARS OF HARASSMENT WITH NO SUCCESS

By: Craig Rosebraugh

I was first subpoenaed to testify as a witness before a federal grand jury in Portland, Oregon in September 1997. At that time I had spoke out in support of two acts of eco-sabotage committed in Oregon by an underground organization known as the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). The organization I worked with at the time, Liberation Collective, had received two communications from the ALF claiming responsibility for these occurrences. After many visits by the F.B.I., and the A.T.F., a subpoena was finally issued to me to give information to aid in the investigation of the crimes.

The subpoena issued to me commanded my appearance in Federal Court less than a week later. After realizing this I immediately called the Assistant U.S. Attorney in Portland and asked to have the date delayed so I could have time to obtain and consult an attorney. My request was granted and the proceedings were delayed for a month.

Early on an October morning, on my way to the U.S. Courthouse, I delivered a formal letter of objection to the U.S. Attorney's office on the grounds that I was being harassed. A protest against the grand jury was held outside the courthouse and attended by forty or so individuals angry at the secret government proceedings which were about to occur inside.

At 11:00am I went inside confident that the grand jury, being members of my local community, would be able to see I had done nothing wrong and that the U.S. government was simply grasping at extremely small straws. U.S. Marshals immediately le me into a waiting room filled with F.B.I., A.T.F., and other government agents. Shortly thereafter, I was taken into another room and led up to the front where I was told to sit. In front of me were the twenty-three members of the grand jury. To my left was the Assistant U.S. Attorney, to my right the Court Reporter and three forepersons of the grand jury.

As soon as I sat down the questioning began from the Assistant U.S. Attorney. By the time the third question was asked I began to take the Fifth Amendment and use my right to protection from self-incrimination knowing full well that this could be challenged at any time. (In grand jury proceedings, witnesses called to testify do not have the right to take the Fifth Amendment unchallenged. Those who do take the Fifth and refuse to answer the questions run the risk of imprisonment on contempt charges for up to eighteen months. Furthermore, in federal grand juries witnesses called to testify no not have the right to counsel inside the grand jury room.) After an hour or so questions began to come from the grand jurors themselves.

The first thing I noticed about the grand jury was that it was entirely white, hardly an accurate representation of the Portland area. (Compared to other cities, Portland is an extremely white town but definitely not to the extent represented by that jury). Secondly, each individual seemed over the age of forty and many quite older than that. I had no knowledge of what was said about me prior to my appearance but it was clear by the tone of the grand jurors questions that they considered me guilty of some sort of serious crime before I ever walked into that room.

To roughly seventy-five percent of the questions I took the Fifth Amendment and remained silent. The questions I did choose to answer related directly to the philosophy of the social movement and information about my organization, both of which were already public knowledge.

The grand jury seemed more interested in arguing with me over the ethics of a particular social movement rather than focus on their task at hand, investigating the two crimes that had occurred. I was frequently cut off when trying to answer ideological questions and often snickered at when offering my viewpoint on a given issue. It became extremely frustrating especially when I noticed two jurors dozing off in the back row. It was comforting to know that tax dollars were spent to have these individuals sleep during a court proceeding.

After an hour and a half of questioning, I was led outside the room and told to wait in the hall while the Assistant U.S. Attorney spoke with the grand jury to determine if there was any interest in asking more questions. I was soon taken back inside where I sat through another fifteen minutes of questions, again exercising my Fifth Amendment right.

At this point I was told that I was finished for the day and reminded that I could be called back at any given time to face more questions. A U.S. Marshal then escorted me down the elevator and out of the building. I did not expect to be released that day or really for a length of time as I figured my Fifth Amendment protection would be challenged and I would be held in contempt. As I walked out the doors of the courthouse my mind was in a complete daze. The psychological stress that was invoked in that hostile atmosphere was simply unimaginable, especially from individuals who consider themselves to uphold the law.

Two months later, On December 12, I received two more subpoenas at my personal residence. One was for me to testify again and the second was for the production of materials and/or objects belonging to Liberation Collective that relate in any way to the now three incidents listed in the subpoena; (1) The November 29-30, 1997, trespass, burglary and fire at the U.S. Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse Corral in Harney County, Oregon; (2) The July 21, 1997, trespass, burglary and fire at the Cavel West, Inc. facility in Redmond, Deschutes County, Oregon; and (3) The May 30, 1997, trespass, burglary and "mink release" at the Arritola Mink Farm in Mt. Angel, Marion County, Oregon. These three incidents alone totaled over $1.5 million in damages.

