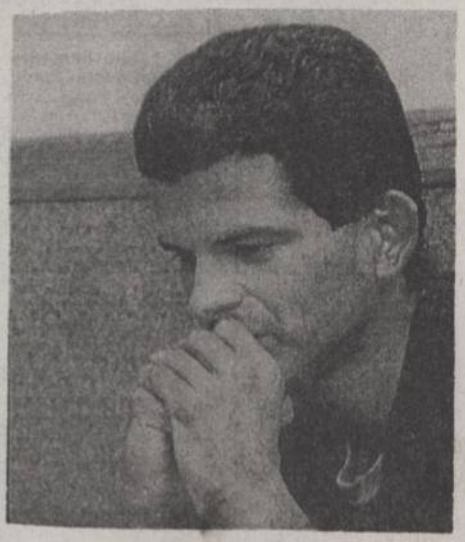
UNDERGROUND

$3 THE MAGAZINE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT SUPPORTERS GROUP #5



FREE TO PRISONERS



Animal Lib Prisoner, Rod Coronado

WANTED BY FBI



INSIDE: Special Supplement -- Rod Coronado & the U.S. Animal Liberation Movement, page **20. ALSO:** Interview with Darren Thurston. Diary of Action. Fur Farms feel the Heat, and much more!



GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? GIVE US A SHOUT!

We welcome letters, articles, artwork, action reports or anything else for publication in *Underground*. Please be sure to write "FOR PUBLICATION" on anything you send us for the newsletter, so that we know what should and should not be published. Also please make it clear whether or not you will accept editing of your contribution.

We do not believe in censorship. If we have serious concerns about printing something that is sent to us, we will make every effort to discuss our concerns with the author. As part of our taking responsibility for *Undergound*, we will let readers know if we have a serious problem with something we end up printing. Keep in mind that this is a magazine by and for people who support the A.L.F. and please strive to keep your letters/articles respectful..

SUPPORT THE A.L.F: BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NORTH AMERICAN A.L.F. SUPPORTERS GROUP

Suggested costs for a membership to the North American ALFSG, including a year's subscription to "Underground", are on a $20 - $30 sliding scale. Canadian subscribers can pay in Canadian currency; we ask that US and overseas subscribers pay in US currency (US cheques or money orders). All money, EXCEPT that going towards merchandise and distribution should be sent to:

NA-ALFSG
, Box 69597
5845 Yonge St.
Willowdale, Ontario
Canada. M2M 4K3

<our anon.email address is no longer up at this time>
Cheques and money orders should be made out to: NAALFSG.

For a catalogue of NA-ALFSG merchandise, for distribution information and/or to order products, write our NEW Distro address:

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Box 767295
Roswell, G.A.
30076, USA

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ALF GUIDELINES

TO liberate animals from places of abuse, ie laboratories, factory farms, fur farms, etc, and when ever possible, place them in good homes where they may live out their natural lives, free from suffering.

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

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

TO take all necessary precautions against harming any animal, human and non-human.

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

The NORTH AMERICAN A.L.F. SUPPORTERS GROUP is a 100% volunteer organization. All money raised goes directly to the work of supporting animal liberation and assisting imprisoned activists. Supporters can help raise money by: making personal contributions; promoting our magazine *Underground* and our other merchandise; organizing fundraising events; designing merchandise; and suggesting strategies for our fundraising efforts. Supporters can also become involved in our other projects:

PRISONER SUPPORT

* Letter writing: prisoners rely on letters as their link to the outside world. Letters to newspapers help inform the public about the plight of imprisoned activists.
* Publicity: articles for magazines, letters to the editor, public speaking, and other media work such as radio broadcasts help fundraise and raise awareness. Of course any press work that is done under the name of the North American ALFSG must be approved by the North American ALFSG.
* Distribution/Subscription drive: if you can help us distribute the newsletter or increase subscriptions, that helps us educate about animal liberation.

If you have any other ideas, please let us know. We welcome your feedback and participation.

MAIL SECURITY

If you are a member of an active A.L.F. cell, send us any clippings, or your own report, with date, time, place, and a few details about the action. Send your reports on plain paper, using block capital letters, or a public typewriter that many people have access to. Wear gloves at all times so your fingerprints are not on the paper, envelope, or stamp. Do not give your address, and don't lick the stamp or envelope; wet it with a sponge. Remember you should expect that all of our mail and any other support groups' mail is opened and read by the authorities. DO NOT inform us of upcoming

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Each A.L.F.S.G. BENEFIT COMPILATION TAPE comes with a **24 paged booklet and sticker [''A.L.F. Supporter''] This kick-ass tape** is a collaboration of efforts from Vancouver Island and area punk bands, playing for the common cause of **animal liberation.** All proceeds will be used to further the cause of animal liberation and **directly benefit imprisoned Animal Liberation Front activists and their families.**

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Canadian residents may pay in CDN funds, US and international orders, please pay in US funds. **(Tapes are $6, plus .25% for shipping and handling costs = $7.50)**

COMMUNITY & PIRATE RADIO STATIONS interested in receiving a free copy of this tape, **please write** for more details.

LETTERS TO UNDERGROUND

WHO PAYS OUT PRISONER SUPPORT -- A REPLY

Dear Liberationist friends,

Thank you for the latest *Underground.*

To answer your reader's question re: "Does PETA pay for activists' defence over and above civil disobedience?"

Under the charities laws, PETA cannot pay fines, although our Grassroots Department raises money separately to help activists pay fines, by selling vegetarian food and junk they collect, etc. However, we argue that we are allowed to pay for legal defence in a system that accepts the right to a fair trial (in principle, anyway!) and the tenet that a person is innocent until proven guilty. With that in view, although the FBI and ATF threatened to invoke RICO to shut us down, PETA paid for such defenses as those of Roger Troen (Uninversity of Oregon raid) and Rodny Coronado (University of Michigan mink farms raid).

We take each case separately and do not pay for every defense. For example, we paid a great deal in trial and defense-related costs to assist over two dozen people called before Grand Jury witchhunts in Pennsylvania, California, Oregon, Maryland, New York, and Louisiana and have supported other liberationists financially and in other ways.

As you may know, PETA also funded a successful lawsuit against Pennsylvanian authorities for failure to provide medical care, beds andfor harrassment endured during the two-week stints PETA, Fund for Animals and other activists spent in that not-so-fine Pottsville Prison (where the Molly McGuires were executed for political activities) as a result of pigeon liberations and disruptions at the Higins Pigeon Shoot.

We raise money for all our programs, from obtaining undercover footage from slaughterhouses and labs, to printing pamphlets, going into the schools, demonstrations, grassroots support, video-making, media blitzes and so on, but people give sparsely, if at all, for activist defense and that will probably always be so. Historically, we have had to spend tens of thousands of dollars more in each of various cases than the amount specifically donated for activist defense. It is a hard fact that if anyone out there decides to break an unjust law to help save man or mouse from unnecessary suffering (which PETA cannot advocate but which we will defend and support as allowed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution), they must do so expecting nothing but the satisfaction of having done something useful that few have the courage to do. Anything tangible received, whether money, a book or a letter, is a gift, so it is better to start off expecting nothing than to live disappointed! Such is revolution.

With every good wish for your success and safety, I am very truly yours,

Ingrid E. Newkirk
Cofounder
PETA

FROM THE BELLY OF THE BEAST -- LETTERS FROM UK PRISONERS

Dear NA ALFSG

Many thanks for the letter and Underground - it was a truly brilliant read, a real morale booster! It's more than most of our "respectable" Nationals manage to put out over here! I'd really like to see future editions if that would be possible.

Sorry it's taken so long to get back to you, but I've been revising for exams which finally finished this morning, so I can now catch up on letter writing!

I am not exactly flavour of the month amongst the authorities here. Apart from the fact that they caught me brewing booze (again!), I've started a campaign to get caged birds banned from British jails. I've rescued 6 and arranged for them to be taken to outside sanctuaries, and some of the cruelty is incredible. I've issued a press release which was taken up by at least six newspapers and several radio stations. It's against the regulations to contact the media, so they weren't best pleased here and

I've had non-stop aggravation ever since! Someone "upstairs" seems to have taken it seriously, though, as an investigation into my claims has been started and I've been interviewed at length. They've also had a vet to inspect every bird, so who knows, the campaign may succeed. I'm getting a leaflet together now.

Before all this blew up, they did let me out for 3 days for home-leave, which was great. Loads of petty conditions attached to the licence, including "no animal welfare activities" but freedom none the less! Hard work getting it, mind, they had refused, saying to release me would pose an "unacceptable risk to public order." Fine...

I've written all the material for a new National Anti-Hunt Campaign mailout, but as we mail to 10,000 people, we can't afford to post it - I haven't been able to get out and do many fund-raising stalls lately! It can be bloody frustrating not being able to do the things that need to be done, but not long now ...

The government are having one of their periodic "get tough on law and order and win a few extra votes" clampdowns at the moment, resulting in loads of petty new rules and regulations in jails all over the country. They're also hugely increasing the number of prisons while reducing the number of prison staff, which can only lead to a loss of facilities for prisoners. Looks as though I'll be getting out just in time. I just feel sorry for all those starting, and probably about to start, long sentences.

Some major trials are coming up as I'm sure you're aware - Robin, Mel, Michael, Barbara ... lets hope for some decent results for a change!

Well, loads of letters to catch up on, so I'd better close for now.

Take care, keep in touch, and keep fighting,

Neil Hansen HF 3184
~~HMP the Mount,~~
~~Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead~~
~~Herts, HP3 ONZ, England.~~

[We 're happy to say that we've received word that Neil has been released, and can now have a pint any time he wants without fear of being nicked!]

Hi There,

Thanks for writing, really good to hear from you. Letters are your life-line inside, hearing news of what's happening out there and knowing that someone does really care; for that I thank you.

Let me tell you a little about what's happened to me in the last 2 1/2 years since I've been inside.

I originally came to prison in 1991, and was remanded for 6 weeks before being granted bail, the main advantage of my short stay (if you can call it that) was the fact that I had now experienced prison, knew what to expect, and most of all knew that there was nothing to be frightened of. You often fear what is unknown, and afterwards wonder what all the fuss was about, although nobody loves prison, it's certainly not the worst experience in the world.

I was re-arrested in April of 1994 after being on the "run" for two years, I breached my bail on World Day for Laboratory Animals 1992 after deciding that I wasn't going to walk into court to be sent to prison by the same system that we are fighting against. I was fed up of seeing so many friends walking into court only to be locked away for many years.

Keith Mann and myself were eventually re-arrested at an Animal sanctuary we were both working at, and after being questioned by Hastings police, Keith was taken to Manchester and I to Northampton to be interrogated yet again by our dear old friends in blue. I was then remanded and sent to HMP Holloway and Keith to HMP Strangeways.

From Holloway I went to a prison in the north of England for a trial against an incident at a fur farm, nothing became of that so back to Holloway for me. the next 6 months I felt like a yo-yo, back to Newhall and then to Holloway, appearing in court in Northampton, Oxford and Birmingham. Eventually on September 30 I was sentenced to 4 years in prison.

After a year in Holloway, working doing re-cycling and eventually being on the same wing with a fellow activist, I was shipped back to Newhall.

Both my time in Holloway and Newhall was spent as constructively as possible and the time really went quite quickly for me. I became a qualified life guard and took a Community Sports Leaders Award as well as a BAWLA weight training instructor, I worked in the gym as well. The only mishap was when I was nicked for refusing to deliver a meat sandwich to a screw.

I finally ended up here in Askham Grange, again it's in the North, just 18 miles from Keith's prison. It's an open prison for short termers, less serious offences or if you are coming to the end of your sentence, like me.

It was here that my parole was refused, not by this prison, but by a panel that hasn't even met me before and has just read reports that our friends in blue wrote about me. The reasons for my refusal were 1) the incident with the meat sandwich and 2) because of my strong commitment to animal rights. Did you know that it is an offence to be vegan, and to have a job at an animal sanctuary when you're released from prison?

Anyway, I've just got on with it, you have to, no use being bitter, it just eats you up. So I've made the most of my time here.

Because it's an open prison you get a lot more privileges, I work in the gym here as well. Twice a week I go out and help autistic children to learn water safety and how to swim. I also help at a sports centre once a week working with adults with learning difficulties and special needs. I love doing this work and get a lot out of it.

I also get two town visits a month, that's when you can leave the prison between 10am and 6pm. I go and visit Keith once a month cause he is only down the road, that's really good, we hadn't seen each other for a year before I came here so it's certainly made it easier for us. My other town visit is spent with my three dogs; my best friends Winnie, Witch and Patch. I hadn't seen them for well over two years but after my parole refusal we decided to see them so they could get used to me being around again. It was a really hard decision to make but I think it was the right one, they are so beautiful, I wish you could meet

them, they are all really grey now and showing their ages.

I've just got under three months left to serve, I can not wait to get out of this place and go home and be re-united with the animals and my friends at the sanctuary.

Receiving letters really do help you so much, it brings a smile to your face, knowing someone cares, it also shows the authorities that you're not forgotten and certainly are not alone. Thankyou for writing and bringing a smile to my day.

Take care out there,
Love, Peace & Liberation

Angie Hamp TW1687
HMP Askham Grange
Askham Richard, York
Y02 3PT, England

Dear NA ALFSG,

Hi ya,
It's only me, Darren Cole at HMP Exeter. Thank you so very much for your letter - it was really cool to hear from you, and thank you for the copy of *Underground #4* it was was an extremly good read. Thanks. Well, I think I'd better tell you a bit about myself. I've been on remand since November 95 charged with ason on a live export's depo (Choakford Farm). It's a total stitch up -- I've been to court 10 times now for this action and there is no direct evidence against me at all. My solicitors have been trying their very best to get me released but to no avail. The police have continually lied in court. My trial date is some time in December! As for conditions here, they're not all that bad. My vegan diet is extremely good.

Before I carry on, please can I thank everyone for the support I've received so far. It really does mean a lot to me and I'm sure I speak for other Prisoners of War when I say that. So, a BIG thank you to you all -- keep it coming (cheers!) Hey, could I ask you a big favour? Has anyone got any pictures of whales? If so, if you could spare one or two it would be great. Thanks. Anyway, my solicitor is coming to see me tomorrow, so I should learn more about my case. Don't worry, I'll keep you updated, have no fear. Anyway, I'm really crap at writing letters, so I'm going to sign off, but I will write again soon. Until then, take care and write soon!

Lots of love and liberation,
Daz (Darren Cole) XD2301

[FORMERLY AT: HMP Exeter, New North Road, Bristol, BS7 8PS, England]

NEW ADDRESS:
HMP Feather Stone
New Rd, Feather Stone
Wolverhampton
West Midlands WV10 7PU

[ed note: Darren wrote us back later to say that he was sentenced on the 23rd of July, where he received a prison sentence of 3 1/2 years. Darren faced anywhere from 8 to 10 years, and with time
served, he should be out in 12 months. Congratulations Darren!]

CORRECTIONS TO "LISE OLSEN: AN UPDATE
(UNDERGROUND #4, pg 47/48)

Dear SG et al --

I want to give you heartfelt thanks for publishing my letter in the last issue of Underground. I felt that your support and text made a big difference to me ... I must also commend Underground on the quality of its journalism too. In an era of corporate censorship, good alternative media is rare.

May I correct two things you wrote about my situation, though? You didn't make a mistake in the last issue on purpose, I know, because my situation is so rare it is hard to really grasp. Point #1 is: I am not facing trial on a second case (the '93 Chicago smokebombs allegedly "claimed" by the A.L.F.). The FBI Grand Jury failed to indict me since my fingerprints, and no fingerprints of any friend or distant aquaintance obtained by the FBI by illegal means, matched those on the smokebombs. I am facing a second trial on my own lantern project case from '92, for which I have already completed an entire prison sentence, with only parole to do if reconvicted. This is unique in the history of the U.S. No other person has had more than one trial for the same "offense" other than very serious murder/homicide cases. It has never happened to anyone before who has done ALL their prison time. Fancy getting your trial AFTER the prison sentence. That is what happened to me.

Point #2: it was not the STATE trying to stitch me up for the smokebomb case indictment, based entirely on my conviction on the lantern case (now decided as illegal by the appellate court 8/4/95). It was the FBI.

God bless you for your hard work, and for caring.

Lise



ALF Actions Send Fur Industry Reeling -- Mink Liberations Reach All-Time High

After 7 years of struggling to break even, the fur farm industry is finally starting to get back on it's feet. Unfortunately, many animal rights groups turned away from the fur issue assuming that the industry was finished off. This was not the case, and now the market has bottomed out. With the number of North American fur farms down by as much as half from 1989, the remaining farmers are doing quite well. It is a simple example of what happens when supply goes down while demand stays relatively stable as it has for the past four years.

To make matters worse, new markets have opened for fur producers. Many former communist nations are turning to capitalism. Now many people in Russia, China, and South Korea are finding disposable income as their economies become westernized. this upswing in these nations' economies is leading to a massive increase in fur sales. With the exception of Russia, these countries have very limited fur production. This means that North American and European fur farmers and trappers stand to gain. the average mink pelt that went for $30 in 1994 (just a little above the cost of raising a mink to maturity), is now going for $68. the fur farming industry has become profitable again because we didn't finish them off when we had the chance.



The news isn't all bad though. The Animal Liberation Front is the one group in the position to hurt the fur farmers the most. The ALF knows this, and has responded. In late 1994, an ALF cell broke into the Mac Ellis Fox Farm in Pleasant View, TN. 25 fox were liberated before the coming day light forced the ALF to evacuate. This was the first known U.S. fur farm action since the Western Wildlife Cell had gone into hiding several years previous.

1995 started off slow with no North American fur farm actions. ALF activists in Finland were not going to sit by though! Four fox farms were raided and 700 fox were liberated. Two women, Mia Salli and Minna Salonen, were turned in by traitor Krisi Kultalahti. These brave young women made the best of their situation by making a media circus out of it. This led to major national exposure on fur farming in a nation which produces 70% of the world's fox. More farm raids occurred and a fur feed supplier and a pelt storage barn were burnt to the ground. Over 300 acts of economic sabotage occurred and scores of fur stores were driven out of business. All in 1995!

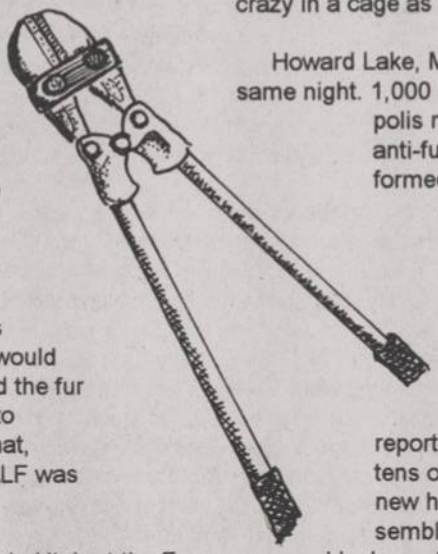
In the fall of '95, the North American ALF decided it was time for war! Two major raids occurred in British Columbia. The first occurred in October, with 2,400 mink released into their natural habitat in Chilliwack, BC. The following month saw 5,000 released from the Rippin fur farm in Aldergrove, BC. This caught the media's attention in a major way. Fur farmers went all out in a misinformation campaign designed to make the public believe that rance raised mink would die if released into the wild. A British Columbia wildlife technician refuted these claims by pointing out that mink had escaped from fur farms all over the world and survived. Countries such as Iceland and England never had native mink populations. In these countries mink would occasionally escape from farms. Evidently these few escapees did so well, and reproduced so well, that these countries now have viable mink populations. So much for the claims that they would starve to death!

The Canadian Mink Breeders Association responded by putting out a $50,000 reward for anyone who would turn over information leading to the arrest and conviction of an ALF activist responsible for saving mink an fox. The ALF was not intimidated. Just three days after the Aldergrove raid, on November 16th, the ALF raided two U.S. farms. In Olympia, WA, a cell broke into the Clarence Jordan mink farm and released 400 of the furry prisoners into what is excellent mink habitat. In a press release the group said that they wanted to burn the processing barns down, but Jordan came out and they had to quickly leave. On the other side of the country the ALF was back in Tennessee. Mac Ellis fox farm was raided once again with 30 fox spirited away to freedom. This would be the last raid the Ellis Fox Farm could take. The farm went out of business just weeks later.

The ALF followed up on this victory with a trip to the Zimbal Minkery in Sheboygan, WI in January of 1996. The Zimbal mink farm could be the largest in North America. ALF activists found one of two facilities and hopped the fence. 200 to 400 cages were opened and the breeder mink walked out to taste freedom for the first time. Conservative animal welfarists threw a fit, repeating the fur industry propaganda that the mink wouldn't survive. After this myth was debunked they went on to claim that releasing a large number of mink into one area would be bad for the ecosystem. The WI Department of natural Resources told one activist that this would not be a problem as the mink could travel many miles in a single day and would disperse along the waterways. Ironically,

the Sheboygan newspaper ran an article shortly after which discussed how the area rivers were short of mink. Pollution had decimated the local population and they needed more mink for a healthy river ecosystem. Apparently the ALF had done the environment a big favour by releasing those mink.

At this point the Fur Commission USA raised the reward fund to $70,000. The Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade sent out press releases calling this reward fund absurd, and pointed out that this was easily 14 times more money than was offered for the average rapist or murderer. Of course, in America, corporate property is more important than life.



The ALF would next surface in Victor, NY, at the L.W. Bennett fur farm in April. Under the cover of a heavy blizzard, the group cut through the perimeter fence of the farm, evading guard dogs, and released 3,000 breeder females. Each of these females would later have about five kits each, so you can see how devastating this raid was. The farmer stated that his survival was questionable, and that he would have to lay off workers. The reward fund the fur industry was offering would now go up to $100,000. This kind of money proved that, despite an upswing in the market, the ALF was devastating the fur farmers.

After a quite May, the ALF turned up in Utah at the Fur Breeders Agriculture CoOp in Sandy, on June 7th. This feed supplier kept 100 mink for research. The research was designed to find cheep feed mixes that would provide a quality pelt. ALF activists opened a gate and let 75 of the mink go. Sadly, they had to leave the other 25 for fear of waking a sleeping security guard.

North American Fur Auctions began to fear that their producers would start to go out of business despite the fact that the market was picking up. This proved how devastating the ALF attacks were to the fur trade. NAFA brought out a blanket insurance policy to try and offer some protection for the farmers that shipped through them. This insurance still had a $25,000 deductible and only covered losses up to $250,000. It began to appear as if this was only a cheap ploy to get fur farmers to ship through them, so that they would receive some limited protection, instead of through the competing Seattle Fur Exchange.

On June 21st, the ALF raided a true hell hole in Riverton, UT. The group found dead and cannibalized mink rotting in their cages, with other corpses lying in the feces building up under the cages. The ALF freed 1000 of the survivors and warned that even more raids were to come.

During the same month 80 mink were liberated from a WA fur farm. Unfortunately, we have no information on this particular raid. The important thing is that 80 more mink are enjoying freedom as opposed to intensive confinement and then death by neck breaking or a gas chamber.

On July 4th, the ALF struck twice for an Independence Day for animals. In Langley, BC, the Akagami farm was raided and 400 mink liberated. The wife of the farmer stated that the mink couldn't hunt for food and would starve. She then contradicted herself and complained that the escaped mink had eaten 12 of her geese. Once again, the mink had proven that they still maintain their natural instincts, and are much better off running free than going crazy in a cage as death draws near.

Howard Lake, MN was the site of another raid on the same night. 1,000 more mink were liberated. The Minneapolis media took great interest and militant anti-fur activists from CAFT and the newly formed Animal Liberation League presented the ALF's side of things to the general public.

The ALF was not ready to rest yet. The next thing you know, they're back in Utah, this time freeing 3,000 mink from Holt Mink Ranch, in South Jordan. The ALF reported that Utah fur farmers have spent tens of thousands in security. this farm had a new heavy duty fence which the ALF disassembled and rolled up, as well as wire wrapped locks on the cages, which were quickly destroyed. The group caused $35,000 in damage by destroying breeding records alone. the message was sent, get out of the fur trade or pay!

So, what happens now? Mink pelts are fetching top dollar, but the ALF is making the business a risky place to be. Above ground activists need to increase the pressure on the fur trade in a major way. Meanwhile, it is quite obvious that the ALF is far from finished with this campaign. If you want to help with the above ground campaigning, then contact Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade at PO Box 822411, Dallas, TX, 75382. CAFT also sells a booklet called the Final Nail for $2. this booklet lists all of the known fur farms in North America. These addresses are great for research and investigations.

Our hat is off to the ALF. They are doing a fantastic job and may be hitting the jugular veins of this morally bankrupt industry. Only time and persistence will tell.