Once again the date for my appearance was less than a week away so I called the Assistant U.S. Attorney and asked for a delay to obtain counsel. I was denied this delay without hesitation over the phone. After putting my request in writing, I faxed it to the U.S. Attorney's office asking once again for a delay. This too was denied.

On December 16, one day before I was commanded to testify, I put forth a motion to the court to disclose illegal electronic surveillance and to quash the subpoena. My interest in doing this was to attempt to learn whether or not illegal electronic surveillance had been used to gather information to obtain the subpoenas. Early the next morning, the Court Clerk called and told me my motion had been denied by a Judge that very morning and I was still commanded to appear.

The same day, another demonstration was held outside the U.S Courthouse in Portland. I had made up my mind that I would not even go into the courthouse due to the continued harassment I was feeling from the situation. At 11:00am, a ATF agent came outside and asked me if I was planning on going up to testify. I said I was not. He went back in only to re-appear ten minutes later when he informed me that the Assistant U.S. Attorney had commanded me to testify. The ATF agent then asked me again if I was going to testify. I told him I was not. The agent went back in the courthouse and almost immediately came back out with a U.S. Marshal. Together they proceeded to arrest me, placing me in handcuffs claiming I was going to be held in contempt of court.

I was taken to the second floor and into a large room where the Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Marshals, an ATF agent and a Court Reporter were all present. Soon a Judge entered the room and still in handcuffs I was told to sit down at a table near the Assistant U.S. Attorney. The Judge then asked me why I was refusing to testify. I told him that I had three reasons which I felt were more than adequate for my refusal. The first was that I had only been given five days, two of which were on the weekend, to obtain and consult an attorney. Secondly, I had put forth a motion the day before asking for disclosure of illegal electronic surveillance and I felt that should be dealt with before proceeding. Finally, I had been in the hospital a week and a half prior with paracarditis and I was in no condition to sit through another grand jury inquisition.

Needless to say, the Judge did not find any of these reasons valid enough to excuse me from testifying. He ordered the U.S. Marshals to take me down to the grand jury room where I would be forced to sit through more questioning. They led me into the room, sat me down, and took off my handcuffs. In front of me once again was the grand jury. This time to my right was the Assistant U.S. Attorney and to my left was the Court Reporter and the three forepersons of the grand jury.

Immediately I noticed that the atmosphere seemed worse than the first time. Not only was I back in front of this group of people that had been led to dislike me, but the lighting was unbelievably oppressive. I was in what felt like a spotlight with the Assistant U.S. Attorney while the grand jury sat in wrap around audience style seating with dim light. It was a spectator sport and unfortunately I was the unwilling subject at hand.

The questioning began once again from the Assistant U.S. Attorney. This time to just about all the questions I took the Fifth Amendment as I felt I was going to be held anyway for contempt. An hour later the Assistant U.S. Attorney asked where the materials and objects were that were subpoenaed from Liberation Collective. I replied that the only items Liberation Collective had were copies of press releases that were already in possession of the court. The Assistant U.S. Attorney then told me that I had been commanded to bring all copies of any relevant materials. In addition, he said that if I was willing to go and get the copies and be back in a couple of hours, I would be free to leave.

At this point I did not know whether to believe him or not. I figured that there would be no harm in giving copies of documents to the U.S. Attorney's office which the Court already had. So I was released to go and get the press releases.

Upon returning I was led back into the grand jury room where I sat through another fifteen minutes of questioning and then sure enough I was told I was done for the day. Both to the disbelief of myself and my support committee outside, I walked out the front doors of the courthouse after being handcuffed just hours earlier.

In January, 1998, I received a fourth subpoena from an F.B.I. agent. This time it commanded me to submit to fingerprinting by the F.B.I. on or before February 28, 1998. I began working on a motion to quash this subpoena based on my belief that giving my fingerprints would be in violation of my Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination.

On January 26, I put forth this motion in Federal Court hoping to quash the given subpoena. I received word from the court the next day that once again my motion had been denied and I was still commanded to give my fingerprints or be subject to contempt charges.

At 9:00am on January 28, I was fingerprinted by agents of the F.B.I. in the U.S. Marshals office in the U.S. Courthouse. Many states already had my prints on file and I figured if I was arrested for contempt the F.B.I. would get a new full set anyway so I agreed to the fingerprinting. An hour later I walked out of the courthouse wondering just how long it would be before I was further harassed.

For the next couple of years the pressure from the grand jury slowed down a bit in Portland. While there were no subpoenas issued, the F.B.I. and A.T.F occasionally showed up attempting to question me about the ongoing actions.

In other U.S. cities, especially in 1999, activists were not so fortunate. Strictly relating to Earth Liberation Front activity, a grand jury convened in Boulder, Colorado to investigate the October 1998 fire that caused some $26 million in damages to Vail Resorts, Inc. Local above ground activists, largely from Ancient Forest Rescue, were severely targeted by the grand jury. When push came to shove, the U.S. Attorney's office in Colorado decided not to hold any activists in contempt of court for refusing to cooperate with the grand jury. That particular grand jury term was scheduled to expire in March of 2000.

On February 2, 2000, I was just getting out of bed when I heard loud knocking from my front door. Before I could get my clothes on a second knock came with a man's voice yelling, "F.B.I.! Search Warrant! Open Up!" As I began to head for the door instantly it flew open and agents came pouring in, guns drawn, screaming at me and my roomates to gather in the kitchen. We were lucky the door was unlocked as the agents had a battering ram ready and waiting. They proceeded to search us explaining they had a search warrant for property relating in any way to several ELF and ALF actions. The warrant stated that a wide variety of items were to be seized in the raid. It cited the following actions as those under investigation in the grand jury; (1) The December 31, 1999, fire at the Agriculture Hall of Michigan State University; (2) The December 25, 1999, fire at the Northwest headquarters of Boise Cascade in Monmouth, Oregon; (3) The December 27, 1998, fire at U.S. Forest Industries in Medford, Oregon; (4) The October 18, 1998 fire at Vail Resorts, Inc. in Colorado; (5) The November 29, 1997, fire and horse release at the Bureau of Land Management Horse Corral in Burns, Oregon; (6) The July 21, 1997, fire at the Cavel West Horse Slaughterhouse in Redmond, Oregon; and (7) The May 30, 1997, release of some 12,000 mink from a fur farm in Mt. Angel, Oregon

We were then told that we could either leave the house (and if we left we would not be permitted back in until the search was completed) or we must all sit on the couch in the living room coincidentally out of view from the rest of the house. So there I sat for six hours while a team of twelve or so federal robbers picked through every nook and cranny of my home.

During the search I was presented with another subpoena to testify before a new federal grand jury in Portland on February 29 at 11:00am. A grand jury, which had convened in January 1999 in Portland, had taken over the investigation into ELF and ALF activity. That investigation had grown immensely.

About half way through the search more agents arrived and entered my home carrying briefcases. They stayed for roughly an hour or so then left without any explanation to me. One agent also went outside and searched the interior of my vehicle during this process. To my knowledge nothing was found or taken from the vehicle. After six hours, the agents began bringing full, closed, moving boxes out into the living room. I was then presented with an inventory list which I was not allowed to compare the actual physical property. The items listed included three computers, videos, magazines, books, address books, media directories, mailing lists, photographs, receipts, and much more. The boxes were then taken and loaded into a government vehicle and finally the agents left.

Two rooms in particular were purposefully trashed by the agents during the raid. One was the basement which contained a great number of files, computer equipment, and more. The other was my bedroom which also contained a home office. The bedroom afterwards looked like a classic burglary scene from a movie in which the entire area was trashed. It appeared as though agents made a special attempt in the bedroom to make it known they were there. Left on top of the pile among other items were a torn painting made by my partner, Elaine Close, and a crumpled funeral announcement regarding my recently deceased grandfather.