J.P. Goodwin
CAFT
Box 822411
Dallas, TX 75382

OPENING THE CAGES -- A LOOK AT MINK LIBERATIONS

BY ROD CORONADO

On October 23, 1995 the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) opened the cages on the Dargatz Mink Farm in British Columbia, Canada freeing 2,400 mink into the surrounding countryside. The liberation from Dargatz Mink Farm was the first in what now has become 12 liberation raids by the ALF of fur farms in North America in less than a year. The result has been the release of approximately 11,000 mink, 30 fox, and one coyote from the intensive confinement that would have lead to death for all prisoners. The release of animals from fur farms is nothing new. In the former Soviet Union, Iceland, mainland Scandinavia, Western Europe, Britain and Newfoundland,animal liberation raids as well as accidental and intentional escapes from fur farms have resulted in mink and some fox being introduced successfully into the natural environment. In Britain, the ecological impact of these releases has been measured, and as liberated mink conveniently fill the ecological niche left by Britain's now extinct native otter population, the negative impact has been minimal. In Iceland's island ecosystem, and in parts of Scandinavia, mink have been slightly more destructive to the ecological balance. Never has the question of formerly captive minks survivability been questioned by those in the know, only the level of impact these beautifully fierce predators have as the successfully readapt to a wild life.

In North America, it's a whole different story. Although there is a Eurasian species, mink are believed to be native to North America with the theory that the Eurasian species originated from North American ancestors who crossed the ice bridge between this continent and Asia. Previous to the "discovery" of the "New World", mink were one of many aquatic animals that flourished in virtually every lake and waterway in North America except the desert regions. The war against the mink nation that continues today, began when the first Europeans invaded their homeland. When the Mayflower first rounded Cape Cod, Massachusetts in 1620, already Jamestown, Virginia was the hub of an extensive fur trade. A price list from 1621 records mink among other animals fetching up to ten shillings apiece on the market to which modern day fur farmers can claim as their bloody lineage. To their credit, the fur trade can also accept responsibility for causing the extinction of the native mink salt water cousin, the sea-mink. Nearly twice the size of their freshwater relations, and recorded as Inhabiting the whole Northeastern North American Seaboard, all that remains of this being are two skins and a number of bones. That and of course the memory of one furrier who before the American Revolution recalls the pelt of the sea-mink selling for five guineas. And so it is, by the end of the 19th century, fresh-water mink were severely depleted from their former range in all of North America by a fur industry thirsty for the blood of this continents fur animals.

...all captive mink should be released one way or another from their prisons we call fur farms. Highly intelligent, fierce and very adaptive, mink are anything but successfully domesticated.

Unlike their European and Scandinavian counterparts, mink farmers in the United States and Canada began the attempted domestication and economic exploitation of mink often from live captured wild mink populations. In the 1920's this new element to the fur trade began. In 1925 Kent Vernon's family in Northern Utah (now president of the Utah Fur Breeders Co-Op) live-trapped chicken-killing mink from the wild and began breeding them in captivity. In 1927 the U.S. Government opened its Experimental Furbearer Research Station in Corvallis, Oregon (shutdown by an ALF raid in 1991) and began experimentation in different techniques to breed wild mink in captivity. With overexploited wild mink populations unable to satisfy the demands of an increasing demand for fur, trappers across North America began to captive-raise wild mink, and in the 1930's discovered fur mutations that altered the minks fur color.

Now just 70 short years later, mink farmers are still battling the still dominant wild DNA of captive mink that causes these normally free-roaming solitary animals to contract diseases from close confinement, self-mutilate and even cannibalize their own kind. All for the price of a fur coat.

Beginning in 1990, I researched mink farms by visiting over 25 in Oregon, Washington, Utah, Idaho, Montana, and Michigan. What began as a quest to document conditions and killing techniques on fur farms quickly turned into the study of the first ever attempted domestication of a North American predator. What I learned both by my research and by the rescue rehabilitation, and release of sixty mink from a Montana mink farm leads me to conclude that all captive mink should be released one way or another from their prisons we call fur farms. Highly intelligent, fierce and very adaptive, mink are anything but successfully domesticated. Arguments by the fur industry that mink are domesticated

are ludicrous. Like all wild animals held in captivity, some mink when released from their cages will fare better than others. Many factors contribute to successful mink reintroduction as does the impact they will have on their surrounding eco-system. These are issues I will address in this article.

In 1990-91, I spoke with many mink farmers and researchers who, believing I was a mink farmer, instructed me in ways to avoid my mink from losing their recessive genetic structure that gave them the fur quality and color variations that separated them from their wild relations. Captive mink are genetically 95% similar to their wild counterparts, the only difference besides behavior being fur color and quality which is solely maintained by a scientifically controlled diet. This is the key to maintaining their genetic difference from wild mink, black and dark mink being the closest genetically to wild mink. Jim Leischow, a second generation mink farmer from Kenosha, Wisconsin in a discussion at the 1991 Seattle Fur Exchange auctions described to me how without a scientifically controlled diet mink on any fur farm would lose their recessive genes, and overpowered by their dominant wild genetic structure, return to their wild roots in a few generations. Leischow also detailed how a mink escapee that breeds with a wild mink would produce offspring that in one more generation would have lost all traces of any altered genetic structure. The difference between mink and other animals raised in intensive confinement is totally incomparable as not only are all other domesticated livestock ungulates and herbevorous but also having been domesticated for well over a thousand years. The closest comparison which is hardly applicable but for the sake of argument will be used is the domestication of the common house cat. Originating in ancient Egypt, the cat has had over two thousand years of domestication, yet still this feline predator is proven capable of surviving in the wild as feral populations in the U.S. and Britain will attest to. Once again, survivability is not the issue but impact on their native species. Captive mink are so far away from successful domestication that they rarely are caged together unless with their own off-spring, and then only before they reach sexual maturity. Self-mutilation and cannibalism, which is not uncommon on mink farms is yet further proof of a wild animal's behavior as it attempts to deal with the neurosis caused by intensive confinement. Anyone who has ever been on a mink farm has heard the incessant scratching mink will make as they attempt to escape or attack their captive neighbors, separated only by a plastic or metal divider. This also is common behavior of a wild predator unfamiliar with close proximity to others of its own species. The psychological as well as physical torture associated with the confinement of mink naturally accustomed to solitary wandering is beyond our comprehension. Genetically speaking, mink are predominantly still wild,separated only by a controlled diet from their wild ancestors. Physiologically they are identical. What remains as the greatest division between wild and captive mink is predatory instincts and natural behavior that dictates how they hunt, find shelter, build nests, and forage. Fear of other animals is minimal as mink are renowned for their fearlessness.

These separations were the basis of personal research into the potential for rehabilitation and release of the 60 mink I had purchased in Montana in 1990. The Coalition Against Fur Farms (CAFF) began as a rehabilitation project, the objective being to determine the feasibility to reintroduce native mink from fur farms back into their natural habitat. In January of 1991 the trials began as CAFF volunteers placed mink in cages four times as large as their previous enclosures and introduced natural objects such as logs, rocks, plants and gallon baths. Fur farmers had assured me that escaped captive mink already had at least a 50% chance of survival, and CAFF hoped to increase that figure as much as possible. The introduction of 12"x6" bathtubs allowed the mink their first opportunity to acquaint themselves with water besides that that came from a small water nozzle or dish. Their response was to fully submerge themselves and spin in a cycle that quickly splashed all water out of their baths. This would be followed by grooming sessions in which the mink dried themselves and maintained utmost cleanliness, yet another sign of a healthy wild animal. Once the mink had built up muscular strength after their time in a fur farms cramped conditions, we began to nurture hunting instincts. Though morally opposed to the killing of animals CAFF felt the survival of our captive mink could not be guaranteed without a minimal amount of live-animal feeding. We knew that our project would later be used by others to determine the potential for successful reintroduction of fur farm prisoners, and so chose to do everything possible to ensure not only their survival but also their survival without human dependency. This also meant live-feeding which would teach them how to hunt rather than scrounge near or where humans were. This would ensure greater independence and less likelihood of human/mink encounters. Then mink in our rehabilitation project dug into their instinctual memory to remind themselves how to first

Captive mink are genetically 95% similar to their wild counterparts, the only difference besides behavior being fur color and quality which is solely maintained by a scientifically controlled diet.



seize the prey with one bite, then without releasing it, crush down until the skull or neck was broken. Then the mink would release its prey and scour the logs and rocks for others that might have gone unnoticed. Once assured of no other present prey, the mink would return to the kill and eat everything or place the remainder in its nest just like wild mink. Once the mink had learned to kill and had tasted live food, they refused to eat the scientific diet we had been supplied by National Fur Feeds.

Finally, we released the mink to natural waterways across the Northwest's many forest lands. Always far from human habitations,and never within a 5-mile radius of another captive released mink of the opposite sex. We wanted to ensure the breeding only with wild mink. We also waited until the natural breeding season had passed so as not to burden the mink with the upbringing of offspring in their first season of freedom. Our mink releases were filled with encouraging signs that the mink would survive. On one release a mink quickly found an abandoned animals burrow, and as we left we could see its head peeking out watching our departure. Another release had a young female mink burrowing under a log, gathering twigs and grass building a nest. Still another mink quickly found a mouse hole, and burying its nose in it began to dig frantically. On many releases near streams the mink were quick to explore the shore of the water, eventually plunging in and swimming completely submerged playing with pebbles and rocks with their forepaws. Returning to one release site weeks later I quickly found mink droppings and tracks near the creek and the dropping contained hair from a preyed upon animal. Most of the behavior exhibited by our mink was not learned, but simply returned to them as they found themselves in their natural element.

It is my belief that the liberator becomes responsible for the lives of the liberated when she/he endeavors to free them. Ideally the liberated will become truly independent of human needs and achieve complete liberation. But until then there are a number of factors that liberators can influence and by doing so increase the possibilities of a liberated mink's survival. The priority being the time of year liberations take place. The best time being between May and January, the worst being during the breeding and kit-bearing season. Releasing an impregnated mink increases the needs of the liberated mink for food and shelter, female mink naturally raise their kits alone. Releasing mink once they have given birth to a litter will also mean abandonment of kits which sometimes can be foster-raised by another mink mother. Of course it cannot be overlooked that all captive mink are destined for death, and there is room for debate as to what kind of death is most desirable, a mink being the only one to surly know. Still I have hesitated to release mink from fur farms near heavily travelled roads knowing a large number would become roadkills. This is yet another moral dilemma the liberator must face when they decide to open the cages. Personally, I have seen mink watching as the gas-chambers are wheeled down the rows of cages and seen them screech frantically and attempt all manner of last minute escape as it becomes painfully evident that they will die.

There is also the very compelling argument that even with the recapture of 100% of all released mink from a targeted farm, that still the breeding has been completely disrupted as farmers have no way of separately identifying their breeder mink from their pelter mink. A mink raised to be pelted will often be in a much smaller cage than a breeder mink. For this reason liberators would do best by releasing mink from both large and small mink cages so as to confuse the two. As of yet mink farmers have not devised methods of tagging, branding or tattooing individual animals except for labeling on the cage. For this reason it is always advantageous to remove all record-keeping cards from cages when releasing mink. Transportation of mink either a short distance from cage to guard fence of a larger distance is best achieved by securing the mink individually in its nestbox. A small flat piece of sheet metal is often used to divide and block the hole leading from the nestbox to cage at which point the nestbox can then be removed and the hole blocked with a gloved hand or more permanent means for long transportation. Despite the average liberators aversion to leather, nothing protects human skin better than a thick pair of leather welding gloves which usually can be found lying around a mink farm. With criminal DNA testing liberators should take every precaution not to leave a blood trail of their own. Remember, you are dealing with a wild predator unfamiliar to kind human hands.

It is not uncommon for a mink to travel 5 miles in one night (they are mostly nocturnal) and a large number of mink released in one area will not stay concentrated but will travel until they establish a territory all their own...

Often given the choice, a mink will leave the immediate area once outside of the guard fence, which usually is a 5-6 foot fence lined with sheet metal to prevent escape should a mink get out of its cage. If left inside the guard fence often a mink will linger simply because of the smell of food or other mink cages, and also because of the familiarity of its own nestbox which is all it has ever known. Once a large number of mink have left the guard fence area the quickest method of natural distribution is waterways. Without interference from the irate mink farmers attempting to recapture his furry investments, mink will not overcrowd themselves in the wild. It is not uncommon for a mink to travel 5 miles in one night (they are mostly nocturnal) and a large number of mink released in one area will not stay concentrated but will travel until they establish a territory all their own, searching out other mink only to breed. This leads us to the issue of ecological impact caused by mass mink liberations on their new environment. There will be a noticeable impact on local prey populations and for this reason liberators should research target areas to guarantee that the sensi-

tive habitat of a vulnerable endangered species is not nearby. Mink will attack almost anything. I've seen mink chasing large dogs and heard a story of one seen flying through the air attached to the leg of a large heron, the mink unwilling to release its targeted prey.

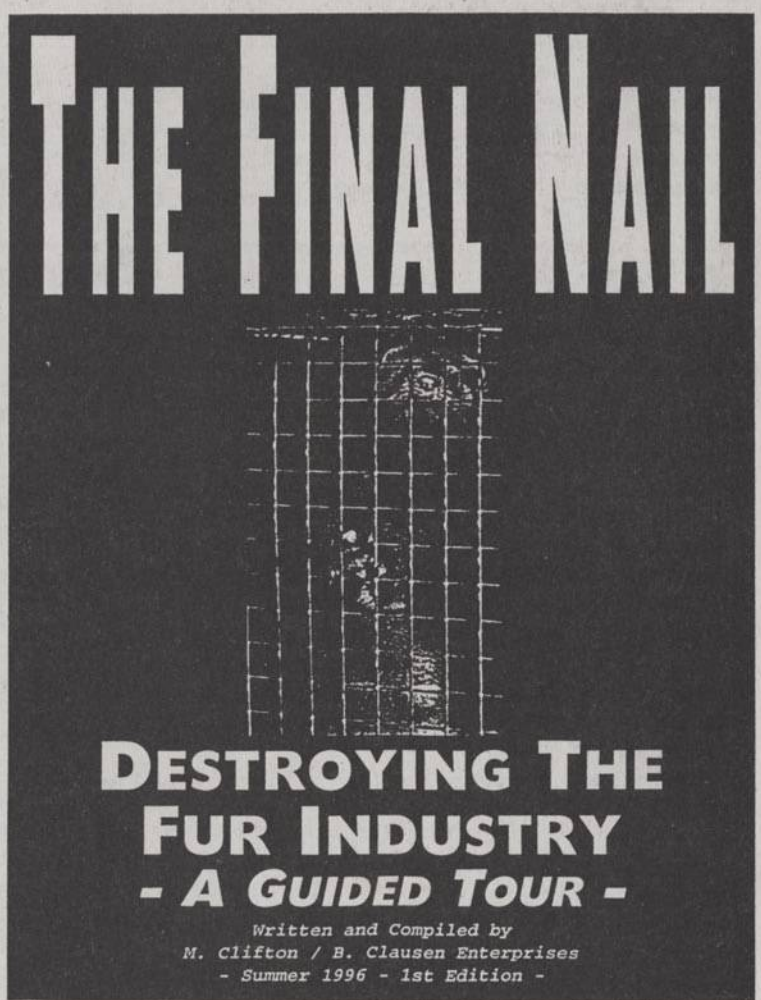
Mink will kill beyond their need, and for this reason caution should be taken when releasing mink near large concentrations of small animals. Mink are ferocious. Long persecuted at the hands of man native predators are continually routinely killed by ranchers and other gun-toting humans. Much like the coyote has filled the ecological niche the wolf has left behind and by doing so extended its own historic range, so also do mink have the potential to fit nicely into the niche otters and other predators have left as their numbers are continually reduced by humans. Native mink populations are still drastically reduced, and given large-scale mink liberations, individual mink are sure to redistribute themselves to their former habitat with a little help from their two-legged friends.

There should be not hesitation to reintroduce captive mink into their native habitat. The ideal environment being undeveloped areas with a nearby water source and infrequently used roads. As ALF liberators open the cages, they not only liberate an individual animal but the whole species. Mink, fox, bobcat, and lynx farm liberations are not only a blow to a fur farmers profit margin but also a boost to North America's ravaged environment. With an absence of natural predators, prey populations often explode causing undue harm to their environment and are also known to spread disease. By releasing fur farm prisoners, liberators are guardians of healthy eco-systems. Before one single animal abuser can argue the merits of a captive fur animals impact on the natural environment, they must first address the overall impact the whole domestic livestock industry has had on the earth. It is no coincidence that the number one reason behind predator eradication is the protection of politically powerful livestock interests. Still it remains that for the mink nations of North America the shortest path on the road to animal liberation lies from the opened cage to the outlying guard fence.

Now it is time for liberators across the continent to follow the lead of the ALF in British Columbia, Washington, Utah, Wisconsin, Tennessee, New York, and Minnesota and take action to liberate the four-legged prisoners from the war on nature.

Until all fur farm prisoners are free...Open the cages!!!

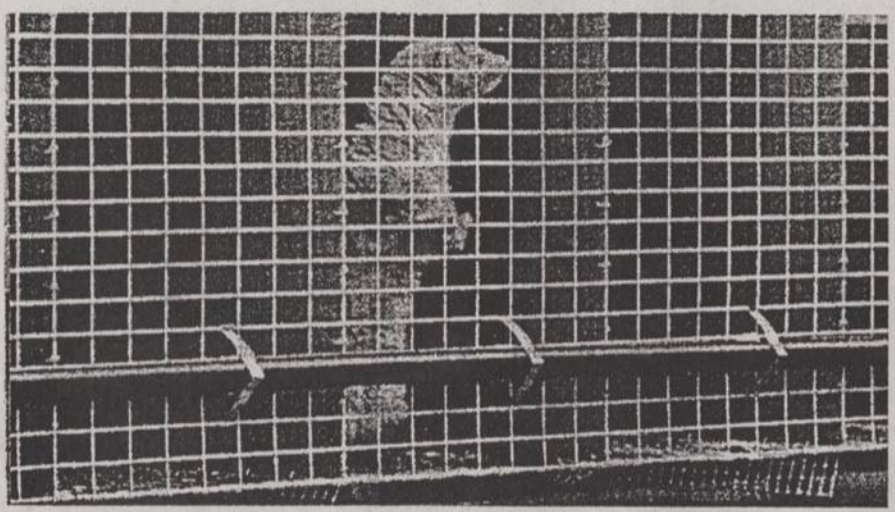
And while on the subject of mink and mink liberation, what better time to introduce readers of *Underground* to a new publication that arrived recently in our mailbox: *THE FINAL NAIL*, a guided tour to destroying the fur industry. With 24 pages of information, including state by state listings of fur farmers, suppliers, etc, *THE FINAL NAIL* is a an informative booklet and a must read for all animal activists. The following four pages are just an example of what you'll find inside ... (see our Distro listing at the back of *Underground* for details on how to order a copy of your own.)



EXCERPT FROM THE FINAL NAIL

MAXIMUM DESTRUCTION NOT MINIMUM DAMAGE

Money is what they thrive on and when you take away from their profits it hurts them where it counts. Economic sabotage is what they listen to. This can be various types of actions including the very simple; smashing fur shops' windows, squirting super glue into the locks, spray painting, filling bell peppers or Christmas ornaments with paint and "paint bombing" the building, etc. To be effective, a place should be hit repeatedly. Just be careful & vary your schedule so that the police aren't waiting for you when you go back. Every hit causes security to increase so go for maximum destruction.



Malecky Mink Ranch was torched in Dec. 1992. The fur farm industry tried to deny that this was an A.L.F. action for quite some time. Eventually they could no longer hide from the truth as pieces of an incendiary device were found. Presumably they wanted to cover this up so that other mink ranchers wouldn't be scared out of the business. If scores of fur farms were raided then the industry would be devastated and many would stop raising fur animals for fear of losing their entire investment. Remember, most fur farmers do this part time and are not solely dependent on fur animals to make a living. Therefore they are much easier to push out of business as opposed to a chicken farmer, etc.



SMASHING THE FURRIERS

In an effort to stay compliant with state and federal laws regarding the distribution of instructions to build destructive devices, we endeavor to redact such materials. We regret the damage that such redactions do to the completeness of our archive and apologize to our readers.

EXCERPT FROM THE FINAL NAIL

Just what is an incendiary device?

In two waves of actions in the U.S. and across England department stores which house fur departments have been targeted and stores are now withdrawing their fur departments, particularly since the campaigns are now including the use of timed incendiary devices. These devices are designed to switch on a store's sprinkler system. By law large department stores have 'water sprinkler systems' - you can see them on the ceiling - which are triggered off by fire and smoke. So it is perfectly safe for a fire to be started in the store (in the middle of the night when no-one is there) as there is no danger of it spreading. The sprinklers put the fire out and the water floods the store and causes extensive water damage. Of course, we don't break into the store in the middle of the night to start a fire - we place an incendiary device in the store during shopping hours, under something inflammable. Usually a device is placed under an armchair or a sofa on the top floor, the results of which is that all the floors underneath are flooded. As some stores are now checking under their sofas (in England) after closing we now place them out of sight under anything that is combustible and not always on the top floor. We do not place them in coat pockets or in a sofa - should one fail to ignite, it may at a later date when someone has bought it. It is timed to go off in the middle of the night. Department stores across England have closed there fur salons. They are joining a growing number of stores that don't want the hassle of a big clean up, or the financial loss;

[redacted]

11/23/89-Palo Alto, CA; Incendiary device ignites setting a couch on fire at Nordstrom's dept. store. **-A.L.F.**

11/25/89-San Fransisco, CA; Incendiary device found at I. Magnin's dept. store under a table in shoe department. **-A.L.F.**

12/14/89-San Fransisco, CA; Incendiary device found at Macy's dept. store under a mattress in the furniture department. **-A.L.F.**

12/16/89-San Fransisco, CA; Incendiary device found at Emporium-Capwell department store under a sofa in the furniture department. **-A.L.F.**

1/11/90-San Fransicso & Stanford, CA; Four incendiary devices found in Macy's and Saks Fifth Ave. department stores (both have fur department's). **-A.L.F.**

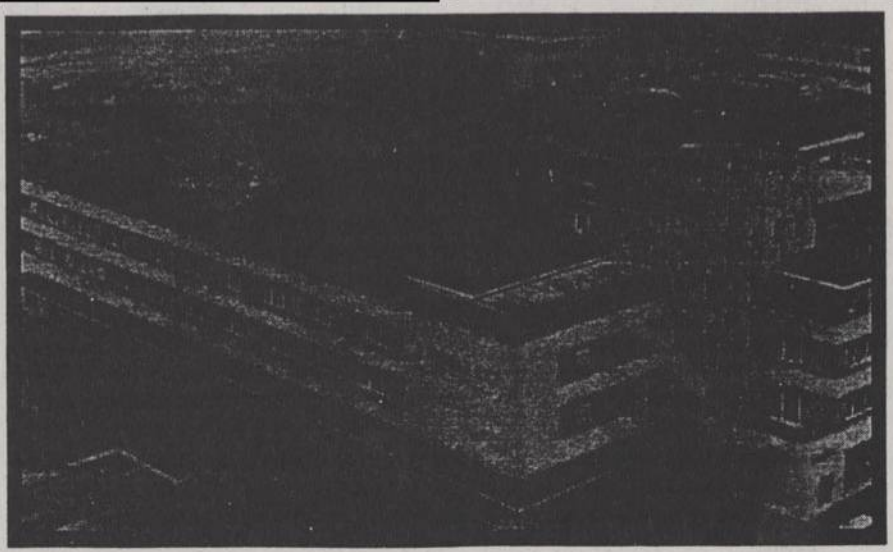
11/28/93-Chicago, IL; Nine timed incendiary devices were placed in four department stores Neiman-Marcus, Saks on 5th Avenue, Marshall Fields and Carson Pirie Scott all of which have fur departments. Five of the nine devices at three stores, ignited after hours, causing small fires and water damage. **-A.L.F.**

[redacted]

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Be careful. No evidence!



Dingles department store (London) Christmas 1988. Sprinkler systems malfunction resulted in the complete destruction of the store, causing millions in damage. They immediately stopped selling furs in all their stores.

EXCERPT FROM THE FINAL NAIL

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TRACKING DOWN A PRISONER

by Rabbix

In *Underground No.4* you'll have read a short article on page two entitled "Prisoner Support." This article encourages people to write letters of support to those people listed on the prisoner lists. But have you ever wondered how those lists are compiled?

When I first started out in the animal lib movement I just assumed that every activist knew about the Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group and so I assumed the ALF-SG would automatically know when an animal lib activist was jailed. How wrong I was!

Now, don't get me wrong. Of course a lot of people who are arrested know exactly who to contact, but some don't at that is the key point. some people who are jailed for animal liberation and Ecodefence actions have no idea that there is a support network waiting to support them. Without YOUR help these people may serve their ENTIRE sentence without receiving any support what so ever. Yet is so easy to help these jailed activists. All it takes on YOUR behalf is a little bit of initiative and research. The following account is what one person did when they heard of a person being arrested.

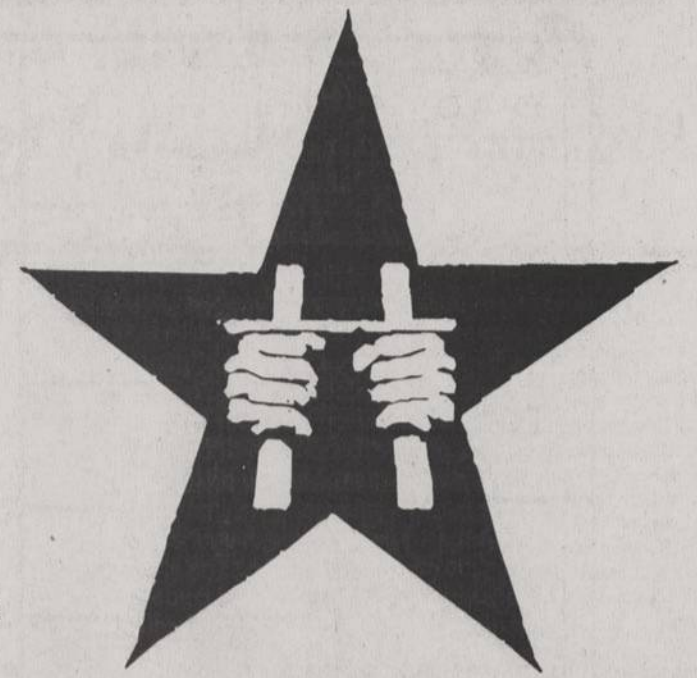
On 20.10.95, two barns belonging to an English farmer in Devon were set on fire. The farmer had his property attacked because he is involved with the trade in live animal exports.

On 11.11.95, "Jevon from Devon" heard on their local TV news that a man had been arrested and accused of the arson.

On the 12.11.95, "Jevon" watched the main local TV news where it was revealed the man who can been arrested was called Darren Cole and he had been remanded by Magistrates in Ivybridge, Devon.

On the 13.12.95, "Jevon" visited his local library and found out the main address for the Magistrates who operate in Ivybridge. He then contacted the Magistrates and asked in where had Darren been Remanded to? Although the Magistrates were not keen to give a definite answer, they suggested Darren might be in HMP Exeter.

As soon as "Jevon" had a possible prison address he quickly wrote a letter to Darren. In his letter "Jevon" explained a little bit about himself, asked Darren if he knew about the ALF-SG, explained a bit about the ALF-SG and then gave some general interest direct action news. "Jevon" also wrote to the British ALF-SG saying what he knew about Darren and his case (this information was just bits and pieces "Jevon" had picked up from the local news).



Darren was (and still is) at HMP Exeter. He was very greatful for "Jevon's" letter and as soon as he received it he wrote to both "Jevon" and the British ALF-SG.

Less than a week after his Remanding Darren's details were being circulated around the prisoner support network and both the British ALF-SG and Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network (ELP) had been able to make personal contact with Darren. Prior to "Jevon's" letter, Darren was unaware that either the ALF-SG or ELP existed.

If YOU hear about a person being arrested, DON'T assume that a person will automatically get bail or that they will know who to get in contact with. If YOU hear about a person being arrested do everything YOU possibly can to find out if they have been charged and if so, have they been jailed? Both the ALF-SG and ELP networks would much rather be told about the same prisoner twenty times, than not at all. You will also, by your actions, give encouragement to the prisoner because, even if they already know about the prisoner support network, they will appreciate what you have done on their behalf.

This article is dedicated to Carl Robinson who in the late eighties was jailed for setting fire to a butchers shop. Carl never received any support whilst in prison. Not because he wasn't entitled to support from the ALF-SG, but because he didn't know about the ALF-SG and they didn't know about him.

PLEASE HELP TRACK DOWN THE ANIMAL/EARTH LIBERATION PRISONERS.

(a version of this article first appeared in Eco-Vegan No.7)

Doing time with the Animal Liberation Front



An Interview with Darren Thurston

How did you get involved in animal rights?

• I started getting involved in the hard-core/alternative/straight-edge music scene in 1985/6 and through that got involved in animal rights/liberation. I stopped eating meat, and, shortly after, stopped eating dairy and eggs. I formed an Animal Rights group called Citizens Organized for Animal Liberation because none of the local AR groups wanted to do civil disobedience actions or even demonstrations. They would do their annual anti-fur pickets and the odd anti-rodeo and anti-circus pickets and sit on the fence the rest of the time.

What led you take a more militant approach to animal liberation and join the A.L.F.?

• First off, animal rights organizing was very frustrating. I saw animals every day getting killed and tortured for human greed, vanity and food, while people wanted to write letters and talk to vivisectors about the 'problem'.

Secondly, you can't join the Animal Liberation Front. It has no central command, address, or membership list. The A.L.F. is everywhere. It's composed of dedicated people who take the first step and do something — smash a window, glue a lock, spray paint a butcher shop, free some mink, burn a meat truck, liberate some animals from a laboratory. Remember, YOU ARE THE A.L.F.! and the animals need you NOW.

How did you learn to do A.L.F. actions?



Post raid photos at the Ellerslie motel.

• I never really learned from anywhere or anyone. But I do remember an old adage that "practice makes perfect" or something along those lines. For those that would like to learn the finer details of how to do certain things, they are available in numerous booklets.

Recommended reading; An Animal Liberation Primer 2nd edition, Interviews with A.L.F. Activists, The Power is Ours, and The Final Nail.



The morning after; Ellerslie cat & dog facility laboratory.

What security precautions did you see activists take while involved in the A.L.F.?

• Physical security was a major concern of everyone as it always should be. You have to assume that every word you say over a telephone is being heard, pay telephones included. Never talk inside anyone's home or vehicle, both can and are bugged very easily.

...crowbar, large ball-peen hammer, portable electric drill, radios, radio frequency-scanners...

The best cover of course is to have never been involved in above-ground animal rights organizing at all. Animal Rights groups are the first place the police will start looking for suspects. Police regularly video tape demonstrations so they know who is active. More and more activists are forming small tight knit groups of close friends that they can work with. We are also seeing activists both here in North America and in England go underground so that they may continue direct action against the animal abusers and/or avoid arrest.

Recommended reading; Without A Trace, the entire Security section of EcoDefense.

What was the University of Alberta doing to the animals?

• I had done some research in the University library and found information about the ongoing experiments at the University of Alberta such as the testing of drugs on primates, spinal cord research on cats, smoking experiments on dogs, etc. A lot of the cats that were liberated would have ended up having their spinal cords broken and drugs tested on them.

How did you obtain that information?

• A lot of it came from lab animal research journals and other University publications at the University libraries. The vivisectors love publishing papers of how they torture and mutilate animals in order to get further research grants. It doesn't take that long to figure out how to use any University's computer search functions and check out ongoing experiments and specific researchers.

What did you do to prepare for the raid?

• I watched the entire facility for numerous days and nights familiarizing myself with the normal routine of the facility; the time the staff came and left work, when staff that lived on the farm/facility were at home and when they went to sleep, at what time University security did their routine checks. I also obtained both road and aerial maps of the area from local libraries.

The facility was quite large - it has approx. a dozen buildings including breeding facilities for mice, cows, pigs, sheep, dogs and cats. Two caretakers (both vivisectors) lived in separate houses on the facility.

Any other planning?

• I picked a night that I knew would be quiet, a new moon when there would be very little moonlight. We also made a visit to the facility the night before

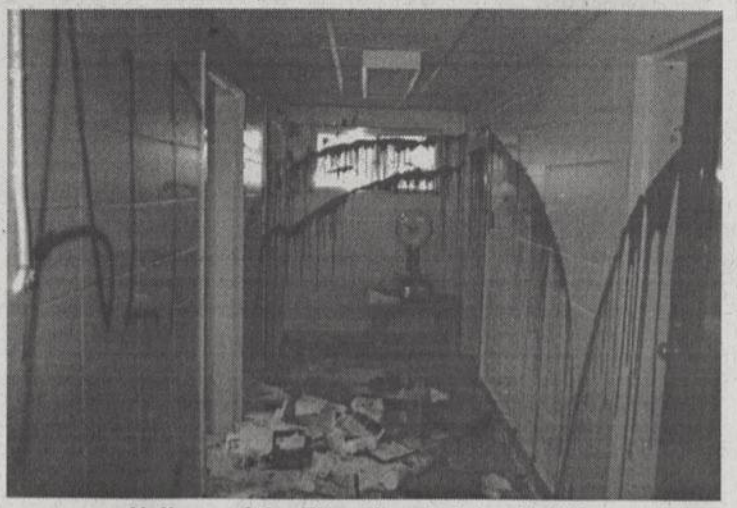
the raid to make sure everything was in place and to familiarize everyone of what the facility looked like and what their roles were.

What equipment was necessary to do the raid?

• hmm..... well, let's see; crowbar, large ball-peen hammer, portable electric drill, radios, radio frequency-scanners (so we could listen to both University Security and the Police), pick-up truck, cat carriers, paint, large bags.

How did you carry all of the equipment inside?

• There wasn't all that much equipment needed, a duffel bag and back-pack worked fine.



Hallway of the Ellerslie cat & dog facility.

How did you handle the security systems and enter the building?

• The facility had a security system including an ADT card entry system at the front door, and an intrusion alarm system - the vast majority of the facility was totally insecure though. There were numerous windows that it would have been very easy to break and enter through including windows directly into the large cat colony cages. There were many doors that could have been opened in a variety of different ways; pushing hinge pins out, drilling large holes right through, drilling or picking locks, or forcing the locks with a crowbar. Mysteriously though, the door we went to, which opened directly into the cat kennel room, was left unlocked?!

What did you do when you entered the building?

• Immediately went to work getting the cats out. The most important part of the action was getting the animals out safely. Once that was done the other tasks could be completed; finding and taking important files and of course economic damage.

There was approx. $100,000 in damage done to the facility could you tell us what equipment you damaged and why?

• There was only one small laboratory in the dog and cat kennel we were in. We damaged as much as we could in the entire building after all the cats were safely away from the facility. Damaging torture devices and other equipment makes them inoperable to torture and kill animals anymore - otherwise they could go back to torturing animals the very next day. Destroying the actual instruments of torture is practical. It ensures that the sadism will be stopped at least temporarily. It also ensures that they will be wasting money (which would have otherwise gone to vivisection) to hire extra security and install expensive alarm systems.

How did you damage it?

• Inside the laboratory itself, we forced open every locked storage cabinet dumping the contents on the floor, smashed sterilizers and other equipment and splashed red paint everywhere. In their office, boxes of files pertaining to illegal sources of the dogs they used and research were taken, everything else was scattered on the floor and then soaked in muriatic acid. Throughout the facility, slogans were spray painted, red paint splashed on walls, electrical cords cut, toilets and sinks smashed.

There was also one delivery truck outside used to transport animals from the facility back and forth to the main University lab, it had paint stripper dumped all over and the tires slashed and was also spray painted with slogans.

How did you leave the "blood" marks on the wall?



Extensive damage inside the laboratory room.

• Red paint that had been thinned a little and placed into several plastic 2 liter soda bottles, which made it very easy to splash anywhere and everywhere.

What did you wear during the raid?

• Coveralls to keep clothes underneath paint free, gloves, inexpensive throwaway shoes and balaclavas (in case of video security cameras.)

How did you get the animals out and how many were there?

• The cats were originally going to be placed in large cloth bags and then carried to an awaiting vehicle and placed into cardboard cat carriers. Upon putting the first cat into a bag it was promptly shredded. So much for that plan - plan two went into effect as the cardboard cat carriers were carried two at a time across a long field, two cats placed in each box and then carried all the way back to the awaiting vehicle. 29 cats were liberated all together.

How long did the University raid take?

• The entire time inside the facility probably took 3 hours or so, mostly because it took so long transporting the cats across a field to the truck.

How did you re-home the animals?

• I did not take part in the re-homing of the animals. The cats were supposed to go to a home that would hold them for a while and then send them off to other homes where they could live out their lives free. The homes didn't get set in advance as they were supposed to. With a lot of hard work and stress, homes were finally found.

Is there anything you would have done differently?

• The film and video footage taken and sent to the media had too many traces of where they were taken and helped police to track down the motel we used after words. More thought definitely needed to be put into not leaving any trace of location as to where the photos were taken.

How did you get caught?

• An informant named Jessica Sandham. She was a woman who had rented a motel room where the cats were to be taken after the raid (where video and still photographs for the media were taken). Jessica who rented the room didn't have to show any identification at all but instead showed her own and did not tell anyone else that she had done this. Investigators, who started checking every motel/hotel in the entire city looking for similarities to the media, video and still photographs, quickly tracked down the motel we used. The room was rented by Jessica who was already in the National Crime Index Computer (unknown to me or her at that time) as a suspected animal liberation radical which of course rang big warning bells. After placing her under physical surveillance for over a week, on June 19th members of the Integrated Intelligence Unit knocked on her door and asked her to answer questions. Instead of saying "NO COMMENT", or "call my lawyers" or "fuck off", she went with them to answer questions.

She was questioned for 4 1/2 hours on video-tape (unknown to her). Where the police tried all the typical police tricks and traps and she went for them all and talked freely about all she knew including rumors about the UofA raid. The police led her questions and tried to scare her by mentioning the so-called increasing "violence" in the animal liberation movement and my completely legal possession of several firearms.

Recommended reading; War at Home by Brian Glick, If An Agent Knocks, Agents of Repression by Ward Churchill.

What happened to Jessica Sandham?

• Jessica Michelle Charlotte Sandham (DOB Jan. 31/1973) is free, has always been free and was never arrested, we know immediately after the arrests she moved to another city and has since moved back to Edmonton and lives with her parents (12033-41 St., Edmonton, AB, Canada 403-479-1898). She was immediately disowned by the animal liberation community in which she was active, she has been labelled a traitor and informant in Canada.

Can you tell us about your initial arrest experience?

• I was arrested Friday June 19th at approx. 5:30 pm. I had just finished working at a small store where I was the manager. The police, who had placed me under 24 hour physical surveillance since June 3 (two days after the action), knew where I was. I was standing at a transit stop when I heard a car screech to a stop behind me. As I glanced over my shoulder I saw two large men, obviously cops, jumping out with guns drawn.

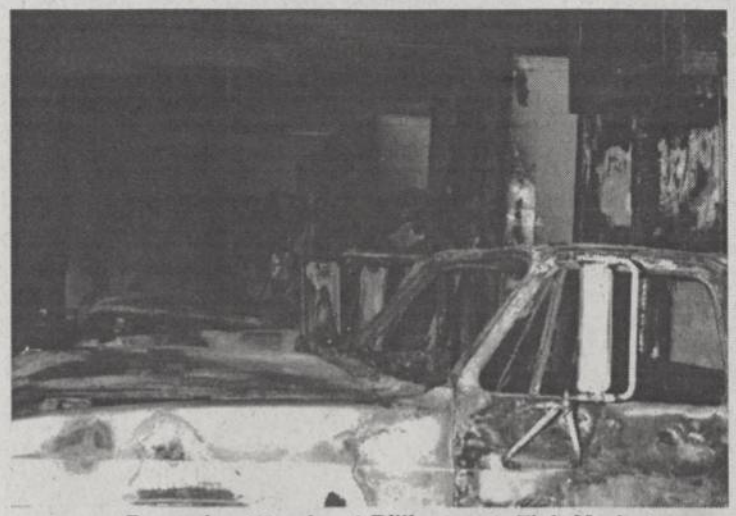
I was originally charged with 4 counts (Break and Enter, Mischief over $1000, Theft over $1000 and including a conspiracy charge that was later dropped) related to the UofA liberation, after I was taken to the police station. I was then put in a holding tank and finally brought into an interview room with one of the cops. He proceeded to ask me a huge list of questions, to which I responded with little except that I would like to talk to a lawyer.

As I was being arrested, the police were also executing search warrants on my partner's and my apartment and a friend's home. A warrant was also issued for the arrest of a friend of mine, Grant.

Can you explain your experience with the courts and jail?

I was finally processed after about 5 hours at the police station and 12 hours sitting in a holding tank at the Remand Center and moved to a really dirty and cold dormitory with 80+ other men. Next I was called out again and taken over to the police station to be charged with another 3 charges (arson and two mischief's). These charges were in regards to two actions at Billingsgate Fish Market.

One was in December '91 when the store and 4 large fish delivery trucks were spray painted with slogans, tires slashed and incendiary devices left on their front seats. Three of the incendiaries ignited causing approx.. $75,000 damage. The other action (also at Billingsgate Fish Company) was the following month when their store and three replacement rental trucks were spray painted with slogans and tires slashed.



Burned out trucks at Billingsgate Fish Market.

After a few days, I finally got moved into a unit in the Remand Center, bunked up with a hyper-active 18 year old car thief, and another 56 'children' on one of two units called "the zoo" (so-called because of all the fights and craziness in general).

I saw two large men, obviously cops, jumping out with guns drawn.

I finally obtained a good lawyer, one of the top lawyers in Alberta, who took the case for a very low expense. He did his best and more a lot of the time. I would have much rather had an animal activist lawyer, but there's just not that many around in Canada.

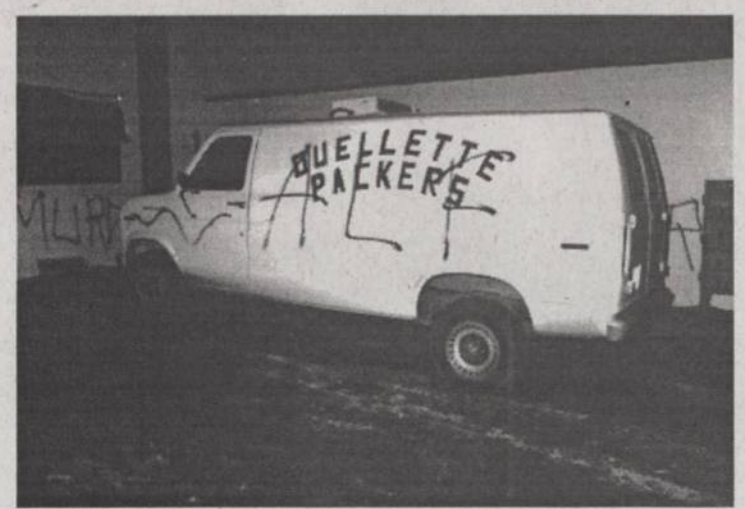
About four days after my arrest late one night just after lock-up, I got called out again and was brought over to the police station to be charged with yet more charges. This time I was charged with another 7 charges related to damage done to three billboards carrying advertisements for the Fur Council of Canada "Fur Our Choice Naturally". At one of the signs a note was left for Hook Outdoor Advertising telling them to stop running the ad's or it would be there most expensive advertisement campaign ever. At the end of December the A.L.F. entered Hook's yard and wrote a long message on the side of one of their vans telling about the horror's of fur production and one of the boom trucks was gutted by fire, another charge of arson. On Jan. 1, 1992 at Oullette Meat Packers a van had it's tires slashed, side window smashed and a timed incendiary device was left on the seat. Both the building and van were painted with slogans. The incense sticks had gone out (according to court testimony) for some reason - extreme cold, wind? And so one more attempted arson charge and another mischief charge. The police were telling me they want six years in prison.

Approximately June 29, 1992 a Canada-wide arrest warrant was issued for David Barbarash and photos of David were circulated to television stations and newspapers.

David was wanted for three charges related to the UofA liberation (Break and Enter, Mischief over $1000, Theft over $1000). The Royal Canadian Mounted Police visited several activist's homes in B.C. looking for David. David disappeared underground.

My attorney had seven separate bail hearings to try and get me released on bail, even with numerous conditions, to no avail. I was refused on the grounds that I 'was a threat to society' and that 'I may not appear for trial'. Even after my family offered to put up property and $50,000 cash for my bail. At the bail hearing before mine one day, the same judge granted bail for a person convicted of murder that was facing a trial for manslaughter.

Early September 1993, I finally got my 4 day preliminary trial, after I'd been inside for over 14 months. Jessica Sandham took the stand and testified about her role in the U of A liberation — renting a motel room, buying paint and meeting with several people from 'out of town'. She also talked about the Billingsgate arson and how I had allegedly said that it looked like it would have been easy or was easy. The police testified all about the actions that I was charged with. My attorney got the police to answer questions about the surveillance they undertook and we learned that they had me and my residence under 24 hour physical surveillance in December 1992 for three weeks. June 3rd two days after the UofA liberation they had set up 24 hour physical surveillance on me and Grant, both our residence's, Jessica, and several 'targets' that they hoped might get 'hit'. They had placed legal 'bugs' on both mine and



Oullette Meat Packers after an A.L.F attack.

Grants phones and also a 'bug' in my residence. We also got the police to testify about involvement in the case from the FBI, BATF and Michigan University Police. Members from all three had actually traveled to Edmonton to take part in a second search of my residence, looking for more 'evidence'. Police also testified that the FBI took photocopies of all of my files, an entire filing cabinet. So four days later it was over and now it was time to wait for a two week trial.

After a few weeks I finally heard that my trial date was not going to be for another 8-12 months, and I would be in jail the whole time. The situation re: the UofA and the Billingsgate arson charges wasn't looking all that good because of evidence against me. My attorney had been trying to get me a deal where I would plead guilty to the UofA and the Billingsgate arson charges and I would get out with time served, the other charges would be dropped. On Oct. 12, 1993 I plead guilty to three charges - Break and Enter to Commit Theft and Mischief (UofA liberation) and arson (Billingsgate fire). I was acquitted of all the other charges against me. Later that day I walked out a free man after 15 1/2 months inside.

Within one week after I was out, I got a visit from the chief investigator, serving me with appeal papers. The police and prosecution didn't think that my 15 1/2 months locked up was enough. They wanted me to serve several more years. On March 8th 1994, five months after I got out, the appeal was heard at the Alberta Court of Appeals (the highest court in Alberta). The Appeals Court reserved their decision. Their decision came several weeks later; they sentenced me to another two years, less a day inside. I was taken into custody immediately and shipped back to the Edmonton Remand Center.

From Edmonton Remand I was transferred and spent 4 1/2 months in Calgary Correctional Facility (Spy Hill) and then 5 months at Fort Saskatchewan Correction Facility (The Fort). A lot of my time was spent on the phone helping out with other prisoners' support including Rod's (who had just been arrested) and working towards an early release. I spent my spare time reading, writing, playing cards, and working out. Time went by a lot quicker than in the Remand Center because there was a little more to do.

Finally out Jan., 1995 I was granted an early release under probation and partial house arrest. I accepted it and was out yet again. For 4 months I was to be home from 6pm till 6 am, parole workers would call every night to make sure I was home and also knock on the door every other day or so. I also had to see my probation officer every week. After aprox. 5 months, I was finally finished with the house arrest portion of my probation and now just had to visit every two weeks. Two days before completing it, my probation office ordered me over the phone to attend a meeting at his office on one hour's notice - I refused. The next morning when I called him, he told me to turn myself in - he had pulled my probation because I was allegedly seen at the airport boarding a plane (I was not allowed to leave Edmonton without permission as part of my probation conditions). After contacting my attorney for advice on what to do, he told me that they could pull it at will and that I would likely have to serve another two weeks until my sentence expiration. Three days later I turned myself in and served another 10 days.

What happened to your co-defendant in this case?

• Grant was arrested the day after me on June 20th on nothing other than complete speculation. He was charged with the same four counts related to the U of A liberation that I was. Aprox. ten, days later he was released on $4000 cash bail and stiff conditions including moving 3 hours away to another city to live with his parents, a curfew and report once a week until his trial. Grant did not have a criminal record and was 29 at the time. At Grant's trial several months later the prosecutor gave him a stay of charges because they had no evidence at all.

How long were you in jail?

• All together, just under two years.

What was prison like?

• It was the first time I had been to jail in my life so it was quite eye opening in the beginning. I didn't know what to expect really. You got used to the routine really quick - you don't have much of a choice. Overall it really wasn't that bad though.

Work with as few people as you need to, make sure you know them all very well and KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!

Did you fear for your personal safety while in prison?

• No. Things were a little crazy at times, I got into several fights over my beliefs.



Timed incendiary devices inside Oullette Meat Packers van.

Did prison have any effects on you?

• Being imprisoned strengthened my resolve even more. It gave me the chance to improve my mind and body. I got involved in weight training and jogging which strengthened my body. It made me realize even more that we need to keep up the pressure on animal abusers around the world on every level, both above-ground and the underground. We can win this war! I certainly knew that if I was caught doing A.L.F. activity, I could end up serving time in jail. But those are the risks we take. Every A.L.F. activist must be ready to go to jail rather than incriminate other A.L.F. activists or do anything that would put the animals' freedom at risk.



Gutted inside of a Hook OutDoor Advertising truck.

Do you have any regrets?

• I wish we could have taken every animal there.

What words of wisdom do you have for other activists?

• Don't let anything get you down, there's a lot of bad stuff happening out there, and things are pretty tough sometimes. Actions can still be done and NEED to happen. Work with as few people as you need to, make sure you know them all VERY well and KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT! You don't need to spread rumors or gossip about other activists and actions or about your own. I'm in this for the animals - if you're not, get the fuck out.

Thank you for your time and for all that you have done for the animals. The personal sacrifices you made for animals are truly inspiring and needed if we ever want to see animal liberation become a reality. Best wishes to you Darren.