On February 15, F.B.I. agent Daniel Feucht re-appeared at my door delivering a letter from the U.S. Department of Justice stating that I was considered a target of the grand jury. This meant that the grand jury did not just want me as a witness but also sought to file federal charges against me. The federal charges which are being looked into by the grand jury and the U.S. Attorney's office include 18 U.S.C. Section 844 (I), Use of fire or explosive to damage property used in interstate commerce, 18 U.S.C. Section (f) (1) Use of fire or explosive to destroy United States property; 18 U.S.C. Section 1951, Interference with commerce by threats of vio-

Questions asked at the February 29, 2000 grand jury

1) Regarding the development in the Bloomington, IN area, who committed the crime (of burning a new home)?
2) Did you have any prior knowledge of the crime before it was committed?
3) A communique from the ELF claims that on OCT 23rd,1999, six pieces of logging equipment were damaged in the Bloomington area. Did you receive prior notice of this crime? Who committed this crime?
4) Re: Fire at MSU, December 31, 1999 Did anyone communicate with you about this incident
before? Who communicated with you over email about this? Do you have any knowledge of who did it?
5) Who is Sandy Banks? Re:Nturebatslast@yahoo.com Who is this? Is this a false name used by someone you know?
6) Re:National Review Magazine article on MSU fire/Catherine Ives What is your philosophy on arson?
Did you have a grand jury appearance in 1997? Here? Re: a September 1997 grand jury at the Gus Solomon Courthouse - Do you recall this?
7) Re:Your philosophy of violence v. nonviolence You once supported nonviolence? Have you had a change in philosophy?
8) Re:December 25, 1999 Boise Cascade fire Are you familiar with this? Did you receive a communique about this? What was the source of that communique? Who did it? Did you know about it before it happened?
9) Why do you have no association now with Liberation Collective?
10) Re:US Forest Industries fire Did you issue a news advisory? What was the source of this communique? Who did it?
11) Do you know Darren Thurston?Is he an ELF member?Is he out of Canada?Did he send you an email asking you to conduct a press release?
12) Re:Vail What was the source of the communique? Who did it? Did anyone tell you beforehand? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident?
13) Re:Nov. 29, 1999 BLM incident Did you issue a news advisory? What was the source of the communique? Do you have any knowledge of individuals involved? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident?
14) Re:July 21, 1997 Cavel West fire What was the source of the communique? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident? Did anyone tell me about this incident?
15) Re: Arritola mink release What was the source of the communication? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident? Did anyone tell me about this incident?
16) Re: Feb 9, 2000 University of Minnesota On the Animal Liberation Frontline Information Service, why was there not an association with your name regarding this incident?
17) What was the source of the communique? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident? Who did it?
18) Re:Schumacher Fur vandalism in Portland last week Do you know anyone involved? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident?
19) Do you ever verify information you receive from ELF/ALF?
20) Re:Letter you received from someone in Monmouth, OR Who is Lucas Szabo (sp)? Did you respond to his letter? Did you encourage his activity in animal liberation? Do you know him?
21) Re: Aerial photographs of mink farms on the Oregon Coast Why were you in possession of these? Why were they taken?
22) Re: Email from you stating you wanted to close the Oregon Primate Center at any cost What are your intentions?
23) Re:aerial photographs of the Oregon Primate Center What is the purpose of having these? Where did you get these?
24) Re:Vendor lists from the Oregon Primate Center What was the source of these? Why were you in possession of these?
25) Why were you in possession of lab raids? (video)
26) Re: email from Josh Harper Did he talk about a rabbit farm raid in Philomath, OR? Did he give specific information to you before the raid? Didn't you give information seeking housing for rabbits on your website? Did Josh Harper live in the same house as you?
27) Do you know David Barbarash? Why did he email you asking for photos regarding actions of ELF/ALF?
Do you know him?
28) Re: email from you stating you want to disrupt the Americans for Medical Progress Do you want to disrupt this organization? What is your intention?
29) Re:computer email list Are you a member? Don't individuals have to be nominated by at least two people to be on the list?
30) Do you know Allison Smith? Did you send an email nominating Allison Smith to the list?
31) What is your affiliation with PETA? Doesn't PETA post bail for those committing violent acts? Did you get an offer for full time employment at PETA?
32) Do you know Katie Fedor? Did she email you asking for your assistance in sending a press release out regarding a mink release in Illinois?
33) Was the fire in Redmond at the same time they were slaughtering those wild horses there?
34) Has anyone ever been harmed or killed in these incidents?
35) Are there ever mice in the buildings that burn down? Does this concern you?
* Additional comments from the grand jury included: at one point after about it was half over a grand juror commented "ya he's got no vocabulary". "I bet those shoes are leather".