All recommended reading booklets can be obtained from the North American A.L.F.S.G. Distribution, send a SASE to P.O. Box 767295, Roswell, GA 30076, USA (New Address)

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO UNDERGROUND

ROD CORONADO AND THE U.S. ANIMAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT

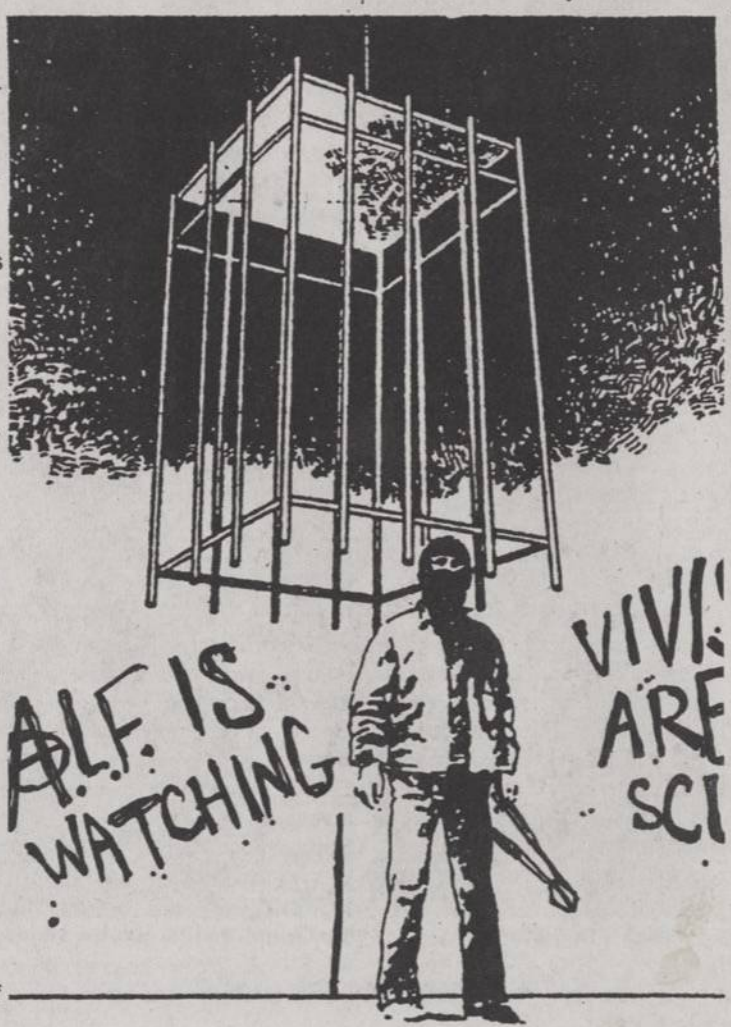
Tracking the Rumours, Tackling the Truth

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to Underground #5. In a slight break from the format we've been using for the past couple of issues, we've decided to skip the Editor's introduction at the start of this issue and simply put everything we have to say together, here, at the start of this special supplement.We hope that the following background info can explain a bit about how this focus on Rod Coronado and the U.S. grassroots animal rights movement came about, so that readers of Underground have a context within which to place these writings.

BACKGROUND

In March of 1996 the NA-A.L.F.S.G. began to hear a number disturbing rumours about Rod Coronado, rumours that had apparently been circulating amongst animal activists soon after Rod received his sentence of 57 months (August 1995) for his participation in the A.L.F.'s Operation Biteback. We began to receive angry letters from a few U.S. activists demanding to know why we were still supporting Rod, especially since he "had turned his back on us."



As spring turned into summer, we heard from a variety of people, all quite certain in the validity of their information, that Rod was now a meat eater, that maybe Rod had named names in court, that he killed animals. People felt that Rod had denounced the A.L.F. and animal rights in general and was thus no longer deserving of support. When pressed for more information as to the proof of these allegations, the majority of those asked simply said that they had heard this from people they trusted. Some of the rumours could be directly linked to a press release put out on the internet by the Americans For Medical Progress, a spindoctor agency for the biomedical community, which contained quotations allegedly from Rod Coronado's sentencing statements in which he distanced himself from the animal liberation movement. Few of the people we spoke to about the rumours circulating had been in contact with Rod or had made an attempt to verify the rumours with him. Instead, we found that all too many people had been quick to believe and condemn Rod on the basis of what they heard third and fourth hand over the telephone and in person at rallies and demos.

With the help of several concerned supporters, the NA A.L.F.S.G. directly contacted activists who seemed to be the source of many "rumours" (or at the very least were indicated as having passed on information about Rod to others). A letter was sent out asking for details, sources, etc regarding Rod and the question of meat eating, "betrayal of the movement," the wearing of fur, etc. Out of ten people sent this letter, only two people chose to reply. Otherwise, silence. This took place over 5 months ago.

Meanwhile, the letters condemning Rod continued to be written, only this time they were being sent directly to Rod and not the NA-A.L.F.S.G.. Copies of Rod's sentencing statements began to circulate through the grassroots movement, and activists angry at Rod's apparent withdrawal from the animal liberation movement threatened to withdraw their support from both him and the NA-A.L.F.S.G. Aware that his

sentencing statements were floating around, but unaware of the motivation behind the circulation of these pages, Rod had his entire court documents sent to the NA-A.L.F.S.G. for our inspection. We have spent what now amounts to a huge chunk of the past few months reading through hundreds and hundreds of pages of court documents, including the entire day long sentencing report (not just Rod's statements) looking for anything that may indicate that Rod should not be receiving support from the S.G.. We found nothing that indicated Rod broke the Supporters Group's stipulations for support **[1. Was the action for the animals? 2. Don't name names.]** We wrote to both the A.L.F.S.G. (UK) and to Zab, who ran the NA-A.L.F.S.G. before us, for their thoughts on what was happening. Both letters are to be found at the start of this section.

As things seemed to be going from bad to worse and the rumours continued to spread, and since no one involved was ready to stand up and stand behind the things being said (either directly to Rod or in response to the S.G.'s enquirers), Rod decided it was time to bring everything into the open himself. The focus of this supplement is an open letter that Rod has written for *Underground* in which he outlines his history in the movement, his position with regards to animal liberation, his reasons for saying what he did in court, and some of the reasons he feels he has been losing support from the grassroots movement. Any person who has been mentioned in Rod's letter in any way has been given the opportunity to respond in kind. These responses follow Rod's letter and address a variety of concerns raised. We ask that readers look beyond the sometimes emotional, often accusatory aspects of some of the things said within the letters printed in this supplement, and focus instead on the important issues raised by everyone concerned -- issues of prisoner support, activist networking, court strategies, etc.

NA-A.L.F.S.G.'S POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS

Perhaps it is important to once again state our policy with regards to submissions/letters to *Underground.* As it states quite clearly on page 2, we do not believe in censorship. While we have serious concerns about the nature of the following series of letters, we are also very much aware of the destructive nature of the silence that this issue has existed in. Up to this point, there has been no attempt to address any of the concerns raised about Rod Coronado and the issue of support. As we see it, *Underground* and the North American A.L.F. Supporters Group exists because A.L.F. prisoners exist. Unable to directly address the things being said about him or to confront activists whom he feels may be responsible for undermining support, *Underground* allows Rod Coronado the chance to have a voice in this matter. At the same time, those mentioned in Rod's letter have every right to say what ever they feel is necessary in response to Rod's letter. As it stands, the NA-A.L.F.S.G. is not interested in taking sides on this issue. We support Rod for a variety of reasons as outlined at the end of this article. By printing Rod's article and the series of replies, we are in no way trying to say "we support A's position and not B's." No submission has been edited or re-worded. The replies to Rod's letter are ordered as we received them. It is also important to mention that Rod has had direct input in this matter every step of the way and fully endorses the publication of these letters.

THE NA-A.L.F.S.G. AND PRISONER SUPPORT

The North American A.L.F. Supporters Group fully supports Rod Coronado, and has done so from the start. Let me repeat that. We support Rod. To us, the issue is not whether Rod ate a vegetarian burrito with cheese on it, or whether Rod told a US court that he has forever ended his involvement with the A.L.F. and wants to move on -- the issue is whether Rod Coronado, as an A.L.F. activist jailed for participating in an operation that cost the fur industry over $2 million dollars, should be left to rot in a jail for 57 months, or should he receive any and all support we can provide? A.L.F. Supporters Groups around the world have very simple criteria for who receives support. First, was the person's actions done for the animals? Secondly, did the person at any time grass on fellow activists? Support from the NA-A.L.F.S.G. is not determined by personal politics, what the activist is like as a person, whether they are vegetarian vs. vegan or whether the co-ordinators of the S.G. like the person in question. From its humble beginning out of the Band of Mercy in the early '70's, A.L.F. activists themselves have stipulated the support policy that the UK Supporters Group (started in 1982) and the Canadian/North American S.G. (1984) has followed since then.

The original Canadian A.L.F. Supporters Group was formed in 1984, three years after the first A.L.F. action where 1 cat, 5 rabbits, 1 rat and 14 guinea pigs were liberated from a laboratory at the Hospital for Sick Kids in Toronto, Ontario. In the late 1980's a U.S. A.L.F.S.G. briefly started up, did some good press work, sold a lot of merchandise and then after a lot of police pressure and internal problems, disappeared. The Canadian A.L.F.S.G. stayed in Eastern Canada until 1990, when it was transferred to activists in Edmonton, Alberta. With the arrest of A.L.F. activist Darren Thurston in June of 1992, the S.G. moved again, to Victoria, British Columbia. In 1993 it was decided by several former A.L.F. prisoners and animal activists in the United States and Canada that it was time that the US was covered again by an active Supporters Group. At the time things in the U.S. were pretty crazy with Jonathan Paul, Deb Stout, Kim Trimiew, and Rik Scarce all being jailed for refusing to testify to Grand Jury investigations into the A.L.F. Anyone helping to run a Supporters Group in the U.S. would face a lot of heat, and just no one wanted that kind of attention at the time. Fortunately Canada does not yet have anything similar to the Grand Jury. It was decided that the North American A.L.F.S.G. should be created, and things have taken off from there.

A.L.F. Supporters Groups are here for the prisoners. What ever our personal feelings may be, as co-ordinators of a Supporters Group, it is our job to make sure that anyone and everyone imprisoned for animal liberation actions receives the support they deserve. They've sacrificed their freedom for the animals, and that needs to be respected.

Active A.L.F. cells should not be primarily concerning themselves about the potential media their actions may or may not receive. Quite simply, the action itself is what is most important. Once an action or liberation has occurred, that should be it as far as the A.L.F. activists involved are concerned. Events like "A.L.F. Appreciation Day" as organized by groups like SOAR are wonderful and we encourage any "above-ground" activist or organization out there to take full advantage of any press coverage they can muster. However, naive, uncritical and sacrificial engagement between A.L.F. cells and the media can often turn the focus from the act of animal liberation into the pursuit of newsbites and media events, separate and isolated from the reality of an A.L.F. action. The Animal Liberation Front has flourished outside the reach of the media. It did not need the media for the construction of its structures (or lack of!). Media coverage has never been the main motivator for an action, and never should be. Similarily, for "above-ground" activists or groups to use A.L.F. prisoners and trials simply as a means of generating media means that A.L.F. prisoners are forced to behave in a way that coincides with the code for correct media performance – a code of behaviour that the media controls, not us. Political and media trials have their place and their use – that's not at issue here. However, when our own concerns about "good" and "bad" press (or the potential media "damage" Rod's defense strategy might have) overrule our concerns for Rod himself (facing at the time as much as 22 years in prison), something is wrong. By insisting that OUR approach is the only one, by imposing our desires on activist facing prison, by insisting on media trials over any attempt to reduce a prisoner's sentence (even if it means telling the court that an activist has "reformed"), we are potentially condemning future activists to harsh and unreasonable prison sentences. As the U.S. government talks more about fighting terrorism and invokes new "maximum sentence" legislation in court cases, prosecutors may in the future be able to send young activists down for 10 to 20 years for A.L.F. actions. Who are we to say to jailed activists that they are "selfish" for trying to reduce their sentences if at all possible? A.L.F. martyrs may make good press, but how can the loss of their actions and dedication be in any way good for the "movement?"

As far as we are concerned, A.L.F. activists have an obligation to those that they work with within their cell, and to the animals that they are acting on behalf of. The A.L.F. belongs to no one, and activists putting their lives and freedom on the line have no obligation to fit any set of criteria beyond the A.L.F. Guidelines. If organizations or individuals feel they are unable to support someone because they're not vegan (or are queer, or are a woman or whatever) then that's their choice. No one is under any obligation to support any animal liberation prisoner they are uncomfortable with. Are we honestly saying that we're more than happy to celebrate and publicize all the liberations, the fur shop closures, the mink releases and the smashing of the labs, but once an activist is arrested, we may shut the door in their face if they've ever worn leather boots, if they try to reduce their jail time in ways we don't approve of, or if they've only been vegetarian for a few weeks?

ATTENTION ACTIVE A.L.F. CELLS/INDIVIDUALS:

We want you to know that the NA-A.L.F.S.G. will do everything in its power to ensure that those arrested for animal liberation actions are supported during their time in prison.
-NA-A.L.F.S.G.

In Defense of Rod Coronado

by the A.L.F.S.G. (U.K.)

The A.L.F.S.G. in the UK has been approached by a number of people from the US indicating that they are unhappy with our support of Rod Coronado. Their reasons for wishing us to stop supporting him revolve solely around court statements and other statements he has made distancing himself from the animal liberation movement in the USA.

In respect of the court statements, there have been a number of court cases in relation to A.L.F. and other animal activists where the people involved have denounced their actions and repented. The A.L.F.S.G.(UK) has a clear policy that what is said in court is the defendant's own business, as long as it does not endanger the liberty of another activist. It is obvious to us that what may be said in court by the defendant or their representatives may not be their true feelings, but could be the correct way to proceed at that time.

We have been in communication with Rod for a long time, before and after his arrest,and we feel his record as a dedicated activist speaks for itself. We have neither heard nor seen anything which leads us to believe that Rod has changed his beliefs in a fashion which would lead us to withdraw support. Rod's comment on withdrawing from the USA animal liberation movement is understood to be a personal decision he has made due to the way he feels he was treated while on the run, and us such we do not feel concerns us in any way.

What has been said about Rod and his actions is indicative of the fact that the USA movement has been fortunate enough not to have to deal with many prisoners over a long period. Rod's worth is as a human being who took

great risks to save and protect animals, not as a vehicle to gain information from the state or as a symbol of martyrdom. We support him not for his unfortunate imprisonment but for his brave and selfless actions for the well-being of all living creatures.

We wish him a painless time inside and a speedy release.

A.L.F.S.G. (UK)
Personally Signed by:
Simon Russell

LEARNING FROM THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST

by ZAB, former Coordinator, NA-A.L.F.S.G.

Although I have been putting most of my energy to prison justice and native sovereignty movements lately, I am still involved in animal liberation circles enough to have heard that, for whatever reasons, people have been spending a lot of energy discussing rumours about Rod Coronado lately. This is having a heavy impact on Rod and on other people who should be putting their energy to better use than dealing with rumour and innuendo.



As someone who's been in and around activism for 25 years -- as a child in an activist family, and in my participation in animal liberation, environmental, and social justice movements as a teenager and an adult - I've seen a lot of mistakes made in the name of "animal liberation", "earth liberation", "social justice", etc. A lot of the time, I've been the one making some of these mistakes. So it's not as if any of us are perfect, or as if any of us are above criticism. That includes Rod Coronado. What disturbs me is not that Rod is being questioned, but that the way people are gossiping is really harmful. And, in my opinion, the questions being asked are not helpful ones - they're old rehashings of other movements' mistakes.

In the 1970s, the slogan "feminism is the theory, lesbianism is A practice" was quickly misquoted to "feminism is the theory, lesbianism is THE practice". What I'm hearing now amongst animal rights activists seems to be "animal liberation is the theory, veganism is the practice". Veganism, like lesbianism, is a part of liberation from oppression. But it is not the only contribution people can make to animal liberation -- nor is being vegan enough to end animal exploitation (just like licking clit is not enough to end women's oppression - I only wish it were!). All power to those people who make lifestyle choices that minimize their economic support of the animal exploitation industries. But just as it's not important to me whether or not someone jailed for burning bulldozers has ever used styrofoam, it's not important to me whether or not someone jailed for animal liberation actions has ever eaten eggs. We all contribute, in various ways, to industries based on exploitation. All of us in this movement contribute, in various ways, to animal liberation.

Rod is in jail because he was identified by the state as someone who has made a hell of a contribution to animal liberation. Whatever has happened since Rod's imprisonment, why is one aspect of animal liberation considered an important criterion for judging Rod's commitment? And why are people feeling the need to judge Rod's commitment? It would seem to me that anyone who has studied history would understand that even if Rod never lifts a finger for animal liberation again, he is in jail for his commitment to animal liberation. He is an animal liberation prisoner.

The A.L.F. guidelines lay out structure for what can or can't be called an A.L.F. action; they do not define who is or isn't an animal liberation prisoner. Veganism -- or any other lifestyle criterion -- is not a prerequisite for anyone wanting to take action against animal abuse and exploitation. And why should it be? Lifestyle is not just a matter of animal liberation ethics. It's tied in to class, cultural practices, sexual orientation, and every other aspect of our lives. I make choices about how I will live based on a complex set of commitments I have, commitments that sometimes conflict, resources that limit my choices in varying degrees. I have my own sense of what's right and wrong in different situations, and I don't expect that everyone in the animal liberation movement will agree. I also don't assume I have the right to any moral high ground, that I have the right to judge other activists based on where their own sense of "right and wrong" isn't the same as mine.

What I do expect is that there be room for me in this movement, that if I end up in jail for animal liberation activism that people will take care of me just as I would (and do) take care of them. We can all ask ourselves - if we were in Rod's shoes, how would we want to be treated by other animal liberation activists? What would we want from this movement? And then we can ask ourselves, are we treating Rod as we would want to be treated? If not, why? And if we know we won't be supported by the

movement when we go to jail, how much will we really be willing to risk imprisonment ourselves? How can we promote direct action in one breath and then shit on a prisoner in another?

When we don't look after our own and embrace them 100%, we do the work of the F.B.I. When we demand that people be vegan to be considered a part of our movement, we send a message to people that there is nothing they can do for animal liberation unless they follow our rules, and we prove ourselves willfully ignorant of peoples' resistance to cultural and economic assimilation. When we tear apart a prisoner's legal strategy, when we set ourselves up as judges, when we slap each other down instead of help each other up, when we spend our time on gossip rather than on the work of liberation -- WHAT THE FUCK ARE WE DOING? Please, let's not repeat the mistakes of the past over and over again. Let's move on, to create a movement that can actually end animal exploitation and free all political prisoners.

Zab.

OPEN LETTER FROM ROD CORONADO

In Spring of 1985 a friend and I hopped the fence of a small zoo and clipped holes in a wire enclosure housing two small mammals who were later released outside of the animal prison. Red paint was used to spell out the letters A.L.F. next to the empty cage and thus began my involvement with the Animal Liberation Front. Now, eleven years later I'm sitting in federal prison serving a 57-month sentence for aiding the A.L.F.'s destruction of Fur Animal Research for the fur farm industry at Michigan State University in February 1992.

I've seen a lot in the last eleven years of my involvement with the animal liberation and radical environmental movements, ended up in jail more than a few times, been beaten up, threatened, and still have warrants in three other countries for A.L.F. and Sea Shepherd direct actions. Not all of what I have seen is a proud reflection on the struggle for animal, earth and human liberation. I've seen fistfights between activists who claimed to be advocates of peace, the promotion of animal rights actions with no other intent than to make money, A.L.F. activists who were more concerned with media coverage than the animals they helped to rescue. With all that I have seen behind the scenes of the animal liberation movement over the last ten years, I feel it is important that young activists know the truth about the often media maintained image of the animal rights movement. The truth shall set you free, and it is imperative that as a movement we recognize our faults as well as our strengths if we are to deal with them and continue growing in a positive way.

I believe that if A.L.F. prisoners are to be put on trial by their own movement as I have been by some, and support withheld unless certain criteria established by non-A.L.F. activists in the animal liberation movement is met, then I as an A.L.F. prisoner also have the right to bring into question the condemnation, lack of support and betrayal that I have witnessed as an A.L.F. activist by the animal rights movement. These questions are not intended to create yet another division amongst our ranks, but hopefully contribute to the mature resolution of faults within our movement that lead to the prevention of growth and foundation of a structure to support and create A.L.F. activity and prisoner support. And most importantly to help insure that the A.L.F. is never again met with tactics that drive a wedge between them and the above-ground animal liberation movement, a tactic that is purely and clearly a goal of Federal law enforcement in the past, present and future.

In 1992 when I rode away from the animal liberation movement and back into the indigenous communities of my ancestors, it wasn't because of an abandonment of a previously held philosophy, but a question of security and physical support. Since December of 1990, when I broke away from my employment from Friends of Animals as a private investigator, I began to receive criticism from the animal rights movement. This first came when the Coalition Against Fur Farms was formed with the buy out of a Montana Fur Farm. As outlined in the December '91 issue of the Earth First! Journal, the buy out of the fur farm was in response to what was felt as a failure of the animal rights movement to challenge the fur trade with anything but moral arguments. Our year-long investigation of the fur farm industry revealed

the on-going challenge to domesticate native wildlife that could still easily be returned to their natural habitat. The animal rights movement had not supported a strategy using these arguments and chose instead to only see our investigation as a source of graphic video and photographic evidence of physical abuse of fur farm animals. The knowledge uncovered of economic weaknesses and vulnerabilities was ignored. The movement was quick to capitalize on our risks and efforts but completely unwilling to help us attack the fur industry with our new found knowledge of its weak spots.

Friends of Animals in Norwalk, Connecticut refused to endorse the fur farm rehabilitation project, and my former partner in the undercover investigation contributed by charging CAFF for his services to assist in the relocation of the lynx, bobcats and mink from the farm knowing that every penny of CAFF's money was going towards simply feeding the animals and building rehabilitative housing. During this time the only organizations to offer their support were the California Anti-Vivisection and Animal Defense League, the Good Shepherd Foundation, and Ingrid Newkirk who contributed personally despite PETA's differences with the project.

The rehabilitation project was a 100% success thanks to the tireless efforts of a handful of dedicated activists who often dumpster-dived their own meals so the animals would be able to afford their next meal. As animal liberationists and earth defenders CAFF believed it was essential that we prove to the fur industry and others that fur farm prisoners rightfully belonged and could survive in their natural habitat, rather than just philosophically argue for animal liberation. The proof of such an action would lead to the justification of massive mink liberations like we see today. It was then also that I solicited my undercover investigation information to the A.L.F. who did not ignore it and listened attentively to all the evidence obtained by CAFF.

In June 1991 when the A.L.F. began its Operation Bite Back, once again no animal rights organizations came out publicly to support the A.L.F. except CAFF and PETA. Following the MSU raid CAFF attempted to organize press conferences to counter fur industry press conferences condemning the A.L.F., but no animal rights organizations were willing to go public with support for the A.L.F. Thus it was CAFF alone who circulated A.L.F. press releases and videotapes and did numerous interviews with media regarding Operation Bite Back. So it was with little surprise to either CAFF or PETA that they became the target of Federal grand juries between 1991 and 1994. Following the Operation Bite Back raids in the Northwest only a handful of CAFF activists and supporters offered legal assistance and support to my involvement as a spokesperson for the A.L.F., JP Goodwin being one of the few who remains active in the movement today.

In April of 92 I received a copy of an FBI affidavit that named me as the sole party responsible for the A.L.F. raid on Washington State University in 1991. This and recent death threats from fur farmers helped me make the decision to go underground. In 1992 when I left my volunteer position with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society after narrowly escaping an ATF helicopter assault on my home and CAFF headquarters in Oregon, I literally had to beg for financial support from animal rights activists and groups as most were fearful of FBI repression or just plain unwilling to support the underground animal liberation resistance. That is when I accepted the offer of others outside of the animal liberation community to take shelter amongst them where I would be fully protected.

In July of 1993 at a press conference in the Western District of Michigan Federal Building, U.S. Attorney Brian Smietanka announced the First federal indictment of an animal rights activists in the U.S. I was indicted on five counts ranging from arson to conspiracy all of which added up to a maximum of 50 years that I faced in prison. No co-defendants were named. Within days my face was in every post office in the country, published in USA Today and many hunting and fur industry publications. U.S. Attorney's announced their intention to use my indictment to help obtain evidence that would lead to further indictments of A.L.F. members. During this time, virtually no one in the animal rights movement responded in my absence to defend me or the A.L.F. and so the hunt began. Thankfully, a small network of activists welcomed me, themselves hardened veterans of FBI and U.S. government repression. They provided me with everything the animal liberation movement was unable or unwilling to. If its one lesson the animal liberation movement can learn from the underground existence of A.L.F. activists David Barbarash and myself in the US and Canada, it should be that we need to build an infrastructure of physical support that can financially and morally support A.L.F. activists who choose to live and fight from the underground. If we as a movement fail to do this, we remain nothing more than another special interest group. Its ironic that my loudest critics now were silent or absent when I was assisting A.L.F. actions and running from federal law enforcement.

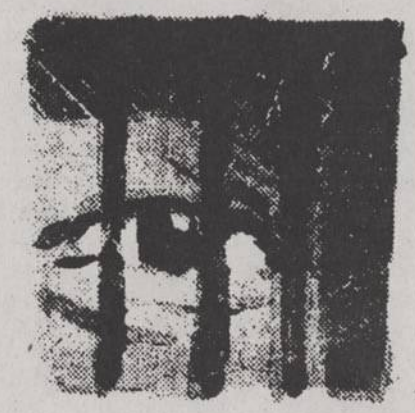


People could have contacted me if they wanted to donate money or offer support but the FBI was sure to make an example to the animal rights movement of friends who had previously supported CAFF. CAFF volunteers were threatened or imprisoned, threatened with having their children taken away, and offered money for information. Had it not been for support from people outside the

animal rights movement I would have been captured within weeks of my going underground.

In October of 1994 after my arrest, I was approached by many in the animal rights and radical environmental movements who were willing to support the fight for my own freedom. I willingly accepted all help offered, and to accommodate the diversity of the activists formed the Rod Coronado Support Committee. The committee was composed of indigenous women and men, animal rights and environmental activists and people of color from the social justice movements. The only problems faced by the committee were continued threats by the National Activist Network's Cres Velucci to pull out of the committee due to the refusal to accept the media strategy proposed by NAN. Though not represented in the committee, PETA was willing to cover over 80% of the legal expenses of my case without demanding any influence in the decision-making. This point was addressed repeatedly as NAN repeatedly accused me of caving into demands by PETA whenever I strayed from their own direction.

In November of 1994, I agreed to allow Larry Weiss, an attorney provided by NAN to be a member of my defense team. At that time I believed that my case would develop into a political trial addressing FBI and ATF misconduct as well as the targeting of the animal liberation movement for federal harassment. At the same time my defense lawyers received evidence lists from the prosecution and I was not surprised to discover that the FBI had obtained physical evidence connecting me to more than one A.L.F. raid. A type written letter by myself asking for funds to strike three separate fur farms that were later attacked and included as charges in my seven-count superseding indictment was the most incriminating. The prosecution also had DNA evidence linking my saliva to that of a cigarette used in a incendiary device that malfunctioned in a Utah fur farm. The FBI also produced fingerprints and handwriting analysis evidence found on a package of records stolen from a fur researchers office at MSU. Other evidence included letters, receipts, and phone records that placed me near many A.L.F. targets during Operation Bite Back. The FBI's coup de grace was fingerprints of mine found on an empty museum case at the Little Bighorn Battlefield Monument in Montana where a seventh cavalryman's journal was stolen in February 1992. The FBI also had phone evidence placing me near Denver, Colorado where a press release was issued demanding the return of sacred indigenous religious objects in the same museum before the journal would be returned.



In December of '94 I was offered a plea agreement whereby if I testified to who sent me to Michigan to act as an A.L.F. conduit I would be given a maximum 18 month sentence. When I refused the government increased the pressure. Threatening to indict me separately in Montana for felony theft of a historical artifact which carries a maximum ten year sentence, the U.S. Attorney's also issued a superseding indictment adding an additional two counts of misprision of a felony and a racketeering charge for interstate organization of criminal acts which upped my maximum possible prison years to 70. I began to doubt that my upcoming trial would be anything but criminal in nature. The FBI was thorough in guaranteeing the possibility of imprisonment when they indicted me. That is why once I was apprehended a superseding indictment was issued with seven counts as the possibilities were greater that if I beat one charge another would impose an equal amount of prison time. From the start I knew I'd be found guilty of at least two charges.

Following my December '94 bond hearing where my pretrial freedom was priced at a $650,000 bond, my Michigan defense team met with me and Larry Weiss in the Kalamazoo County Jail where I was being held. My Michigan lawyers explained that due to concerns based on the changing agenda of my case from political to criminal, that they did not want to retain Larry Weiss as a defense team lawyer. They stated that they had no problems with Weiss being retained as a consultant and contributing lawyer but their firm had never and was unwilling to include an outside attorney in a criminal defense case. In the company of myself and Weiss my Michigan lawyers clearly stated that their decision was in no way influenced by PETA or outside sources but was one purely their own. They felt that my freedom might be compromised by others in political movements who were interested more in a platform for politics rather than a focus on getting me out of a tight legal situation in which I realistically faced about 22 years in prison. I asked Weiss if he would mind his legal advice coming to me, and then I would channel it to my lawyers directly. He agreed to this only to tell me days later when I contacted him that he didn't want anything to do with my case unless he was retained on equal standing with my Michigan defense team. In a phone conversation Weiss stated that if he couldn't make important legal decisions he did not want to help me. I told him I valued his opinions, and he still refused to work with me, even as a consultant.

Immediately following this, NAN pulled out all of their support for me and Cres Velucci angrily accused me on the phone of once again caving into PETA's interests and denying the animal liberation movement its day in court. I told him I was more interested in my avoiding over 20 years in prison than giving him and others a political platform at my expense. What influenced my decision most was that NAN and others who advocated me facing 20 years by going to trial, had never offered their support previous to my arrest. Either when I was an active A.L.F.

member in Operation Bite Back, when I was on the run from law enforcement, and fur farmers or when my indictment was issued in my absence. At these times anyone who claims to support the A.L.F. should do just that, yet almost no one in the animal liberation movement did. Yet now they were more than willing to tell me what I should do. Repeatedly over the years I have experienced criticism from activists who were eager to tell direct action activists what their focus should be, but unwilling to make the sacrifices themselves or support any strategy other than their own. Another major factor in the decision-making process of how to fight my indictment was what my potential co-conspirators felt I should do. The US Attorney, FBI, and ATF agents had always indicated their intent to call fellow CAFF activists into the case to testify. Their testimony might unintentionally contribute to further indictments as well as implicate those already indicted further before a judge and jury.

Some CAFF volunteers reassured me that they would sooner go to jail then testify in my trial. Contempt charges have imprisoned activists for as long as two years in some political trials, and I did not want others to pay for the criminal actions I was more than willing to assist with. The US Attorneys office readily admitted that they believed me to be only a contributor to A.L.F. actions and intended to use my trial to obtain information as to the identity of remaining A.L.F. members. My decision to avoid trial was not only to avoid a longer prison sentence for myself, but also to avoid dragging other activists into my case as well as endanger my free remaining A.L.F. comrades.

In February of 1995 I began plea negotiations with the US Government after having consulted at length with Earth First!ers Peg Millet and Mark Davis, who had both been incarcerated in federal prison after a lengthy legal battle that ended for them in a plea agreement also. No animal liberationist previous to my indictment has ever been charged in the U.S. with federal offenses. It is impossible for the NAN or other activists to claim experience and knowledge in a field never tread by animal liberationists in the U.S. Ultimately in any A.L.F. criminal case to come the actual defendant should be supported in any decisions they chose to make as long as those decisions do not include testimony which endangers other A.L.F. activists. Pressuring A.L.F. defendants to adhere to someone else's agenda is being no less manipulative than the U.S. Government. Fighting grand jury subpoenas is one thing, fighting a seven-count federal indictment in a four-year nation wide investigation is another issue all together. Especially when the prosecution holds physical evidence connecting the defendant to the indicted offenses. I always knew that my political actions involved committing serious federal offenses and chose to face the consequences once captured. In my opinion, that is the warrior's responsibility: do the deed but be proud enough of your actions to accept the consequences should you be caught. I was in no rush to enter into a legal process that I knew all along I was destined to lose in. Anyone who has ever known me or indigenous history knows how little faith we should hod for the U.S. justice system. I've never believed that crimes against the earth and animals would ever be seen in the same light as crimes against those committing them. The justice system is one that we can never win in. When representing earth and animals the government and businessmen always prevail. Originally it was widely reported that I faced between 25-50 years for the "crimes" alleged in my indictment. The fact that I was able to bargain only a 4-1/2 year sentence should be seen as a small price to pay for actions that cost the U.S. fur farm industry irreplaceable research that would have led to the further exploitation of literally millions of animals. It's a nice thought to think that an A.L.F. member would be acquitted by a sympathetic jury, but such fantasies for political movements labelled as terrorists rarely if ever become reality. Earth defense and animal liberations is a crime in the U.S. Governments eyes plain and simple.

In March 1995 I signed a plea agreement that not only ended a seven year FBI campaign against me but also resulted in the cessation of five grand juries investigation A.L.F. actions in Washington, Utah, Oregon, Michigan and Louisiana, investigations all of which I was a target for prosecution in, not to mention many other grassroots activists. This brought to an end the harassment of many activists the FBI knew all along had nothing to do with the A.L.F. A.L.F. actions will always be used by law enforcement as a justification to harass innocent parties. It's part of the strategy to divide those who participate in illegal direct action from those who might support them. Before I was even out of the airport from Michigan NAN member Jonathan Paul had left a scathing message of non-support and criticism on my answering machine accusing me of selling out the movement and asking me why didn't I fight my case like Leonard Peltier and other political prisoners. The answer? Simply because I don't want to sit in prison like Peltier who has been in prison for almost 20 years and counting. I refuse to sacrifice my freedom to provide NAN or others in the movement with a useless martyr. Any activist who wishes to be a martyr is free to commit the crimes I did and turn their trial into a political one, but I see no one rushing to the courtroom to battle the opposition on their own turf. My obligation is to the earth and I do her no good if behind bars for twenty years.

Jonathan Paul's phone call was the beginning of NAN's campaign to isolate support between the animal liberation movement and myself. Luckily, PETA never questioned any of my legal decisions and continued to support me even when my strategy did not reflect their own opinions. For as long as I have been in the movement PETA has supported the A.L.F. and any prisoners who do not slander their organization. Though PETA's tactics may not reflect those of many in the grassroots movements, they have always been willing to walk the talk of A.L.F. support.

On August 11, 1995 my prosecution culminated in my sentencing. As has been clearly documented in my legal proceedings, the prosecution was determined to make me pay for refusing to testify against other A.L.F. activists. Already I had been offered a reduced sentence of as little as 18 months if I only revealed who directed me to await the package of stolen research records from MSU. My

refusal to do so was the greatest obstacle in receiving a light sentence and the prosecution was sure to make me aware of that, since my refusal to cooperate meant a criminal investigation of the A.L.F. would end with me. With no physical evidence connecting others to the A.L.F., law enforcement relies on coerced testimony from other activists, to lead them to additional criminal indictments in a conspiracy case like the A.L.F. investigation.

I am not ashamed of my statements to the judge with the hopes that I might receive a crucial three point reduction in my sentencing guidelines for acceptance of responsibility and expression of remorse. These three points translated into an additional 18 months on my sentence. Also, at my sentencing, the judge could have rejected the plea agreement forcing me to go to trial which is exactly what the biomedical, sportsman's and fur industry wanted to happen. In over thirty letters to the judge these special interests asked that the plea bargain be rejected on the basis that it was too lenient for the U.S.'s first captured A.L.F. activist.

The opposition knew in a trial I stood to lose where "victims" of A.L.F. actions could be paraded before a jury, yet if the past was any indication, I knew I could count on almost no one in the animal liberation movement to stand up on my behalf. Needless to say, the judge was not influenced by my admonishments and clearly stated that he could not give me the crucial three point reduction as my refusal to testify was not acceptance of responsibility, but obstruction of justice. Also he could not himself believe the sincerity of all my statements renouncing my illegal acts, stating that they contradicted numerous statements I made to the media in particular to Dean Kuipers of the *Rolling Stone* and Ken Olsen of the *Moscow Pullman Daily News* who had written numerous articles on my case beginning with the Washington State University A.L.F. raid in August 1991. The most damaging aspect of my sentencing was statements I had made to the media. The very same type of statements that NAN and other activists would have liked me to make at my sentencing had cost me 18 months, and to think that I would risk anymore time in prison for news print is egotistical and ludicrous. The only people who didn't want me to plea bargain were the opposition and the NAN.

Operation Bite Back's intent was to cripple the research and development base of the U.S. fur farm industry. Beyond the obvious dollar damage and liberated prisoners, the five raids on research institutions and fur farms cost the industry many millions more in profits, had the increased efficiency of university research been implemented into modern mink farming and predator control. The Animal Liberation Front is a strategic guerrilla force. As a guerrilla force its objective while I was a member was to neutralize its targets and disappear. That was the reason I chose to participate in Operation Bite Back. In the early 1990's I saw a movement unwilling to provide for above-ground follow-through of a effective illegal direct action campaign, without others willing to risk their own safety to support the A.L.F.'s actions so I gave up on that

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Western District of Michigan

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August 15, 1995

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RE: United States v. Rodney Coronado

Dear Mr. Dilley:

There were two things at Friday's sentencing that disturbed me, and I want to share them with you. First, I was impressed with what I believe is your client's genuine commitment to the Pasqua Yaqui community, and that community's affection for him. I thought Anselmo Valencia's statements and the presence of several members of the tribe in court spoke very persuasively about the good works your client has begun to set in motion. It bothered me, and I believe it bothered Judge Enslen, to think that your client was being taken out of this community at such a crucial time.

I also was disturbed by the absence of any show of support by any member of the animal rights movement. Your client has sacrificed a lot for those people, and I thought it was a shame that none of them thought enough of his sacrifice to show respect by appearing in the courtroom.

Your client has apparently concluded that it would be honorable for him not to assist us in bringing to justice the others responsible for the ALF arsons. I think it would be far more honorable for him to help those who need him most. It would be a tragedy for Mr. Coronado to be taken away from his community now, because he believes he owes allegiance to others who have turned their backs on him.

As we have discussed before, we are not interested in making your client the scapegoat for these actions, which we both know were perpetrated by others who were equally (if not more) responsible. If Mr. Coronado would assist us now, I would readily file a motion for a reduction in his sentence. Although Judge Enslen gave a fair sentence on Friday, I believe he would carefully consider a motion for a reduction in sentence under these circumstances.

Your client owes nothing to the animal rights community, and he can do a lot for the Pasqua Yaqui community. I hope you urge him to carefully consider this offer.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL H. DETTMER
United States Attorney
TIMOTHY P. VERHEY
Assistant United States Attorney

State prosecutors offered Rod a deal to grass on other activists. Rod refused.

avenue and chose a more active role in the A.L.F. I accepted that prison was imminent and that if arrested would not go through a trial where I attempted to prove my innocence from crimes I was morally obligated to commit. A.L.F. prisoners should be expected to do nothing more than remaining tight-lipped about other A.L.F. operatives when captured which is what I have done. Any other actions taken that increase the likelihood of a lessened sentence should be supported and encouraged. Our movement does not grow with prisoner poster-boys, it grows with more action, and visible evidence to others in the movement that if you are captured for A.L.F. actions, the animal liberation movement will support you 100%.

What the animal rights and liberation movements do with publicity generated by A.L.F. actions is up to them not the A.L.F. or its members. A.L.F. members should not be expected to sacrifice more than they already have just to further the political and public image that others are unwilling to sacrifice for. The animal rights and liberation movements had over three years to capitalize on the actions of the A.L.F. since the beginning of Operation Bite Back, and did not. Neither did NAN or any other group attempt to build a support network for the A.L.F. while we were being hunted by the U.S. Marshals, FBI, ATF, state and university police. Nor did they respond publicly on our behalf when I was indicted in absende in July 1993. We were abandoned plain and simple. There is an important lesson to be learned from all of this. To now criticize the A.L.F.'s only captured U.S. member for not prioritizing the political or media importance of the animal rights movement instead of his own freedom is a disgrace to a movement that should mature to the degree of its counterparts in Canada and the UK which have built strong establishments of prisoner support based on nothing more than whether the prisoner is imprisoned for acts of liberation and their unwillingness to testify against other activists.

Following my incarceration I never once was approached or contacted by NAN or the Students Organization for Animal Rights despite both these organizations claims of supporting the A.L.F. and its prisoners. In April of 1996 another inmate told me of seeing the A.L.F. on the local news. That same week I received from CAFT (one of the only grassroots organizations that has never wavered in my support since imprisonment) a copy of "No Compromise" which detailed the past "A.L.F. Appreciation Day" which called for, among other things, support and freedom for A.L.F. prisoners. Yet none of the organizers of this event had or has ever written to me to voice their support. It is only rhetoric to promote yet again a media image of our movement's support for A.L.F. prisoners while the organizers themselves of the national "A.L.F. Appreciation Day" fail to do so. Its beginning to look once again like the days in the '80's when the U.S. animal rights movement's most vocal grassroots organizers issued press releases that mattered more to them then the actual reality of the movement and its treatment of activists.

There is nothing wrong with not wanting to support Rod Coronado as an A.L.F. prisoner, but if that is the intent of groups like NAN and SOAR, then they need to clearly state why they will not and not stand on their soap boxes and deceive people to believe that they support A.L.F. prisoners, when they do not.

At the same time an animal rights organizer here in Tucson, Arizona contacted me asking why I was not aware of the A.L.F. Appreciation Day and why my imprisonment was not included in the press materials provided to their Tucson animal rights group. I said I did not know and suggested that she contact the organizers herself to find out. After her conversation with Cres Velucci she informed me that Velucci said I was not an A.L.F. prisoner but imprisoned for the theft of the Cavalryman's Journal alone, had sacrificed animals in "Indian ceremonies," eaten dead animals, wore fur, and how could we know for certain I hadn't been cooperating with law enforcement authorities? These and a host of other rumors were given to an animal rights group with Velucci knowing from his own past experience that they would cost me support from the grassroots animal rights movement. It was also Velucci who went out of his way to obtain only the portion of my court documents that he knew would cost me support and who then distributed them to grassroots activists with the planned intent of severing my support from the animal liberation movement. All this, without any explanation that what they were seeing was less than 1% of all my court transcripts, the rest clearly detailing my refusal to testify and jeopardize others in the animal liberation movement.

Are these the actions of an A.L.F. supporter? Why did Velucci obtain and distribute a portion of my court records AFTER I was in prison and unable to defend myself? He or anyone else could have asked me for court documents rather than just taking out of context fragments that have in no way presented the depth of my prosecution which every interested activists should be aware of. And why did he and Jonathan Paul or others not attend my sentencing hearing if they were so concerned with my case in the first place? Never has either NAN or SOAR contacted me directly to address their grievances with my case. Instead they chose to initiate a campaign intended to isolate me from support.

As soon as I heard of Velucci's distribution of my sentencing statement, I made available all my legal papers to the S.G. to attempt to minimize the damage done by NAN's actions. If anyone in the animal rights movement was concerned about my strategy of fighting the government, all they had to do was ask -- and none did. Instead, I had to hunt down the source of rumors and disinformation before anyone was willing to acknowledge to me that the rumors even existed, and that, my friends is fucked.

The intent of this letter is not to launch into a time and energy wasting feud that diverts our attention from the real goals of animal liberation, but to face full on the undeniable detrimental actions by some grassroots leaders against the A.L.F. and prisoner support. If the uncom-

fortableness of dealing with such issues allows it to be unresolved, then we can be assured that it will continue to happen. The last thing I've wanted to do from inside a prison cell is initiate in-fighting but I fear if these issues are not addressed what happened to Deb Stout, Kim Trimiew, and Rod Coronado will happen to any other animal liberation prisoner who does not measure up to other people's standards. Cres Velucci and Jonathan Paul have been friends of mine, but their actions since my arrest have been those of anyone but a friend. Not only do they represent NAN, a grassroots organization with respect within the movement, but also the movement we all have been a part of for the last 10 years. If vocal grassroots activists have issue with any of my actions they should take them up with me personally before disseminating misinformation in a way that allows for our ranks to be further fragmented. To kick someone when he's down and unable to defend himself is not the example longtime veterans of the animal liberation movement should be setting for people new to the movement. And it's behavior far removed from what I would call friendship.

Anyone is free to criticize me for my actions, but to voice that criticism to anyone but me only allows for a one-sided uniformed discussion that shows potential A.L.F. members that the animal liberation movement is unable to support A.L.F. prisoners unless they mirror the opinions and views of themselves. If the actions of those who have spoken out against me are motivated by facts, then they should be direct with their criticism rather than spreading it to only those who can be influenced and who are not encouraged to solicit the truth that only I know, as a result of being the subject of that criticism. Over the years our movement's most radical fringe has often been a favorite target of criticism. I personally believe this is a tactic by activists who would rather discredit individuals in the illegal direct action movement then admit that they themselves should participate in such actions if they truly believe in the rhetoric they spout. Otherwise those who do take action are a living example of other activists' own hypocrisy. If NAN's criticism is founded in my traditions or lifestyles as an indigenous person then perhaps the animal liberation movement needs to begin a discussion as to whether traditional use of animals by native peoples constitutes oppression.

I am not a philosophically-based animal liberationist. My foundations for fighting against animal and earth abuse is my culture's religious teachings, my very DNA -- lessons that have taught my people for thousands of years to respect and protect animals and the earth. Prior to 1533, the Yaqui Nation subsisted on a plant-based diet and lived a pacifist existence. Only when the European conquerors arrived did we begin to hunt, though since then it has been done only after due ceremony or death could befall the hunter. When I returned to my indigenous community for my own survival I returned to a culture that does not separate any of creation from respect and reverence. All things are sacred, land, animals, water, air, and plants. Living on the handouts of others in my community meant that I haven't been as adherent to a strict vegan diet, and for those reasons I don't call myself vegan any longer, despite 99% of the time living what animal liberationists would call a vegan lifestyle.

I am an animal liberationist and an indigenous traditional, and I do not view my ceremonial use of animal parts derived from roadkills as exploitation or abuse. If the animal liberation movement is to label traditional indigenous use of animals in religious ceremonies as oppression, then it not only is severing the potential for a strong alliance, but also establishing behavior which is nothing more than a thin guise to keep the animal rights movement as it is, predominately white and promoting cultural racism. And if the question is actions that cause animal suffering, than what shall be our stance on the everyday consumption of fossil fuels, paper, plastics and agricultural produce that are directly derived from the destruction of wildlife habitat and the direct cause of animal deaths and earth destruction as a result of resource extraction, pollution and pesticide use?

As an indigenous animal liberationist I do not limit my measurement of my impact on earth strictly to what I put in my mouth but also by how much I drive, how much paper and plastics I use and what taxes I pay. I believe in a return to the lifestyles that supported human life on this continent for thousands of years, already tried and proven. Personally, this means the plant-based diet of my ancestors as well as less dependence on all environmentally destructive products and practices. A lifestyle that does not rely on ozone destroying computer manufacturing, financial support of anti-earth/animal/human corporations or any of the poisons of techNO-LOGIC society including animal and earth exploitation.

If these beliefs of mine call into question whether the animal liberation movement should support my eleven years as an A.L.F. activist and my present imprisonment, then by all means let us enter into a mature level of discussion and debate, and not limit criticism to whispered rumors about activists behind their backs while they are behind bars. And let's also address the issue of whether victory is measured in press releases and TV coverage or actual lives saved, live animal liberations vs maximum destruction economic sabotage. To limit our debates and discussions within our movement to whether someone is as vegan as others in the movement who use criticism as a substitute for their own action and constructive self-evaluation. Because truly if we all lived closer to our ideals of animal liberation and earth defense, many more would and will be imprisoned.

More than anything, the reason I have chosen to address the questions and issues raised in this letter is because the actions of some within the animal liberation movement serve the U.S. government's continued war against those who would defend earth and animals. We are doing the FBI's job for them when we disseminate rumors and misinformation that results in fragmented support for imprisoned activists. None of us are perfect, yet our diversity and level of commitment should not be used to isolate us from the one fight for animal liberation and earth

preservation. The American Medical Association and Americans for Medical Profits (progress) must be laughing as they see their press releases and battle plans used to isolate support from an A.L.F. prisoner, as they have in my case.

As NAN states in an excellent article written in *Underground #2:*

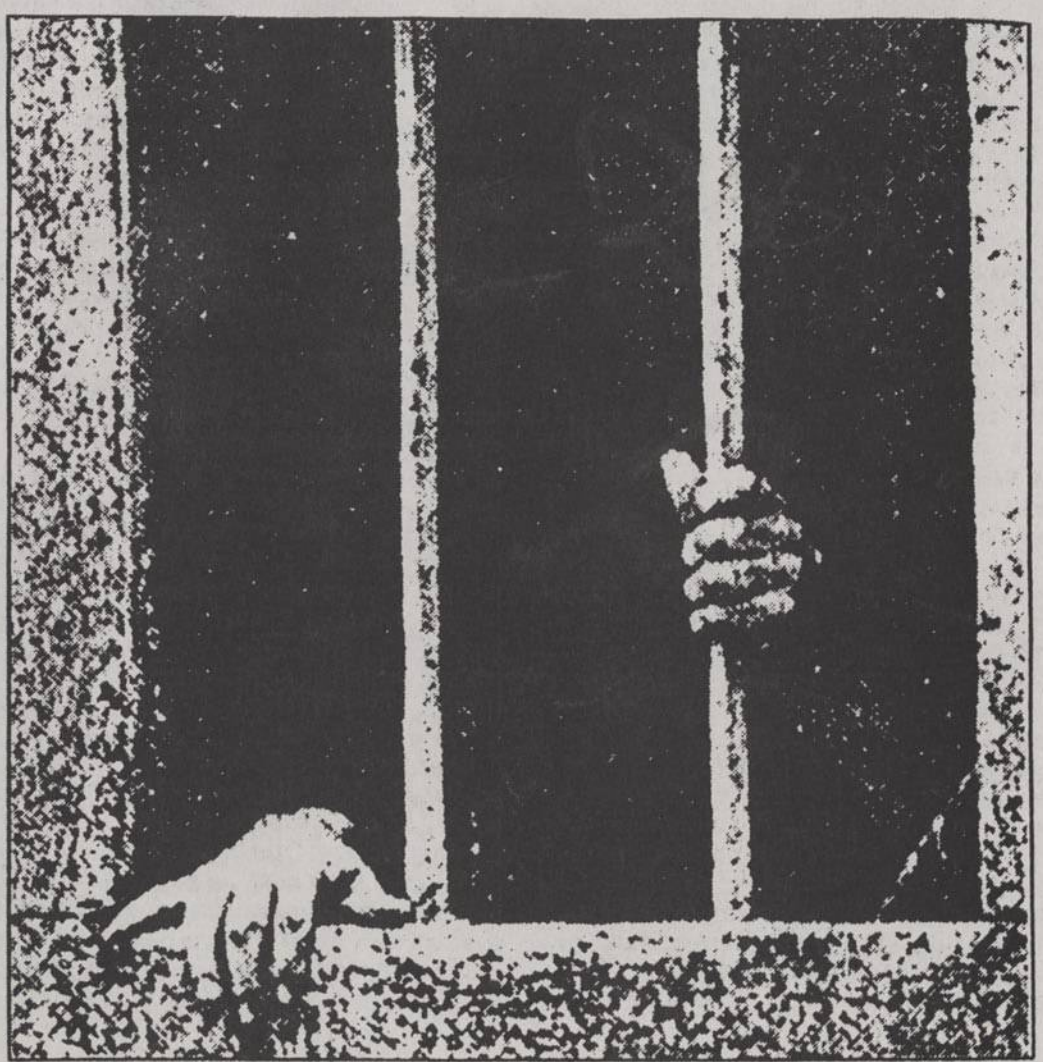
"The animal rights movement can minimize the effectiveness of covert agents and informants by refusing to spread lies and rumors about dedicated activists - who are the subject of the government campaign - and tracing those rumors back to their source, where government informants can usually be found. Activists can wholeheartedly support other activists, especially those who are the targets of break-ins, grand jury harassment and defendants in political trials."