Questions asked at the April 26, 2000 grand jury

State your name.
1) Are you aware of the order compelling testimony regarding the Boise Cascade fire?
2) Do you recall appearing in front of Judge King?
3) Are you aware the order is in full force?
4) Did you receive any written notice claiming responsibility for the Boise Cascade fire?
5) Did you use the Animal Liberation Frontline Information Service website to promote the Boise Cascade fire?
6) Why is your name on the internet posting retrieved from the Frontline Information website?
7) How did you receive the communication?
8) Did you receive it in the mail?
9) Did you tell anybody how you received the communication?
10) Did you have any part in composing the press release?
11) Why did you send out the press release?
12) Why was it newsworthy?
13) Why was it important?
14) Was it your purpose by putting forth the press release to further the goals of the Earth Liberation Front in burning down the Boise Cascade office in Monmouth?
15) Do you consider the Boise Cascade fire to be economic sabotage?
16) What does economic sabotage mean to you in relation to Boise Cascade?
17) (The Assistant U.S. Attorney reads a "communique" received by the Oregonian newspaper) Do you recall this communique?
18) When you received the communication, did you consider it economic sabotage?
19) Did anyone assist you in writing the press release?
20) If so, who?
21) In 1999, were you aware of anybody who resided in Monmouth, Oregon?
22) Were you still with Liberation Collective in December 1999?
23) Did you communicate with Lucas Zabo (spelling?)?
24) Was a search warrant executed on your home on February 2, 2000?
25) Did you receive or did you have any knowledge of the fire at Boise Cascade prior to it occurring?
26) Where did you send the press releases?
27) Do you support the burning of Boise Cascade?
28) Does your memory lapse concern you?
29) Have you seen a doctor about your memory?
30) How do you function on a day to day basis with such a memory problem?

lence (Hobbs Act); 18 U.S.C. Section 43, Animal Enterprise Terrorism; 18 U.S.C. Section 371, Conspiracy to commit (such) offense, and 18 U.S.C. Section 2, Aiding and abetting. Before leaving Feucht told me that he didn't like being referred to as "Agent Bastard", a remark obviously intended to inform me that the federal government was still reading my email.

On February 29, a protest was held outside the U.S. Courthouse in Portland attended by some 150 people. Leslie Pickering, one of the individuals working with the North American ELF Press Office, was arrested at this action for allegedly blocking traffic as he crossed the street an hour earlier. Support protests were also held that day in front of the U.S. Embassy in England, and in front of federal buildings in ten other cities including Minneapolis, Eugene and Bloomington.

With my attorney I entered the U.S. Courthouse in Portland and made my way up to the grand jury room. As I entered, the familiar oppressive atmosphere hit me. Instantly the questioning began from Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Peifer. The questions covered a broad range of subjects and actions (See side bar). To all of the questions excluding my name I took the Fifth Amendment and remained silent. After about an hour I was told to go out and wait with my attorney and that Peifer wanted to speak with my attorney before I left. When Peifer came out he handed my attorney an order compelling testimony applying towards me. This order related directly to information surrounding the fire at Boise Cascade and would apply toward my future appearances before the grand jury. At that time Peifer also notified my attorney that I was going to be commanded back to the grand jury in a month or so.

In late March I received word that I had been commanded back to the grand jury on April 26. Once again the organizing began for another national day of action against state repression. A call was put out internationally for actions on or around April 26 targeting U.S. Federal Buildings and Embassies. The response was even greater this time, and not only from supporters.

I received a call on April 20th from a reporter on the East Coast asking if I had a response to the press release issued by members of Congress the day before. I replied I had no knowledge of such a release. The reporter then faxed me a copy of the release issued by Representative George Radanovich, a Republican from California. It's headline read, "Federal Buildings Threatened by Environmental Extremist; Western Caucus Chairman Writes Reno Seeking Protection". It continued,

"Rep. George Radanovich (R-California) joined Congressman Don Young (R-Alaska) and others in sending a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno seeking additional protection for federal buildings following an E-mail received from the North American Earth Liberation Front. The e-mail called on "militant demonstrations targeting US Federal buildings and embassies" on Wednesday, April 26th and was date April 1, 2000.

'We are requesting the Attorney General Janet Reno institute a criminal investigation of those responsible for sending out this E-mail threat and we ask her to respond to us by 4 p.m. E.S.T. today with her intentions,' said Radanovich who serves as chairman of the 56 member Western Caucus.