Only by confronting our differences head-on can we continue to mature as well as broaden our support base to include more than just a small segment of society that has been the tradition of the animal rights movement.

There are many ready to oppose the institutions of animal and earth abuse and in that opposition diversity can be strength as well as a bridge to unify the oppressed of other nations and struggles. To continually address the familiar and already converted we begin to lose touch with political reality and our hopes for a true struggle for peace and liberation, become lost.

I will spend the rest of my life fighting for earth and animals as will countless others across the nation in various struggles and movements. Let us fulfil our opposition's worst fears by uniting together to fight for our earth and her animal nations.

Rod Coronado
#389500
FCI 8901 South Wilmot Rd.,
Tuscon, AZ. 85706, USA



RESPONSE TO ROD CORONADO'S LETTER:

By Cres Vellucci
National Activist Network

I have been asked to respond to allegations printed elsewhere in this issue of *Underground* by Rod Coronado, a former friend and comrade in the struggle for liberation of all animals, human and non-human.

Before I continue, let me state, for the record, that this is a sad day for me to have to counter lies and innuendo by a former earth warrior. For, that is what Rod Coronado was. Make no mistake about it. Rod sacrificed much for the planet and the animals.

Sadly, all that has changed, my friends.

I have thought long and hard on how to respond to Rod's wild untruths. Frankly, I did not want to respond at all, but his lies about some of the most energetic people in the movement today cannot be left unchallenged. So, as difficult as this is -- and please believe me when I say it is among the most difficult decisions I have faced in 14 years in the liberation movement -- this is the truth, a story that must be told only because Rod Coronado seemingly wants it told.

And, while Rod sits in his cell -- initially because of his brave actions to save animals, but now as a result of a morally bankrupt philosophy -- it saddens me to think how all of this may isolate him further from the grassroots liberation movement. I take no pride in writing this piece for *Underground*, which many of us believe should have waited to print all of this. Because this can only strengthen our enemy, and weaken the resolve of some of our own.

But, that appears to be Rod's plan. To divide us, and to cause friction where there is none, and more friction where there is some already. Why he is doing this is a mystery. One theory is that he is just mad at being in jail. The other is that he has given up on the cause, and the struggle.

I choose the latter. The man I once knew is no more. The spirit in Rod Coronado has died. And, to give him credit, I believe it is the result of his trials and tribulations, his run for freedom and the pressures of the system on him. If anything, Rod should stand as an example of what can happen to any of us -- even the strongest -- if we lose our way, if we forget why we arestruggling.

In my heart, I hope that Rod Coronado finds his way back from the dark path he has chosen. I will welcome him then, as the brother I have always considered him to be.

The Network's Support for Rod

Rod has suggested that the National Activist Network and/or me personally caused "problems" with his defense. And, suggests further that we were "silent" or "absent" during his run from law enforcement. That is totally untrue. This is, in fact, what happened:

Rod called me immediately after his arrest, begging for help, legal and political. Attorney Larry Weiss and myself had to borrow the money to fly to Arizona to meet with Rod. But, we did what we had to do for a fellow warrior. Rod insisted to us that he wanted a political trial and would spend, in his words, a "100 years in jail to help the cause if that is what it takes." He added that "I will do it the right way, Cres, you won't have to worry about it this time."

Rod was talking about 1990-91 in California when a series of federal grand juries -- the first ones ever convened in this movement to look for the ALF -- frightened activists, some of them very good ones, so much that they sold each other out, took deals and helped destroy the real liberation movement in California at the time -- where, coincidentally, the majority of ALF actions were taking place in the U.S.

Certainly, as his friend, I did not want Rod to spend any time in jail. But, his spirit lived, and he believed in fighting the system that enslaves people and other animals. It was invigorating to talk with Rod, and plan a strategy of defense and freedom. Let me make it perfectly clear that this was ROD'S IDEA -- a political defense, a martyrdom, if that is what it took, to save the animals and the planet. I personally pledged to Rod that we would organize activists nationwide for him, and the cause. That law enforcement, and animal abusers alike would look back on Rod's arrest as a major mistake.

But, then, something went drastically wrong.

Although we worked for months on a plan, Rod and his new friends -- many of whom were not animal rights activists -- suggested they did not want to use the animal rights angle. In the end, they decided to not use a political defense, which Rod has originally suggested. In the end, Rod was co-opted, he was used....not by me, or the grassroots liberation movement, but by money of the nationals and the club of fear wielded by the government.

PETA's Pressure:

Rod was pressured by PETA to fire Larry Weiss, who as a nearly indigent activist attorney (he usually works for nothing) had already dropped his few clients, on my recommendation, to devote his entire time to Rod. Why PETA chose this action is up to speculation, but we do know in the grassroots movement that several PETA, or former PETA, staffers cooperated with the Justice Dept. in its attack on Rod. That would give PETA every reason to encourage Rod to NOT go to trial, which would have produced full discovery that some PETA activists are acting in traitorous ways.

Why Rod is covering for PETA at this time is also up for speculation --

my guess would be that they promised to pay his legal bills. Money talks, and for Rod, money apparently meant more to him than friendship with people like me and Jonathan Paul, the animals, the planet and the future of this cause.

Ingrid Newkirk even instituted her own plan, suggesting to many that I was an "FBI agent," something Rod and I laughed about (as did others in the movement who know I have been in the forefront of attacking abusive federal grand juries since 1987). But, these are the games that people play in this movement to get their way, to preserve their "image" and...to make money. Some of us DO NOT play those games, and as a result we don't have money, or an "image." But, we would like to think we help the animals, which is the bottom line.

The Network's History of Support

Rod has suggested the Network didn't support him hile he was on the run. First of all, we did not exist until late 1993. And, Rod knows full well that the LAST person he should come to would be me or Jonathan Paul. Because, as he knows, Jonathan and I (along with Bill Keogh) were, in fact, the FIRST activists to ever be indicted in the U.S. for ALF activity. Not Rod Coronado, but us. As a result, we were prime targets, and key people to watch. Rod would have been foolish to try to contact us.

Rod also knows that many did support him financially and otherwise. But, if they speak up, they could be charged with aiding a wanted felon. So, his claims of a lack of support are patently untrue...and he makes those claims knowing people and groups cannot come forward to say he is wrong because they would be subject to arrest.

Jonathan Paul and I had our own troubles. At the time of Operation Bite Back, we were facing 19 years in jail for our alleged involvement in ALF activities. Ultimately, despite the FBI and ATF claiming they had more than a half a dozen witnesses who had seen us break into a lab, the charges were dropped. Why? Because we fought them, for the animals, and for ourselves. We knew we were innocent of any wrong doing, and we would not give in to the government's threats.

Rod did. And, while he claims "non-support," those of us who were first indicted had virtually no support, except from a handful of supporters. Virtually no national groups helped us at all -- especially PETA. But, we didn't attack the movement, or other activists because of it -- as Rod is doing. We just held our ground, and fought. In the end, this strategy worked.

Rod says only PETA supports ALF activists. Why does he lie? Because he's getting his bills paid by PETA? Rod knows that the I have led the fight against abusive grand juries since 1987, coming to the aid of grassroots activists in California, Oregon, New York and other areas where the government has attacked suspected ALF activists. PETA hasn't helped, except for a few "special" activists they found lawyers for. The rest of the grassroots movement has gone wanting. And as stated earlier, some PETA members have cooperated with the government's "investigation" of the ALF.

Rod also acts like he doesn't really know who the Network is, or the individuals involved. Rod, we were your close friends, remember? In fact, the Network is....myself, Sheila Laracy, Henry Hutto and Jonathan Paul. Sheila, Henry and I organized the first-ever civil disobedience and arrests for animals in the U.S. We co-organized dozens of other actions. Henry and Sheila were the first activists to refuse to cooperate with federal grand juries investigating the ALF in 1990. Henry went to jail for 45 days (the longest time ever spent in jail by an activist at that time). Jonathan is a longtime environmental and animal activist with plenty of credentials and his 5 months in jail for refusing to cooperate with the grand jury in Washington stands as a victory against such tribunals.

That's who we are. And, Rod knows it.

Additionally, the Network is dedicated to providing legal assistance to grassroots activists. NO ONE ELSE is doing this in the U.S. Dozens of groups from New York to California and many places in between can attest to our help. We help do media, and provide legal expertise for needy activists in many states.

We help coordinate national actions, and co-produce *No Compromise*, the only direct action newspaper in the movement. We get arrested, go to jail, support others who go to jail from coast-to-coast, as long as they remain loyal to the cause.

We have little or no money, but we do what we can for our brothers and sisters in this movement. For Rod to say, to suggest, we do otherwise is an outright lie, and something I personally cannot believe he has said. But, he has.

ALF Appreciation Day

Rod criticizes this day, held first this year, that organizes support for the nonviolent ALF and their actions to free animals. His main reason for criticism? Because he wasn't the main focus. Someone should inform Rod that there are hundreds, maybe thousands of ALF activists in the U.S. And, only one is in jail -- him. And, only one is criticizing other ALF activists -- him. The Network and SOAR support ALF prisoners, if those prisoners still support animal liberation. Rod clearly does not (see his comments below). And, besides of all of this, the ALF (whether jailed or not) should not be doing actions for personal gratification. Apparently, many ALF, if not all, know that. Rod appears to have forgotten that, if he ever knew it in the first place....ego has no place in a war of liberation.

Morally Bankrupt Defense

Rod has said that "NAN pulled out...support" for him. That is patently untrue. Rod called us as often as 2-3 times daily during the early days of his defense. When he fired Larry Weiss (because PETA's attorney suggested he do so), Rod NEVER talked to us again. Not once. He has never written, and made it clear that he prefers financial help, to moral support of animal activists. Despite this, we have never gone public with Rod's lies because we still believed he had earned the respect of the movement, even if he now does not believe in the true freedom of animals from exploitation and torture. I personally believe Rod was embarrassed by his decisions, and was just afraid to call. He need not have been.

Our eventual disagreement -- one we never had up until PETA interfered by insisting on firing Larry Weiss -- was that we believed he had a political defense to his alleged participation in illegal activities. If Rod had taken the opportunity to talk about the injustice against animals, and the planet, and his native people, then, although he may not have won in court (but then again, he may have), the world would have known more about how animals are brutalized in this society.

Instead, Rod took the easy way out. Instead, Rod stopped talking with us. It was not the other way around. Rod cut off communication....and since he was in jail, we had NO way to get to him. He had made it clear it did not want liberation activists any where near him.

Further, Rod mistakes the intent of the U.S. government. He says that he took a deal, not only to get himself less time in jail (which didn't work), but because he wanted to save other activists from scrutiny. He fails to understand that the government's desire is to NOT jail activists, but to frighten them into leaving, or disbelieving in their cause.

That is exactly what has happened to Rod Coronado. He was broken, his spirit was destroyed and now we have a former activist sitting in jail lying about other still active activists because he, possibly, cannot live with what he has done. It is a very, very sad situation.

Rod's defense was morally bankrupt. While we understand that some in the U.K. believe in telling the court anything it wants to hear in order to get a better sentence, that tactic has not worked here. It didn't work for Rod, or others. Besides that, how ethical is it to denigrate your own movement in open court to get a better deal for yourself?

Some argue that it means nothing because you don't mean what you tell the court. I would say it means everything. It says much about our resolve, on whether we cooperate or not with an obscene system. It also shows the other side we can be broken. That is not something we need to advertise.

Rod says he could have had his sentence dropped to 18 months if he would have "snitched" on ALF activists. Hey, Rod, I could have had my charges eliminated if I had told authorities everything I knew in 1990-91, when I was facing 19 years in jail (and thát was only state charges, the feds were also in line) and in jail on $250,000 bail. But, I did not cooperate in any way, refused all deals and eventually won.

Rod makes reference to Leonard Peltier, an American Indian who has been jailed for 20 years by an unjust legal system. I have better things to do with my life, Rod says, rather than be a "useless martyr" for animal rights. By making such a statement, Rod makes a mockery of Peltier, and other political prisoners like Nelson Mandela, who many times during his long imprisonment had a chance for freedom if only he would say the "right" things, whether he meant them or not.

For us to believe that we must bow down, and say we don't believe animals have a right not to be tortured and killed, and that those who do so are "victims" and not the animals, is a repugnant tactic - whether we mean what we say or not.

Where is our integrity, our respect for political prisoners before us, and the animals and the planet that we have pledged to help. Rod could have done a lot of good for the animals during his stay in jail -- now, he appears to just attack other activists.

What Rod and many in this movement do not yet understand is that we cannot lose. As long as we maintain our integrity and our belief that animals should be free. As long as that remains, they cannot defeat us.

They can jail our bodies, but they cannot take our freedom.

Rod's Statements:

Rod has said he is "not ashamed" of what he said to the sentencing judge last year in order to get a better deal for himself. But, he does not advertise what he said. Here are a few samples:

"... you need to be punished when you misbehave in society. When you cannot follow the law of society, you deserve punishment ... I want to retrace my steps first and go to the victims (of ALF actions) and I think that I ... can erase the intimidation and fear that some of these victims still feel ... I want to offer my hand in friendship to all of these people I have hurt ... I will no longer view any of these people as opponents or enemies..." **[Ed note: All the quotations as presented in this section have all had material edited out by the author of this article, (hence the "..."). For example, the above excerpts have been edited from over 4 pages of Rod's sentencing statement.]**

Think about this comment. He is telling the judge, and the government that the ALF should be punished. And, he is saying that he wants to apologize, and that ALF activists should apologize to animal killers.

"What I feel that I can do to the victims is to prove to them ... that what I have done is wrong, and to diffuse and take away whatever (sort) of people who would support the ALF by showing them their most vocal proponent is now an opponent ... I do want to serve as a deterrent to other people who might contribute to criminal activity such as I have been a part of."

Again, Rod is saying that the victims are not animals, in his mind, but those who brutalize animals. Further, he says he wants to act as a "deterrent" to other people who may consider being ALF activists. How can anyone support some one who believes this?

"I don't know that I can do that sitting in prison, where other people are going to be circulating free Rodney Coronado t-shirts and nag magazines and writing articles about me and holding me up as an ALF prisoner ... in England with the ALF a lot of times that it only served to inspire the wrong element of people."

Rod is admitting that he did not want our help. His claim now that he had no support is false. He refused to accept our help, because as he says, he would rather be shaking the hands of animal torturers than have people organizing around his jailing. Further, he added that the ALF support in England has inspired the "wrong" people. What people are those? Ones who care?

"I am not the Rod Coronado that the animal rights created and not the Rod Coronado that some people in the law enforcement agency might have created ... I started abandoning the movement completely, just as if it were old clothes that no longer fit me. Very comfortably, I abandoned it ..." **[Ed Note: For accuracy's sake, it should be noted tat this excerpt combines two statements separated by 21 pages, and has switched the order in which they were said.]**

Rod again points out that he is NOT an activist, and has shed the movement. And, he wonders why people were not at his sentencing hearing. This is the character he took on long before sentencing, one of a native American but not an animal rights liberationist.

"...as a political activist ... you don't admit wrong. You don't give up the fight. You keep justifying it ... (But) I found elders ...they told me I was wrong... And, I thought, wait a minute, they're right. How can I justify something that causes people pain just because of what they've done." **[Ed Note: the edited lines "(But) I found elders ... they told me I was wrong" has been inserted by the author in place of material removed between "You keep justifying it" and "And, I thought..." We have also inserted "..." in several places to show where the author has edited text but neglected to make note of it.]**

Here is the new Rod. He has given up the fight because (he believes) he has found peace with his elders, who tell him not to struggle for justice for those oppressed. Does this mean Rod would "forgive" those who, through acts of genocide, destroyed the great American Indian nations? Or, does he only forgive those who torture non-human animals?

From a tactical point of view, not only did his statements not work, but Rod, in effect, gave aid and comfort to the animals' enemies. He let them believe the great Rod Coronado had been beaten, and that if he could be beaten, so could other animal liberation activists. Rod showed his weakness, and that of the movement.....a weakness that only encourages our enemies to continue to fight us longer and harder. We will not know for years just how much Rod's comments and actions have affected activists in this country.

Finally, Rod wonders why we obtained only part of a transcript of his trial. It was simple. We had only enough money to get a portion, and the portion we were interested in was that in which he purportedly criticized the movement, and said he has "shed" it like old clothes. Many of his best friends could not believe Rod would say those things...we set out (since Rod has stopped contacting us) to prove Rod had NOT said those things.

In fact, he did say those things.

Now, since we have the transcripts, Rod is not denying his statements (of course, neither is he printing them). Instead he attacks us for obtaining them.

This has NEVER been an issue of a betrayal of Rod Coronado by fellow animal liberationist -- including those of us who Rod knows to be ALF spokespeople and supporters and activists.

This is an issue of Rod Coronado betraying the animals, the planet and his ideals.

Sure, he may sit in jail. And, he may not have "in formed" on other activists. But, he has, sadly, given in to the pressure of the system, and of the big, monied national groups. He has helped continue the oppression by apologizing to animal abusers. He has helped keep the covert government attack on activists a secret by refusing to fight in open court a battle that must be fought.

Some would say Rod has done many good things, so he still deserves our support. That may be, but Rod has changed. While we can appreciate what he may have done in years past, that does not excuse these attacks on activists, the ALF and the very idea of animal "rights."

Rod's hypocrisy is repugnant to many animal liberationists. He admittedly eats animal parts when before he was a staunch vegan. In fact, he has laughed in the face of another activist who complained about Rod eating animals, and then bit into a burrito filled with animal parts.

Rod, by his own admission, uses animal skins (fur) in religious ceremonies. Is that not hypocrisy? Rod suggests in his letter that the Network should not consider the "traditional use of animals by native peoples" as oppression. That native peoples "respect" animals before killing them. Who does that sound like, Rod? A hunter, or trapper? How can you buy into that philosophy of unnecessary cruelty? And, although we were all friends, how can we now support you without question when you, yourself, are a supporter of avoidable animal killing.

Rod, just a few years ago, would have told all of us that oppression is oppression, and that caused in the name of religion is only so much hypocrisy. In fact, he would have been right. For anyone to attempt to justify the killing of any animals, human or non-human, through religion is hypocritical and sickening.

Finally, Rod quoted and praised, ironically, the Network story in *Underground* where we explain that activists should not spread lies and innuendo, and that we should support those involved in political trials. In Rod's case, the stories about him, as you see here, are true. Therefore they are not lies. And, Rod, by his own admission, was never involved in a "political" trial. He gave up long before that.

No, if people are looking for heroes, Rod is not one. Many of us touted him as one not too long ago. That was our mistake. If you're looking for heroes, look, instead, in the mirror. And, look to your few close comrades. Work together in REAL unity. Do what you can do TODAY to free animals, and this planet from human oppression.

And, always, always, remember that you are doing it not for yourself, or for glory, or for money, but for the animals. If you truly believe that, you will accomplish great things. And, you will never find yourself on the dark path now travelled by one Rodney Coronado....

May peace someday be with him.

OPEN LETTER FROM LAWRENCE E. WEISS

Attorney at Law

To Rod:

I wanted to reply to your letter and explain why it is that you no longer have the unreserved support of many within the movement. It is because you abandoned your principles during the court proceedings. I didn't know you from your activist days, but I understood from many people that you were a true earth warrior, and I will always respect you for this and for what you have done on behalf of the animals. At court, however, you proved to be anything but principled in the face of pressure, and I cannot support that.

Much of what you say in your letter is true, and yet at crucial points you state untruths. Let me be specific.

First, you say in your letter that your "Michigan lawyers clearly stated that their decision was in no way influenced by PETA or outside sources but was purely their own." Why are you being dishonest about this? The first thing that Fred Dilley stated to me when he came into the attorneys room at the sail was that he had received a call or fax the previous night from Phil Hirschkop, PETA's attorney, who said that he would not participate in the case in any way so long as I was on the defense team. You were there when he said that. Such a statement from PETA's attorney has to be taken as a statement from PETA and clearly implied a withdraw or reduced level of vital financial support from PETA. That's not pressure?

Second, after I returned from Michigan I told you on the phone that I could no longer be a part of your defense team. That was because you had abandoned any refer-

ence to the animals in your defense. You made clear to me that your only priority was getting you the best "deal." If you had brought in another political attorney, or even expressed an interest in raising issues that helped the animals or the movement, I could have continued to be part of the defense team. But I could not support a "me first" defense. Your case, to me, was always more than a criminal case.

I also made it clear that I would continue to help you in ways that did not involve such compromises. I would help, but not as a member of the defense team. In fact, are you aware that Fred Dilley called me three weeks after our last talk and sought my advice on matters of grad jury tactics? I gave him the best advice I could based on my experiences. Does that indicate a refusal to help "even as a consultant" as you state in your letter?

What you call a political defense is what I call a principled defense, in which things are done in such a way as to help the animals of the movement. It wasn't me personally that you turned your back on, but the idea of helping the cause through your case. Here is what Nelson Mandela, in his book, *Long Walk to Freedom* says about his treason trial in South Africa, in which he was facing the death penalty: *"Right from the start we had made it clear that we intended to use the trail not as a test of the law but as a platform for our beliefs ... We saw the trail as a continuation of the struggle by other means."*

That is not what you did. You were out to get yourself the best deal and did not consider what your choices would do to the movement or how you could help the animals. You had the media's attention. The essence of a political defense is to see and utilize the possibilities inherent in the criminal law system without compromising your criminal defense. You could have effectively publicized the horrendous conditions of animals in "fur farms" or uncovered important information about grand jury informants through the discovery process. But you did neither.

I came to see you twice in Tucson and once in Michigan to offer you a certain kind of defense. You told me then that you wanted a political defense. I have always felt that a political defense will not lose your case or get you more jail time. It will help your defense and help the animals too. The other side has treated this a s a political (read media) case from the beginning, and you can dither fight them in that arena or give up. If you choose to negotiate a deal, that is ultimately up to you. It's your life and you have to do the sentence. But while the case is still going on you should do things in such a way as to help the movement, get publicity for the plight of animals in fur farms, and obtain discovery materials that are helpful to the cause. You did not choose to do this and that's why I could no longer be a part of your defense team. I do not regret taking such a position, and I'm glad that I was not part of what came afterwards.

What I see you doing now is backing away from positions that you took during the case. Rod, you made many statements during the course of your sentencing that are now returning to haunt you. But you did this to yourself. Either you meant what you said at the sentencing, in which case you have little in common with those who continue to believe in nonviolent direct action, or you made those statements for expediency's sake, to get a reduced sentence. But I don't respect that either. A person has to stand up for his/her principles even while under pressure.

Here's what you said to the judge at sentencing on Aug 11, 1995. Do you stand behind these judgements or were they made purely for the sake of expediency?

"When you cannot follow the laws of society, you deserve punishment. And as I said before, I have been, I have done disrespect to my elders, I have hurt my family by making them go through this, and I stand to hurt my community by what I have done in the past, and I, I have hurt animals by participating in actions that destroyed research that might have benefited animals, and in that way, I would do anything that I could to help reconstruct that research, help reconstruct anything that I have contributed to the constructs (sic) destruction of.

... I do want to retrace my steps first and go to the victims and I think that I am the only individual in this room who can erase the intimidation and fear that some of these victims still feel. I don't know that I can do that sitting in a prison, where other people are going to be circulating free Rodney Coronado t-shirts and nag magazines and writing articles about me and holding me up as an ALF prisoner. I feel like I have seen in England with the ALF a lot of times that is (sic) only served to inspire the wrong elements of people. What I feel that I can do to the victims is to prove to them as I say whether it than (sic) financially or through my behavior that what I have done is wrong, and to diffuse and take away whatever sales of people who would support the ALF by slowing (sic) them their most vocal proponent is now an opponent and somebody who is retracing their steps to right a wrong, and to recognize the victims's legitimate fear and intimidation and try to heal that and erase that."

What was ordered from the clerk was the full transcript of what you said to the court at your sentencing. Not what other people said, but what you said. It is a public record, but you seem uncomfortable with the idea that anybody as ordered your transcript and I can understand that. Given what you said, it must be embarrassing. Who are the victims, the animals or the fur farmers?

I've made my position as clear as I can. I feel really bad that you are in prison, Rod. I don't dislike you, but I simply cannot be a part of the flip-flop or positions that are outlined above. Maybe our differences can be resolved some day. I hope so, because you have done much that is honorable.

Larry Weiss

OPEN LETTER TO ROD FROM HIS LAWYER

BOYDEN, WADDELL, TIMMONS & DILLEY
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Dear Rod;

You have asked that I confirm your understanding that PETA's financial support of your legal defence was uncondi tional. That is true. At no time were any conditions placed on you or your defense for the support that PETA provided

With regard to the involvement of attorney Larry Weiss in your case, it was my requirement that there be no co-counsel that was unacceptable to me in your case. Larry Weiss was unacceptable as co-counsel.

It was for that reason that I indicated to you that if you wished Larry Weiss to be a formal part of your defense team as co-counsel, that I would withdraw. I think that you also had concluded that some of Mr. Weiss' actions were not appropriate and not in your best interests.

At no time did PETA attempt to influence that decision. In fact, PETA's attorney made it plain to me that, while he had personal reservations about working with Larry Weiss, it would not affect PETA's financial support of your defense in the event that you chose to hire Larry Weiss.

Very Truly yours,
Frederick D. Dilley

OPEN LETTER TO ROD CORONADO

by Freeman Wicklund, SOAR, Organizer of A.L.F. Appreciation Day

Dear Rod,

Thank you for your recent letter. I hope by discussing its contents, we can clear up some misunderstandings, and at the same time help our movement learn from its mistakes and grow into a strong, unconquerable force for animals.

First, I deeply regret that the letters I have written you have either been returned to me, have not been sent, or were in transit when your letter arrived. If I had known how much distress these delays in contacting you would have caused, I would have been more vigilant in reaching you. I apologize for any problems my laxity created.

Now I would like to clear up a few misconceptions. First, I take full responsibility for ALF Appreciation Day. Certainly the Student Organization for Animal Rights was essential in organizing our local ALF Appreciation Day and in producing and distributing the ALF-related merchandise, but SOAR should not be blamed for any of the organizational faults regarding the nation-wide ALF Appreciation Day because organizing it was my full responsibility.

Unfortunately, I must not have been clear in explaining the primary focus of ALF Appreciation Day, which caused you some confusion. It's main purpose was not to generate media coverage. Activists definitely tried to get media coverage, but ALF Appreciation Day's primary purpose was to educate other activists on the importance of the ALF for the animals and our movement.

As your letter testifies, support for the ALF and ALF prisoners have been lacking within the movement. I figured that in order to help create an effective ALF Prisoner Support network, people first needed to know who the ALF are! This was the main purpose of ALF Appreciation Day: introducing activists to the ALF and its underlying philosophies. I hoped that an increased understanding of the ALF by the movement would result in increased support for the ALF and animal rights prisoners.

ALF Appreciation Day also wanted to teach by example that public support of the ALF does not translate into immediate grand jury subpoenas, arrests, convictions, etc. Many ALF supporters fear government harassment, leading them to publicly denounce the ALF in the hopes of avoiding it. What they fail to realize is that government harassment targets EFFECTIVE activists, regardless of their stance on the ALF. We hoped to dispel activists' fears and give them the courage they needed to exit the closet and publicly support the ALF.

Beyond ALF Appreciation Day, your letter brings up many issues. However, it all seems to be saying one thing: We need better prisoner support. In an attempt to make this discussion a positive one, I would like to suggest some ways we could improve prisoner support:

1. UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS FOR A.L.F. ACTIVISTS. ALF activists need to know what is expected of them. Currently the ALF are expected to ensure their actions do not harm humans or animals, that they take appropriate security precautions, and that they never give evidence that would incriminate other activists or themselves. **[Ed Note: self-incrimination is not at issue with regards to receiving support]** These are all reasonable expectations for ALF activists. But should their be more? Is it reasonable to expect them to be vegan? Is it reasonable to expect them to not condemn the animal rights movement? or should ALF activists be expected to do whatever it takes to reduce their sentence so they can get out of prison and get back into action? These are questions that need to be discussed and answered by former and current ALF prisoners and ALF supporters so a clear policy can be in place on these issues and we can avoid further problems like this one.



2. CLEAR EXPECTATIONS OF A.L.F. SUPPORTERS. Of course all of the responsibility must not lie with the ALF activists. ALF supporters must help imprisoned activists by demanding vegan food, linen, and toiletries for them; ensuring they are not mistreated or placed in dangerous situations; and provide them with the things that will make their prison stay more comfortable -- be it requested books or money to purchase paper, envelopes, and stamps, etc.

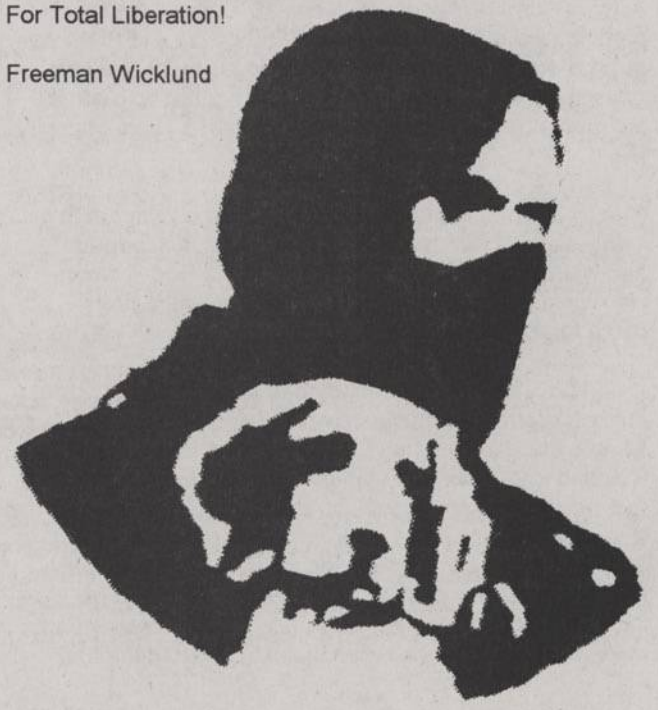
3. IMPROVED COMMUNICATION. Communication between ALF prisoners and the movement are essential. I think a break-down in that communication helped facilitate the current misunderstandings and allowed our opponents to effectively exploit the situation to their advantage. Had ALF Supporters known prior to your sentencing of your plan to denounce the animal rights movement and the ALF in an attempt to lessen your sentence, it could have prevented much of the confusion and anger that resulted when your statements were published in the popular press. Both *No Compromise* and *Underground* would be willing to publish articles by prisoners to help facilitate this communication.

4. PRISONERS FIRST. At the end of the day, I think it is important to place the prisoner's concerns first. They took the risks that many of us are unwilling to take, and now their suffering the consequences of their actions. It is a trying time for them, and we need to be there for them to help them through it. Their burdens should be eased by our support. Certainly I think ALF Supporters should counsel ALF activists on the best strategy to fight their charges and expose government harassment and animal exploitation. But ALF activists should ultimately make their own decision on how to handle their situation and we should respect that decision as long as it does not incriminate other activists, or hurt the animals and the movement that is fighting for them.

Rod, you have done many great things for animals, and I respect you for that. However, I have also worked closely with Cres Vellucci, Jonathan Paul, and Larry Wise -- three of the activists whom you criticize in your letter. I know they are good activists who are totally committed to the animals. I hope all of you can work through these misunderstandings so that TOGETHER we can continue our non-violent war for animal liberation.

For Total Liberation!

Freeman Wicklund



OPEN LETTER IN REPLY TO ROD CORONADO

by Jonathan Paul

This letter from Rod Coronado has come at a very bad time for it came the day that the China Left timber sale blockade was taken down by the U.S. government.

I have put some time aside to respond to Rod's ludicrous letter and I will be as clear as I can. I am amazed that Rod would even write lies like these and it seems to me more and more that Rod's warrior spirit has been broken by the government and he has succumbed to not believe in the grass roots but in the mainstream movement of compromising, wealthy animal welfare groups.

I will correct and respond to the direct lies Rod has said about me and about the National Activist Network. I would like to say that these issues should not be brought out in the public for the enemy will use it against us in the future but the North American ALF-SG wants to do it and I cannot stop them. All this stuff that Rod is saying is petty whining and untrue. If the movement chooses to focus on this instead of the earth and the animals then so be it.

I want to state that I know Rod probably better that anyone else in this movement. We met in 1987 and were best friends, shared a house together, were active in animal rights together and had a business together, Global Investigations. Since his arrest Rod is a totally different person than the Rod I used to know.

In case people do not know who I am I have been an activist since 1987 involved in animal rights, Hunt Saboteurs, Earth First!, Siskiyou Forest Defenders, Sea Defense Alliance, Global Investigations and the National Activist Network. I was indicted in 1990 for allegedly participating in the UofO raid in 1986 by the ALF(but I was not convicted) and spent 5 months in jail in 1992-93 for refusing to testify to a grand jury about other activists. I am also a committed vegan for the past 13 years of my life.

1. Why is Rod blaming everyone and not owning up to his own issues? How can Rod say no one else supported him while underground? That is a lie. But Rod is smart. He knows that we cannot have the actual supporters come forward for they will get in trouble for their actions.

2.Rod does not mention me by name but I was his partner in the fur farm investigations which he accuses me of being bitter and charging Caff for my services. The reality Rod and I were both being paid for the investigation by Friends Of Animals for just under a year. You see, when the relocation of the fur farm was in process I put $1600 on my credit card paying for gas, hotel etc. with Rod's assurances that I would be reimbursed by FoA. FoA told me later that I would not be reimbursed for they had never committed to the rehabilitation project in the first place. Was I upset with Rod for lying to me? Of course! Did I charge Caff? No. Rod and I made a personal deal and we walked away from this without any issues. Did I get paid to relocate the animals? No. Did I ask? No. All I wanted was to be reimbursed. This is a funny accusation Rod made about me from someone who used to jetset all over the country and get paid to hang banners for mainstream groups. I would like to also mention that I did decide to not be involved with the rehabilitation project because I was not comfortable with the feeding of live animals to mink and bobcats and I also could not put my whole life aside and move to Washington state for the amount of time it would take to finish the project. I was also the primary organizer of the Hunt Saboteurs and I was not willing to give up that commitment.

3. Rod is upset about the fact that the National Activist Network obtained the court minutes only pertaining to Rod's statements. We had heard rumors of Rod discrediting the movement so we wanted to see. The reason we only obtained his statements was purely financial. To obtain the whole court hearing would of cost us thousands where only obtaining Rod's statements cost us $120 which I paid out of my own pocket. It is as simple as that.

4. Did the National Activist Network support Rod after his arrest? Of course we did! Did he take it? No. He wanted the support of the mainstream (PETA) and non-political lawyer. Did we agree with him? Of course not so we backed off. We did fly to Tucson a couple of times and up to Michigan to his bail hearing. Why did we not go to the sentencing hearing? We had exhausted our funds. We are grass roots, not PETA. Did we give Rod financial help? I personally handed Rod a $2000 check from the Nat. Activist Network even after PETA was giving thousands to Rod. Two thousand dollars to us is equivalent to twenty thousand dollars to PETA. **[Ed Note: Rod acknowledges receving $2000.00 from Jonathon]**

5. I would like to point out that one of the main reasons Rod was in a corner during his case was the liberating of the diary from the Wounded Knee monument. Leaving fingerprints on glass is got to be the most stupid thing one could do.

6. Did Rod work out a plea agreement? Yes he did, but only after the government offered him the plea bargain. If the government had all this evidence why would they offer him a plea bargain in the first place? I believe the government did not want to release discovery so they offered him a plea agreement instead.

7. Rod called me a "NAN member". This is incorrect. I am the president of the National Activist Network. He said I called him and told him that I said he was "selling out" the movement. I believe he was and I still believe that today. Rod claims no one from the National Activist Network

contacted him after he was in jail. That is untrue. We asked others to ask him to call our office and I personally contacted him last spring and offered to put our differences aside so we could start supporting him. He refused.

8. Rod makes it ok to exploit animals in the name of religion. I disagree. This attitude is speciest and anthropocentric. Many different religions have made it ok to kill.The planet is dying in the name of religion and human dominance. Just because Rod has some Yaqui blood in him does not make it ok to kill animals. No matter what background you come from you are still simply a human being. There was a rumor that Rod was hunting again but I cannot back that up.

9. The biggest issue to me is whether Rod is or was eating animals. I know for a fact he was while underground. He ate meat based food as so not to offend the Native Americans he was around. When I went to visit Rod in Tucson after he made bail we went to a Mexican diner for breakfast. I asked him what was vegan and he ordered for me. When I got the food I found it had cheese, sour cream, and lard in the beans. When I pointed this out Rod just shrugged his head and ate his meal which was exactly the same as mine. I was shocked. Why was he not concerned that he was offending me? Is it because I am white? What about the animals and the earth? Are they not native? When I last asked Rod to tell the truth to the animal movement that he was not even a vegetarian anymore he would not. In the most recent letter he does admit some of it. Rod also was wearing a leather belt and shoes when I saw him last.

10. Rod accuses the animal movement of cultural racism. How can we expect "minority" people to help the animal movement when they themselves are struggling to survive? It is unfair but the reality is that white people in this country have the resources to expand their beliefs beyond themselves for we are not being as directly oppressed as African Americans, Native Americans etc. Rod himself grew up in a middle class family in middle America and lived an easy life. Rod talks like he grew up in the reservation all his life. He did not. Do not get me wrong, I am fine that Rod has found his roots within the Yaqui culture. If Rod wants to do that, fine, but just do not take everyone else down with him so he may feel ok with his decisions.

11. Where was Rod when I was arrested along with Cres Vellucci and Bill Keogh for allegedly liberating 275 animals from the University of Oregon? After Cres was arrested and the cops were coming for me what did Rod do? He shrugged his shoulders and said "oh well". We were looking at 19 years apiece. The state had four witnesses who claimed to be at the action were testifying against us. Did PETA support us? No. Who did PETA support? Roger Troen, who ended up becoming an informant against Cres, Bill and I. Did we win? Yes. We did because we demanded discovery and the feds refused countless times until the judge dropped the whole case. When did the feds offer Rod the plea agreement? After his lawyers demanded discovery.

12. Last but not least...Rod accuses us of spreading rumors. That is not true. Actually I wanted to make public that Rod was eating animals but Cres Vellucci talked me out of it for he did not want to see Rod get isolated. When people asked me about the case I told them the truth. Rod is upset that I told the truth. The truth hurts in this case and Rod is on the defensive. After Rod got sentenced we had a party for him in Santa Cruz, CA. We walked off and chatted and he admitted to me that he should not have taken the deal and should have fought it all the way for the feds admitted that they did not have as much evidence as they claimed to have. I told him I would be waiting for him when he walked out prison. Sadly, I guess that will not happen.

Rod should not be squashing the ALF and just because you liberate animals does not make it ok to eat their flesh or secretions. Would it be ok for someone to liberate people from the concentration camps while at the same time the liberators were making money by making the gas that killed the prisoners? I think not. Maybe Rod should read up on William Wallace ("Braveheart").

I personally do not support Rod anymore and many people I know are upset and disappointed in him. I am sorry Rod has to be in jail for the time he is in. But, Rod could have avoided all of this if he had good security, was not so obvious and careless, and allowed to put his ego aside and maybe looked at the fact that there are a lot of great activists out there ... the big difference is that they are there for the animals not for ego

I feel the animals would be very disappointed in Rod.

I also want those out there to know that I do not think I am perfect ... and I do make mistakes for I am human like everyone else.

Animal liberation!
Earth First!

Jonathan Paul



LETTER OF CLARIFICATION

by JP Goodwin, CAFT

Let me being by saying that I do support Rod Coronado. Both Rod and myself have a particular passion for mink, and that is a bond that will always draw us together. At the same time, I am a strong supporter and a friend of Cres Vellucci as well. I believe that the National Activist Network is a fine organization which has been a major asset for the new generation of militant animal rights groups that have been popping up in the last few years. Without NAN, the new grassroots groups would never have become the force that they are becoming today. At the same time, the coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade can be linked to Rod's now defunct Coalition Against Fur Farms. Both men have given a lot and this feud should be settled so as not to stir up any more division in the animal lib movement.

As I said, I do support Rod. This does not mean that I agree with every move he made during the course of his legal proceedings. I think there is no question that the animal rights movement could have benefited from a political, media oriented trail. Rod decided he did not want that for fear that it might mean more time in jail. I think Cres would have been more supportive of Rod, had Rod wanted that. It is my impression, however, that Rod decided he did not want the type of support Cres and NAN had to offer. He felt it would hurt his chances in court. Either way, I think Cres and NAN did make an effort to help.

I am writing this because I do not want to see the integrity of the individuals involved to be dragged through the mud any longer. All involved are hard workers who have an intense drive that makes them a major threat to the animal abusers. The abusers must be loving this as we fight each other with abusive language and hard feelings. Rod was victimized by an unjust legal system. though some friendships are now damaged, possibly beyond repair, I think we should turn our energies in other directions. All parties should focus on the here and now, and destroy the furriers, etc. instead of each other. Mistakes were made, no doubt about it. For the animals and the earth, let's forgive and take the bastards out.

Ok, that's it. Now on with the rest of Underground!

A single act of defiance is worth more than a thousand angry words.

MEMORIES of FREEDOM



by the WESTERN WILDLIFE UNIT of the ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT

Burned out? U.S.D.A. Predator Research Facility, after ALF visit.

MEMORIES of FREEDOM
by the WESTERN WILDLIFE UNIT
of the ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT

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"This is a story. The story of a handful of people who cared enough to risk their lives and freedom for what they believe. For Earth and for the release of the prisoners of the war on nature. It hasn't been without its costs. though we are all here tonight, one of us is sitting in an 11 by 17 foot cell in a Federal Prison for the next four years. He isn't the first and he sure as hell won't be the last. In this story there are many chapters. We are but one. The rest is up to you." **--Memories of Freedom**

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Diary of Actions



PLEASE NOTE: THE DIARY OF ACTIONS IS INTENDED TO REPORT THE NEWS OF DIRECT ACTIONS TO SAVE ANIMALS, NOT TO ENCOURAGE CRIME.

CANADA

FEB/96: Vancouver, BC - Activists liberated several chickens from a processing plant. *"The animals are now in loving homes where they won't be killed for the table."* A.L.F.

MARCH/96: Vancouver, BC - A fur and leather cleaning company had several tires slashed on a delivery van. A.L.F.

APRIL 3/96: Guelph, Ont - Guelph Fashion Furs was vandalized again by anti-fur activists. The action involved the breaking of the car window of one of the owners of the fur store. This is the latest in a series of attacks on Guelph Fashion Furs in downtown Guelph, in the last year.

MAY 5/96: Cambell River, B.C. - A group of bear advocates were charged under Section 82 of the Wildlife Act for "interfering with a legal hunt" on Vancouver Island logging roads. According to the Conservation Officers, the six were allegedly involved in successful hunt sabotage actions on the previous day, (Saturday, May 4). The six activists were following Outfitter Brian Swift of Trophy West Guide Outfitting on what they believed to be a bear trophy hunt. Three armed Conservation Officers were dispatched the following day to arrest the six bear advocates. *"Bear Watch supports the peaceful and non-violent actions of concerned individuals who wish to protect B.C. bears from trophy hunters"* says Bear Watch Spokesperson, Jana Thomas. *"The Wildlife Act should protect B.C.'s wildlife, not prosecute its defenders!"*

JUNE 27/96: Abbotsford, BC - For the fourth time in two years, fire broke out in the now abandoned Coaspack Meats warehouse. Two fires, one in the barn area in 1994 and 1995 closed the plant down. This blaze destroyed what remained of the buildings.

JULY 7/96: Vancouver BC - 400 mink were released from Akagami Mink Ranch in Langley as part of an "Independence Day" operation conducted by the A.L.F.. According to the communique:

"We liberated these mink to save them from a life of torture, enslavement and eventual death. If we would have left them behind, these innocent animals would have been grotesquely killed, through neck-breaking, gassing or anal

electrocution."

JULY 10/96: Abbotsford, BC - An empty pig barn was set on fire, $10,000 damages. Unclaimed.

UNITED STATES

1995-1996: The following is a report from the A.L.F. Southland Unit, Southern California, detailing their activites:
Dear SG, - It's been a while since we've corresponded, but we've been busy. We extend our gratitude to all activists fighting for our precious animals. We wholeheartedly support your effort to pay special attention to our fellow warriors who have the misfortune to be incarcerated - we must let them know that they are in our hearts and our thoughts at all times! Here is a report on actions that occurred between 1995 and 1996 to date.

POPEYE'S (fast-food operation selling chicken) was targeted three times. They were spraypainted with slogans expressing our feelings about their meat-peddling business. They were also treated to glued locks.

KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN (more scum like the above) was twice the recipient of our redecorating talents; slogans were painted all over their walls and block fencing, and their locks were rendered inoperable in the usual manner.

BURGER KING was beautified with slogans such as MEAT IS MURDER; they were hit twice. Their carnivorous customers were unable to enter the next morning because of non-functioning locks, courtesy of superglue.

Another object of our outrage and artistic endevors was an Italian Restaurant featuring SIX different veal dishes on the menu. Their back walls, side walls, fences, parking lot, and porch were refurbished with slogans such as VEAL IS CHILD ABUSE and SCUM. Front and back locks were also glued. Hit #2.

RED LOBSTER was sloganized and glued -- they had to replace several locks as well as clean up their walls, (hopefully having to repaint). Hit #3.

LEATHER STORES (2) were hit, painted with slogans (WEAR YOUR OWN SKIN) and superglued.

McDONALD'S had their doors, walls, parking lot, and menu spraypainted with MEAT IS MURDER as well as comments on their practice of supporting deforestation. Locks were glued.

WINNICK'S FURS was painted with FUR IS DEAD and had their front locks glued; the back lock was already glued -- someone was there before we were! Hit #3.

WOODLAND HILLS FURRIER, a particularily resistant bunch, were treated to glued locks once again. Hit #10

A BABY PIGLET was liberated from an institution intending on turning her into sausages. She was placed in a loving home and is doing fine.

A HEN AND A DOG were liberated separately from abusive owners. The hen was half-starved and had a wound on her neck. She was placed in a loving home and is now the beautiful, happy bird she deserves to be. Her new human companion reports that she loves to be held and petted. Likewise for our canine friend!

TWO RABBITS were rescued from owners who were planning on killing them. They were placed in loving homes where they are now doing fine.

The above took place in Southern California. We are doing what we can when opportunity presents itself. We hope we are making a difference, however small. Whether you write letters, contribute money, or participate in an active A.L.F. cell, all of your efforts are needed and appreciated in our battle to liberate our animal friends. A.L.F.SU (A.L.F. Southland Unit)

AUGUST/95: Madison, WI - Fur shop in Madison was hit and locks were glued. Less then a month later the store was shut down dure to repeated actions of this nature. **VICTORY**. Only one fur shop remains in Madison. A.L.F.

DATE UNKOWN/96: Memphis, TN - a number of Derby Lane Greyhound Track's billboards were vandalized with red paint. 50,000 DEAD DOGS and A.L.F. were painted on many of them.

JAN/96: Mankato, MN -Several animal transport trailers spray-painted. -A.L.F.

JAN 24/96: Syracuse, NY - Syracuse Northern Sports Show exhibitors paint bombed, furs slashed, cars gouged in parking lot. -A.L.F.

FEB/96: Memphis, TN - A column of small windows were smashed at Especially Leathers. A.L.F.

FEB/96: Memphis, TN - meat market on Brooks Rd. had slogans painted and locks glued. A.L.F.

FEB 9/96: Solvay, NY - Chicken restaurant spray-painted, windows destroyed. -A.L.F.

MARCH/96: Memphis, TN - Windows shot out with a slingshot on two occasions at Hataway Taxidermy. A.L.F.

MARCH/96: Salt Lake City, UT - Meiers Chicken had seven windows smashed with rocks. The same treatment was given to a leather factory. Cell 4, A.L.F.

MARCH 7/96: Duluth, MN - Lake superior Furs and USA Foxx & Furs had their locks glued. A.L.F.

MARCH 15/96: Syracuse, NY - Hickory House BBQ's store front was paint bombed, 5 picture windows smashed, all sides of the building were covered in A.L.F. slogans, all locks filled with super glue, 3 large neon signs

destroyed. The store remained closed for at least 2 days. A.L.F.

MARCH 17/96: Cicero, NY - Plainsville Turkey Farms Restaurant - 5 picture windows completely smashed, all locks filled with super glue, all sides of the building spray painted with A.L.F. slogans, front sign paint bombed. This action received intense media coverage. A.L.F.

MARCH 17/96: Memphis, TN - Jean Benham Furs sustained a massive paint attack with the awning, store front, sign, sidewalk, outside carpet, and brick wall covered in red paint. The owner has since installed video equipment costing thousands of dollars. The Memphis A.L.F. state that they wear masks, so this equipment is worthless. A.L.F.