'As we remember the 5th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing today it is important that we take every threat seriously. The Clinton-Gore administration has aligned themselves with the organized national environmental extemists in the past, however I hope they do the right thing and investigate this E-mail before somebody gets hurt,' he concluded.

The Congressman seeks to have the Justice Department use the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) prohibitions against interstate criminal organizations. Copies of this E-mail sent by Craig Rosebraugh from the North American Earth Liberation Front are available upon request."

This email Radanovich was referring to was a tame, usual organizing notice. It appeared as follows,

"April 1, 2000
I received notice two days ago that I have been commanded to appear before the grand jury in Portland once again on April 26th. They have already granted me immunity and are commanding my testimony regarding the burning of the Northwest headquarters of Boise Cascade in Monmouth, OR which happened on December 25, 1999.

As soon as I take the Fifth Amendment or refuse to answer any questions I will be immediately subject to a contempt hearing.

We are organizing a national day of action against state repression on April 26. All individuals and groups concerned about government harassment and/or who support the Earth Liberation Front are asked to hold militant demonstrations targeting U.S. Federal buildings, embassies, etc.

If you are interested in setting up a demonstration please contact us in Portland to coordinate actions. Literature on grand juries, the ELF, and government harassment is available upon request.

Craig Rosebraugh
North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office

The letter from members of Congress to Janet Reno was a bit much I would have to say.

A few days before the 26th of April, my attorney put forth a motion in court to have my subpoena dropped due to a procedural error on the side of Peifer. On February 29th, Peifer already had the order compelling testimony completed before I ever testified. Usual procedure is that one waits to see what actions or inactions a witness takes before such an order would be completed. Peifer was effectively able to argue that based on my prior dealings with him and the grand jury he had reasonable suspicion to believe that I would be taking the Fifth Amendment on the 29th of February. Therefore a Judge declared that Peifer was not out of line by having the order completed ahead of time. Thus, I was still commanded to appear on April 26th and would be under the order compelling testimony for Boise Cascade.

When April 26th rolled around support protests were held in Portland, Sacramento, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Denver, Minneapolis, London and other cities. The Portland protest attracted another 100 or so participants.

As I entered the grand jury room yet again I knew I had a very slim chance of leaving a free person that day. With

Support the North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office

The North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office is a legal, above-ground news service dedicated to exposing the political and social motives behind the covert direct actions of the underground Earth Liberation Front. The North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office receives anonymous communiques from the underground Earth Liberation Front and distributes the message to the media and public nation-wide.

We provide a public face ideologically in support of the Earth Liberation Front and similar acts of economic sabotage against those who profit from the destruction of the natural environment. We are contacted by the media and the public nation-wide to provide information behind the political and social motives of Earth Liberation Front actions, and the tactical necessity of covert direct action. Because of this type of work, individuals who are looking to learn more about these issues have a place to turn, and the public who may be ignorant to the actions and motives of the Earth Liberation Front are exposed to much more frequent and in-depth media coverage.

The Press Office could not exist without the monetary support of those who understand the necessity of a public face to argue the tactical importance of clandestine direct action against those who profit from the destruction of the natural environment. Donations* are needed to pay bills, printing and shipping costs of information we distribute relating to the Earth Liberation Front, and to help pay legal fees of those who are being charged with crimes relating to Earth Liberation Front actions.

NA ELF PO
P.O.BOX 4783 PDX OR 97208
(503) 478-0902
elfpress@tao.ca

*please make all checks or money orders payable to "Resistance" attn: NA ELF PO

my attorney's assistance, I worked through question after question one at a time for two hours. After each question was asked I went outside and discussed the matter with my attorney. To questions outside the scope of the order compelling testimony I took the Fifth Amendment again. To other questions within the realm of the order I replied that I could not recall the answers. With all of the stress from the grand jury harassment and pressure from federal authorities, I simply had and continue to have a major memory problem. Of course what this meant is that legally I could not be held in contempt of court for not answering the questions. The answers I gave, though frustrating to Assistant U.S. Attorney Peifer, were the answers I had to the questions presented. (See side bar for a list of questions.)

After two hours of repetitive questioning, Peifer told me he needed to talk to my attorney and that I would be called back. He told my attorney that I would be called back in a month or so for further questioning. At that point, I walked out of the U.S. Courthouse and back into the world. This was another day of success in two areas - one, I did not cooperate once again with the grand jury and two, I remained out of prison.

So the U.S. Attorney's office and the grand jury commanded me to return to the grand jury on May 24. Only this time a second individual had been subpoenaed for the same time on the same day in Portland. I was uncertain as to how this would work but figured one individual would just be made to wait outside while the other was in the room of much heh.

Josh Harper, a Northwest activist who had been working with Ocean Defense International in the Olympic Peninsula trying to stop the Makah whale hunt, received a subpoena also for May 24. He was actually in a boat on the water when coast guard cutters surrounded his vessel. Agents then boarded his boat and issued him the subpoena. This was Harper's first subpoena to a grand jury.

Prior to the 24th, more organizing was done to try and place some pressure on the grand jury system. When the day rolled around support protests were once again held in Portland, Los Angeles, Bloomington, Minneapolis, and San Diego.

I received notice late in the afternoon on May 24 that my subpoena had been called off. The reason given was that apparently the grand jury did not have time to deal with both Harper and myself on the same day at the same time. Peifer told my attorney that I would be called back to the grand jury some time either in June or July. Harper was still commanded to appear the next day.

The next morning some 100 people gathered once again in front of the US Courthouse at 8:00am to protest the ongoing harassment of the grand jury system. At 9:00am there was no sign from Harper so I read a statement from him to the crowd detailing his reasons for resisting the grand jury.

WHY I AM RESISTING THE GRAND JURY

My name is Josh Harper, I am a green anarchist currently residing in Seattle, WA. I was recently attempting to interfere in the killing of whales off of the Olympic Peninsula when the vessel I was aboard was surrounded by the coast guard. I was boarded and issued a subpoena commanding me to appear May 24th in Portland, OR. I have decided to defy this subpoena and wish to explain my decision to fellow activists.

First and foremost, this world is dying. All that is beautiful about the world is being destroyed and paved over. The animals are being either killed or turned into machines for human consumption. Our society, which was for thousands of years mostly peaceful and egalitarian, is now filled with neurosis, discontent, and alienation. But there is more out there! All of our rage, all of our anger at this system can be focused into positive action. This grand jury wants to stop that positive action. Although the ALF and ELF are only small parts of a larger effort for autonomy, freedom, and a progression to an intact earth, they are important because they show us that we can fight back, and WE CAN WIN! I will not betray them by speaking with their enemies.

Secondly, as an anarchist I would never willingly cooperate with the grand jury system. The very idea that this government presumes they can command me to do anything shows how very little they know me. My life is my own, my thoughts are my own, and what I decide to do will not be dictated to me by judges, attorneys, and their lackeys with guns. If they want me, let them come and get me. They can drag me to the grand jury room, but they can never make me speak.

I send Craig Rosebraugh all of my respect. He has faced down this grand jury, and even though he has chosen a different tactic than me, I understand his motivations. The media he is gaining is invaluable- he is awakening even more people to the path of resistance. To the ALF and ELF- I do not know you, but I send you my endless admiration. Keep fighting. You are my sisters and brothers, perhaps someday you can remove the masks so that we may celebrate victory together. Until then, let us all remain in utter defiance of those who would try to stop us.

Harper in his admirable complete resistance to the grand jury decided not to show up at all. He has not been heard from since. Later in the day on the 24th, I received a call from my attorney who said that Peifer had called demanding the original of Harper's statement. I told him I did not have the original.

As of this writing (June 9, 2000), I have not heard anything new from the U.S. Attorney's office. This grand jury term is set to expire in late June and a new one will convene most likely in July. The possibility of endless harassment from the grand jury is great considering the seven year statute of limitations on arson.

The beauty in all of this misery is the plain simple fact that in all of the U.S. ELF actions (as far as we at the press office know) not one individual has been caught. Although the grand jury harassment is annoying, it is pleasing to realize that I have been heavily targeted because the U.S. Attorney's office has no real suspects. Long live the ELF, down with grand juries.

E.L.F. supporter arrested while peacefully demonstrating against the grand jury

When authorities are unable to capture underground guerillas, they turn to repressing their aboveground supporters. Those who work to ideologically support covert acts of sabotage have been finding their constitutional rights cut short and have facing government harassment and false arrests.

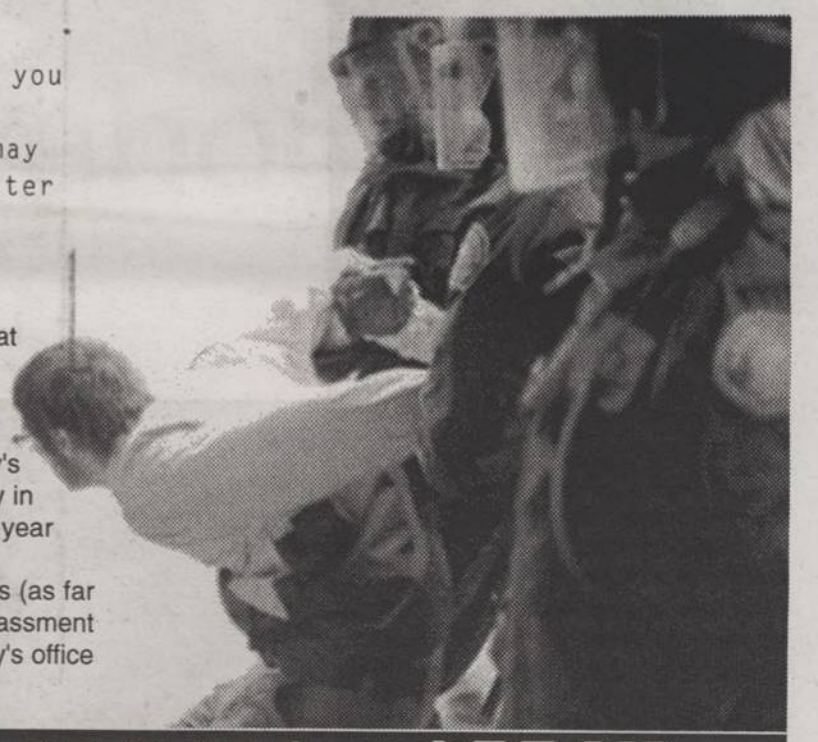
On February 29th, 2000 after a demonstration against the grand jury convened in Portland, Oregon, investigating several actions claimed by the E.L.F. and the Animal Liberation Front, Leslie Pickering was detained by an "Arrest Squad" consisting of twelve riot police in formation. Leslie was dragged away, held for over two hours and charged with "disorderly conduct," a misdemeanor that holds a potential six month jail sentence.

Officer Mack who authored the report on the incident stated that at several specific times throughout the demonstration Leslie allegedly disrupted the flow of traffic, both pedestrian and automotive. According to officer Mack's report, "Pickering's action's showed a total disregard for other citizens. He was blocking the sidewalk.... and then entering the roadway.... causing traffic to stop." While Leslie supports and at times engages in that type of action, during this particular demonstration his conduct wasanything but "disorderly". The incidents described, which occurred nearly an hour earlier, are referring to exact moments when Leslie put his foot of the curb to take a photograph, or cross the street while no traffic was present.

When referring to why the arrest didn't take place until the end of the demonstration officer Mack's report states, "Pickering was not arrested initially as this action would only serve to incite the crowd which is probably what he wanted." The Portland police force knows that Leslie is an organizer of the resistance against this grand jury and recognize him as a force for change both locally and nationally. Leslie's arrest on February 29th was an attempt to stifle the resistance against the grand jury and to once again harass those who struggle on the side of the natural environment.

The arrest was also part of a coordinated effort to distract attention from the grand jury witness, Craig Rosebraugh's unexpected release from the proceedings. As Rosebraugh began to be lead out of the building an agent of the F.B.I. radioed down to officers outside that Rosebraugh was coming out. At that exact moment a suspicious man standing near Leslie was paged and left the demonstration as the riot police marched forward in formation and proceeded to surround Leslie and make the arrest. Few noticed moments later when Rosebraugh emerged from the building a free man, as the crowd had either scattered or was distracted by such a blatant form of political repression.

As this issue goes to print Leslie faces a jury trial on charges relating to this incident. If authorities have it their way, everyone who struggles on the side of the natural environment will be subdued as agencies and corporations continue to profit from decimating the earth.



resistance
p.o. box 4783
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