MARCH 17/96: Syracuse, NY - Syracuse Mustards, a hotdog restaurant, suffered 7 smashed windows, had 3 locks glued, all sides of the building spray painted with A.L.F. slogans, outside lights smashed and several other fixtures disposed of. The store front was also paintbombed. A.L.F.

APRIL/96: Mankato, MN: Several animal transport trailers spray-painted. -A.L.F.

APRIL/96: Atlanta, GA: Atlanta Furs windows smashed out. A.L.F.

APRIL 2/96: Salt Lake City, UT - A.L.F. APPRECIATION NIGHT, Egg Products had two trucks burned out, as well as their store, which burned to the ground. Over $100,000 damage. The same night, Sniders had two huge windows smashed out. Cell 4 A.L.F.

APRIL 3/96: Victor, NY - Sometime between 9pm, Wed April 3 and 6am Thursday morning, A.L.F. activists struck L.W. Bennett & Sons' Fur Farm (Strong Rd, Victor, N.Y. 14564, USA 716-924-2460) and released over 3000 mink. According to the Sheriff's Office, each mink was worth $8, meaning that over $240,00 "worth of pelts" were set free.

Officers mentioned that tracks left in the snow indicated that several individuals took part in the liberation, and the investigation was broadened when local media received a fax entitled "A.L.F. Communique." The communique included the following statements: "The A.L.F. operates under the policy that life is more important than property," and in relation to the actual raid, that the animals set free were "coated in excretement and filth."

The raid took place to prevent the mink from "being murdered for the bloody fur trade."

"It's going to be a real tough one," said Keith Bennett, who manages L.W. Bennett and Sons' Fur Farm. "We were in bad trouble anyway." While declining to mention how big his work force is [8 employees] he predicted layoffs on the farm, which has already lost staff because of stiffening government regulations for labour, and a shrinking market for fur.

During the 1970's, L.W. Bennett's Fur Farm was the largest mink farm east of Wisconsin, then just a few years ago the farm had less than 12000 female mink on it. Before the raid by A.L.F. activists, the mink stocks had been reduced to roughly 5000.

APRIL 7/96: Eden Prairie, MN - Locks glued at the following shops: Heavenly Ham, Bentley's Outfitters (fishing store), Baker's Ribs, Ken's Fresh Meats. A.L.F.

APRIL 7/96: Mankato, MN - R.Craig's Leatherworks had locks glued and a window broken. -A.L.F.

APRIL 8/96: Mankato, MN - Chip Steak had slogans spray-painted -A.L.F.

APRIL 8/96: Mankato, MN - Hilltop Meat Market had slogans painted -A.L.F.

APRIL 13/96: Richfield, MN - Locks glued at Simek's Meat & Seafood and at Tandy Leather. A.L.F.

APRIL 13/96: Syracuse, NY - Shriner Circus locks glued and slogans painted at show place. A.L.F.

APRIL 13/96: Syracuse, NY - NY home of Murray Deitchman, CEO of Bonwit Teller Dept. Store (fur retailer) spray painted. A.L.F.

APRIL 14/96: St Paul, MN - Locks glued at City Meat Market and Pioneer Sausage Co. A.L.F.

APRIL 14/96: South St. Paul, MN - Heger Co., a fur farm feed supplier had locks glued and slogans painted. A.L.F.

APRIL 14/96: Moundsview, MN - Best Steak House was visited and locks were glued. A.L.F.

APRIL 16/96: Minneapolis, MN - The following businesses had locks glued: Brothers Halal Meat Market, Mandeville Co. (butcher's supply co.), Crown of MN. Inc. (fur farm cage/fence supplier), and Albrechts (fur retailer). A.L.F.
APRIL/96: Atlanta, GA - Atlanta Furs windows smashed out. A.L.F.

LATE APRIL/96: Atlanta, GA - Atlanta Furs locks glued. A.L.F.

APRIL thru JUNE/96: Madison WI - according to active A.L.F. in the area, a series of actions have taken place. On several occasions the local McDonald's was hit with glued locks, and the drive through windows were sealed shut. Other attacks included more locks glued and service signs were hit with spraypaint. Also spraypainted was the cement all around the service line drive through. A.L.F.

MAY/96: Pheonix, AZ - Bomb threat phoned into the national headquarters of the "Make a Wish" Foundation. The Foundation granted a wish for a terminally-ill Minnesota youth to kill an Alaskan brown bear. -Unclaimed

MAY/96: Buffalo, NY - The A.L.F. has had about 14 actions over the last few months. Included in these 14 actions are the following. Pallanker's Fur Store was paint bombed and had its lock's glued. Pollack's Furs has its windows smashed and locks glued. Federal Meats has its windows smashed and locks glued. -A.L.F.

MAY 5/96: Mankato, MN - R.Craig's Leatherworks had window broken, again. -A.L.F.

MAY 10/96: Salt Lake City, UT - La Blanc furs had windows smashed. Cell 4 A.L.F.

MAY 18-19/96: Chesapeake, VA - $60,000 damage to Central Meat Packing, cut refrigeration equipment, freon lines, electrical lines and two natural gas lines, spray painted the building with "Meat is murder", "Killers." and "A.L.F." According to media reports there have been at least 6 actions against them in the last 15 months including having a cinder block thrown through a window and slashed tires on trucks, they have also received telephone calls from people who refer to the owner and his employees as murderers in a high-pitched scream and then hang up.-A.L.F.

MAY 24/96: Memphis, TN - Jean Berham Furs locks glued. Store was to be paint bombed but the group had to leave quickly due to a disturbance. A.L.F.

JUNE/96: Washington State - 80 mink liberated from an unknown fur farm. We received word of this late, with littel detail as to location of the farm. A.L.F.

JUNE 7/96: Sandy, UT - Utah Fur Breeders Agriculture CoOp (feed supplier) raided and 75 mink used in nutritional research liberated. According to the communique, the A.L.F. broke in to the Fur Breeders Agriculture Coop at 8700 South 700 West in the early morning hours of June 7th. Two sheds were half full with mink, and one of them was completely emptied out.

JUNE 10/96: Salt Lake City, UT - La Blanc furs had locks glued. Cell 4 A.L.F.

JUNE 11/96: Huntington Beach - Two burger restaurants, Bun & Burger and a Jack In The Box were covered with anti-meat messages. Signpost at Bun & Burger were sprayed with "Where's the beef?" "War declared on animal killers," "Meat is Murder," "Next time fire." The 24-hour Jack In The Box at Bolsa Avenue and Edwards Street received the same anti-meat slogans, This is the 3rd hit at this restaurant.

JUNE 13/96: Memphis, TN - 3 Goldsmith's delivery trucks spray painted, one windshield shot out, retaliation fro this department store's continued sale of fur. A.L.F.

JUNE 21/96: Riverton, UT - 1,000 mink liberated from fur farm. A.L.F. found dead mink lying in cages, under the cages in piles of feces, with many half eaten by other mink. "More actions are coming. Murderers beware."

JUNE 28/96: Memphis, TN - Goldsmith's dept. store advertising banner at a festival was paint bombed. A.L.F.

JUNE 30/96: Memphis, TN - Goldsmith's dept. store paint bombed. A.L.F.

JULY 4/96: Howard Lake, MN - A.L.F. raiders liberated 1000 of mink at Latzig Mink Ranch in Howard Lake, Minn. as part of an Independence Day action, coinsiding with a similar raid on another fur farm in Vancouver, Canada. This is the 12th mink release in the last 10 months -- 5 in the past month -- at U.S. and Canadian mink farms. More than 11,000 animals have been freed in actions at fur farms in Canada, Washington, Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York, Tennessee and Utah.

JULY 4/96: Nashville, TN - A.L.F. found that J. Jacklyn Furs was still closed for renovations after an arson attack in early Febuary. The group went ahead and glued the locks and painted slogans anyway. The the Fur Vault in Nashville was hit. All accessible windows were smashed, locks glued and the front of the building and their sign was spraypainted. A.L.F.

JULY 4/96: Memphis, TN - 2 windows shot at with CO2 powered pellet gun. A.L.F.

JULY 4/96: Pleasant View, TN - The A.L.F. visit Mack Ellis Fox Farm in hopes of raiding it for the 3rd time in as many years. The group discovered that the second raid (Nov 95) had put the fur farmer out of business. **VICTORY!** A.L.F.

JULY 15/96: Memphis, TN - Motes Furs and Dixie Meats paint bombed and slogans painted including "A.L.F. IS WATCHING YOU" and "MEAT IS MURDER" A.L.F.

JULY 20/96: Memphis, TN - A.L.F. attempted to burn 8 trailers at Goldsmith's Dept store as retribution for their continued sale of fur. Lots of slogans painted and a fire was started. Police arrived immediately and put the fire out. Some damage done, and a strong message was sent: THIS IS WAR! A.L.F.

JULY 17/96: South Jordan, UT - 3000 mink libereated from Holt Mink Ranch. The communique read:

In the early morning of July 17 well over 1000 mink were released from their prisons into the wild where they belong. (Holt Mink Ranch at 10291 South 1230 West South Jordan, UT 84065) The fur farmers are scared. They are all stepping up security. Mr. Holt had just installed a new fence and used wire to lock each and every cage; but as you can see this proved to be useless. This new fence was simply cut down and rolled up leaving the animals plenty of room to escape. The locks were cut or ripped open, causing plenty of damage to the cages. What Mr. Holt did not or does not understand is that nothing will stop us. Original plans were to open every cage, but a cop arriving on the scene forced us to leave. Breeder cards were also destroyed. Once again, more actions are coming. The time is now for animal liberation. A.L.F. till next time.

LATE JULY/96: Boston, MA - A sign advertising "Fresh Killed Poultry" was smashed. A.L.F.

AUGUST 2/96: Boston, MA - Macy's dept. store (sells fur) had a window smashed out. A.L.F.

AUGUST 4/96: Syracuse, NY - The Skanaetlas Fur Exchange was trashed. The store front was covered in red paint, large windows were smashed to pieces, a full length fur on display was destroyed as was a glass chandalier, and the interior of the store was paint bombed. A.L.F. was painted on the sidewalk. The Syracuse A.L.F. announced in the same release that a hit on Mustards Hot Dogs from a few months ago put the place out of business. A.L.F.

AUGUST 5/96: Memphis, TN - American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, which is an industry front group, had 5 windows smashed, the door shot out, slogans painted and the locks glued. A.L.F.

AUGUST 5/96: Memphis, TN - Nancy Kelso, the head manager at Goldsmith's department store had her home targeted. Both of her cars were totally covered in paint stripper. A.L.F.

VICTORY!: A shop in Salt Lake City has stopped selling fur as a result of an A.L.F. campaign against them. A sign appeared in their window which says: "We no longer sell fur or fur products on these premises." Congratulations go out to Salt Lake City A.L.F.!

AUGUST 9/96: Hinsdale, MA - thousands of mink were liberated from a fur ranch near here, according to a communique released by the A.L.F.. This is the first ever raid in Massachusetts by the A.L.F. The Carmel Mink Ranch, off Rt. 143 in Hinsdale, was reportedly attacked by the A.L.F. in the early morning of Aug 9 according to the communique. *"Most cages were opened .. and [we] painted A.L.F. on the shed."* A.L.F.

AUGUST 12/96: Alliance, OH - A.L.F. liberated 2500 mink from Justice Jorney's Fur Ranch in Alliance, Ohio.

"As the cages were ripped open we were amazed at how quietly and patiently each mink waited for its turn to be liberated. They felt mud beneath their feet for the first time and splashed playfully through the rain puddles.

As we skulked our way through the corn and saw the ranch for the first time, one word jumped into all of our minds ... Auschweitz. The mink were crammed five to a cage with no apparent source of food or water.

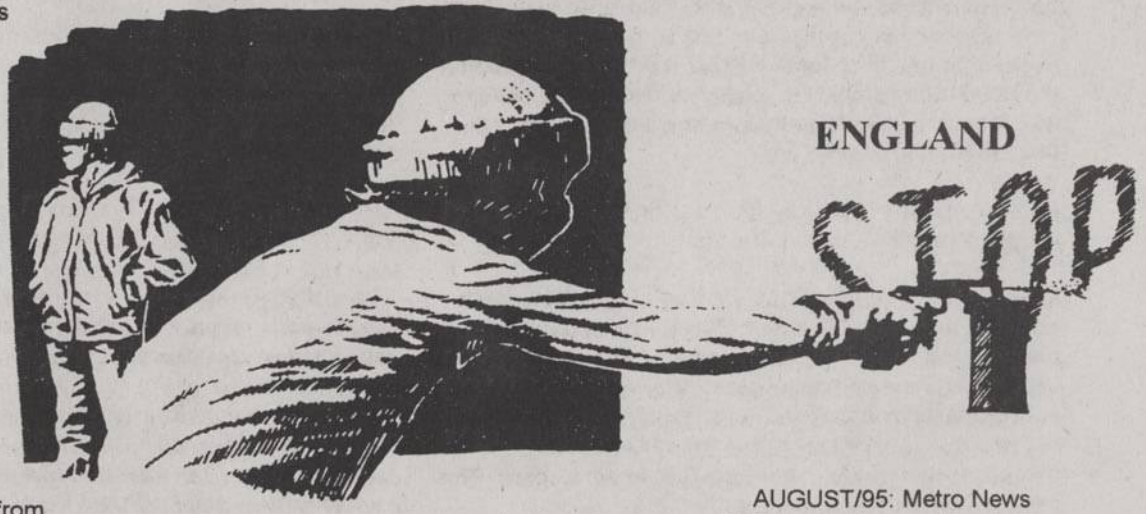
We refused to allow the barbaric imprisonment and murder of innocent creatures for the vanity of selfish humans. As long as there are animals suffering at the hands of humans, there will be the A.L.F."

AUGUST 16/96: Boston, MA - The home of furrier Arnold Rosenkrantz was paint bombed. The newspaper ran a photo of his house with paint all over it after the A.L.F. called in the hit. Rosenkrantz was the target of a CAFT demo several months ago. The media mistakenly referred to him as retired. Though he closed his own storefront, he merged his company with another furrier and still works full time with fur. A.L.F.

AUGUST 16/96: Washington Crossing, PA - Kudra Furs received the normal treatment (smashed windows, glued locks, painted slogans, etc) A.L.F.

TO ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT SUPPORT GROUP

On the night prior to the "Fur Fashion Week" activities in New York, A.L.F. members were busy causing a small mess in downtown Manhattan. Two locations were targeted. One was a future fur salon which is actually attempting to open its bloody doors in Greenwich Village, the "bohemian" heart of Manhattan, albeit a very touristy heart. The second was a steakhouse in soho hosting a dinner party for furriers the next evening as part of "Fur Fashion Week." Both locations had their locks super-glued, were thoroughly splattered with paint, and had many animal lib. slogans wheatpasted to their outer walls. As expected, the restaurant was quickly cleaned, but the soon-to-open fur salon was a mess for 24 hours. Security was beefed up for the dinner party. total dage costs unknown.



AUGUST/95: Metro News reports "there is a strong A.L.F. network operating in the North West" of England.

DECEMBER/95: Sussex - Hunt sabs visit Chiddingfold Hunt Kennels. A window was smashed and photographs taken of the appalling conditions inside the kennels.

DECEMBER/95: Sussex - 'The Swan' pub in Chichester is bomb hoaxed twice on New Years Eve. The Swan was host to the Chiddingfold Foxhunt Boxing Day celebrations.

[The Chiddingfold Foxhunt is close to ceasing hunting activity on Saturdays due to a continual sab presence and a spate of A.L.F. and Hunt Retribution Squad actions. Local sabs were told by a reliable source that if the hunt continues to be targeted the hunt would have to stop all weekend hunts.]

JANUARY/96: Surrey - five masked animal libbers assault Christopher and Virginia Elliott, blood-junkies with the Surrey Union Foxhunt. One person was arrested.

JAN/96: Buckinghamshire - A.L.F. warn that a number of "Sunday Roasts" on sale in Tescos, Saindburys, Safeway, Asda and Waitrose have been contaminated.

JAN/96: Sussex - Five butchers in Brighton have their walls painted and windows smashed.

JAN/96: Sussex - The bognor branch of Boots is bomb hoaxed.

JAN/96: Sussex - Hunt Retribution Squad (HRS) smash the window of a Crawley & Horsham blood-junkie. the blood-junkie was inside the vehicle at the time of the attack.

JAN/96: Surrey - Hund Retribution Squad attack Christopher and Virginia Elliot, blood-junkies with the Surrey Union Foxhunt. One person arrested.

JAN/96: Yorkshire - HRS attack blood-junkie scum.

FEB/96: Dorset - Around 70 sabs manage to prevent any kills in a mass action against Cattistock Foxhunt. Also hunt supporters discovered the back of their jackets were covered in horse-shit.

FEB/96: Shropshire - At the end of a good days sabbing of the South Shropshire Hunt, the sabs decided to take away with them a couple of hounds. Sadly, the police made them return the dogs.

FEB/96: Sussex - Large plate glass window of a cancer research shop in Brighton was smashed.

FEB/96: Wiltshire - over 100 sabs and HRS activists attended the Beufort FH hunt. Whilst the sabs did their bit, the Hunt Retribution Squad attacked hunt supporter's vehicles and assaulted blood-junkies. At one point over 20 HRS activists all attacked the same Land Rover! Because of the action, two blood-junkies were hospitalised that day with many more receiving lessor injuries. Over 20 vehicles needed new windows, headlights, etc.

MARCH/96: Argos is warned to withdraw fishing tackle from their catalogues or else their stores will be bombed.

MARCH/96: Avon - JD posts a razorblade to the Countryside Movement.

MARCH/96: Avon - Bristol port is bomb hoaxed and sloganised after it puts in a bid to transport live animals.

MARCH/96: Gloucestershire - 40 animal libbers visit the home of Gordon Gilder (live animal exporter) and repaint his walls, free of charge.

MARCH/96: Hampshire - JD post razorblades to Paddy Edwards (Wickham Labs), Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber (wants to start up an ostrich farm), Prof. D. Walker (vivisector), Simon Day (Torbay Farm) Chris Bishop (Wickham Labs) and Joan Cartmell.

MARCH/96: Kent - JD send out two razorblades to animal abusers.

MARCH/96: Lancashire - 15 armed men trash Pedigree Pups shop in Tarleton.

MARCH/96: London - Notorious blood-junkie Charly Windsor, Prince of Wales, receives a Justice Dept. bomb threat.

MARCH/96: London- JD post razorblades to the British Field Sports Society (hunters), J. Cole (chicken murderer), The Research Defence Society (Pro-vivisection), British Fur Trade Assoc., Fur Education Council and the Ivy pub (serves ostrich meat).

MARCH/96: London - Activists spray LEAVE THOSE OSTRICHES ALONE ANDREW on the walls of Andrew Lloyd Webbers "The Really Useful Group Ltd" building. Action to protest Webbers decision to become an ostrich farmer.

MARCH/96: Hampshire - HRS attack New Forest Fox Hounds blood- junkies. Also two vehicles trashed. Five arrested.

MARCH/96: Norfolk - McDonald's in Norwich bomb hoaxed.

MARCH/96: Nottingham - JD post a razorblade to the Ostrich Farming Corporation.

MARCH/96: THE SOUTH - Various prominent blood-junkies are sent obscene, threatening poems.

MARCH/96: Sainsbury's is warned to stop selling all blood-sports magazines in all their supermarkets or else the stores will be firebombed.

MARCH/96: Seal - Butcher Chris Martin has bullets fired through his shop window. The local paper suggests the action may have been taken by an armed posse of turkeys who previously escaped from the shop!

MARCH/96: Sussex - a news agents in Lancing is warned to stop selling "Petersens Hunting Annual" by April 5th or they will be subjected to ever increasing damage attacks, starting with smashed windows and glued locks, but if they continue to sell the mag, then arson.

MARCH/96: Sussex - the home of Avril Warren-Williams is covered in red paint, after she orders a vet to kill a

perfectly healthy horse.

MARCH/96: Sussex - at least ten empty trucks used in live animal exports have their windows smashed durring a demo at Dover.

MARCH/96: Sussex - Window shashed at chiddingfold hunt kennels. Also the hunt ball was disrupted by sabs.

MARCH/96: West Midlands - Over 100 demonstrators attended the annual Horse and Hound Ball, held in Birmingham. The private security firm hired to protect the blood-junkies couldn't cope with the sheer numbers of sabs and gave up, letting the demonstrators run freely through the car park. Several vehicles were damaged. The Blood-junkies were also flour-bombed.

MARCH/96: THE SOUTH - The Justice Department soak eggs in urine and then leave them on the shelves of supermarkets. The J.D. also posted 18 razor-blades, allegedly smeared in HIV infected blood to vivisectors.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

On July 30 1996 100 (One hundred) letters booby trapped with razor blades were sent to the enclosed list of scum. A slip of paper explaining why they had been targetted was enclosed with the booby trapped letter.

COSTAIN, COSTAIN HOUSE, NICHOLSON WALK, MAIDENHEAD, SL6 1LN
COSTAIN GROUP PLC, HEAD OFFICE, 111 WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON SE1 7UE
COSTAIN (CONSTRUCTION DIVISION), 6-8 PHOENIX CHAMBERS, MARKET BUILDINGS, MAIDSTONE, KENT ME14 1HP
DAVID RENDEL MP, HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON SW1A OAA (SUPPORTS NEWBURY BYPASS)
McDONALDS RESTAURANTS, 11-59 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, LONDON N2 8AW
THE MD, BURGER KING LTD, 20 KEW ROAD, RICHMOND, SURREY TW9 2NA
A.ENGEL (MD), KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN, COLONEL SANDERS HOUSE, 88-97 HIGH ST BRENTFORD, MIDDX TW8 8BG
STONEGATE FARMERS LTD, 15 NORTH ST, HAILSHAM, EAST SUSSEX BN27 1DH
D.WATTS (MD), THAMES VALLEY EGGS LTD, MEMBURY, NEWBURY RG16 7TX
CHITTY GROUP, UNIT 1, SLYFIELD IND ESTATE, GUILDFORD (ABBATOIR)
M. YATES LIVESTOCK TRANSPORT, FRIDAY THORPE, HUMBERSIDE
RICHARD OATLEY, NEW LODGE, SUDBOROUGH, KETTERING NN14 3AU (LIVE EXPORTER)
MR C SMALES, SMALES LTD, WEST DOCK STREET, HULL HU3 4HL (FAROESE FISH)
PETER BRYNE, 53a MOSTYN AVE, WEMBLEY, LONDON (SLAUGHTERMAN)
J COLE POULTERERS, 10b LEYDEN ST, LONDON E1 7LE
SHAFTESBURY LIVESTOCK MARKET, CHRISTYS LANE, SHAFTESBURY, DORSET
SALISBURY LIVESTOCK MARKET, ASHLEY RD, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE SP2 7TH
SIR ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER, SYDMONTON COURT ESTATE, ECCHINSWELL, HAMPSHIRE
REALLY USEFUL GROUP LTD, 19 TOWER ST, LONDON WC2 (WEBBERS COMPANY)
TESCO STORES LTD, TESCO HOUSE, DELAMARE RD, CHESHUNT, HERTS EN8 9SL (SENT TO J GILDERSLEEVE, GROUP BUYING DIRECTOR) (SELLS OSTRICH)
NATIONAL FED OF MEAT TRADERS, 1 BELGROVE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT TN1 1YW
LONDON FISH & POULTRY RETAILERS ASSOC, 66 ABERDOUR RD, GOODMAYES, ESSEX IG33PG
THE MD, WORLD OF LEATHER PLC, NORTH CIRCULAR RD, LONDON NW10 7SX
LEAVE COUNTRY SPORTS ALONE, PO BOX 4402, HENLEY ON THAMES, OXON
COUNTRYSIDE MOVEMENT, FREEPOST, ROOM GUA3, BRISTOL BS38 7HL
COUNTRYSIDE BUSINESS GROUP, 32 BRENTON ST, LONDON W1X 8JS
KNIGHTS, REGENCY HOUSE, 25 HIGH ST, TUNBRIDGE, KENT (BLOODSPORT SOLICITORS)
BFSS, 59 KENNINGTON RD, LONDON SE1 5BR
BASC, MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, CLYWD LL12 OHL
THE FIELD, KINGS REACH TOWER, STAMFORD ST, LONDON SE1 9LS (HUNTING RAG)
CLIVE ASLETT, EDITOR, COUNTRY LIFE, address as above, (PRO HUNT RAG)
STEVEN LOVERIDGE, ARKWRIGHT RD, LONDON NW3 (HOME ADDRESS OF HUNT RAG EDITOR)
ROXTON BAILEY ROBINSON, FIELD SPORTS & SAFARIS, 25 HIGH ST, HUNGERFORD, BERKSHIRE RG17 ONF
FOX & HOUNDS, EGGESFORD HOUSE HOTEL, EGGESFORD, MID DEVON EX18 7JZ
THE TREASURER, MUSEUM OF HUNTING TRUST, THE ROWANS, COLLEGE ST, LEICESTER LE2
COUNTRYSIDE AUDIO & VISUAL, PO BOX 7206, TADLEY, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS RG26 5YR (SELLS HUNTING VIDEOS)
BAILYS, CHESTERTON MILL, FRENCH'S RD, CAMBRIDGE, CB4 3NP (HUNT DIRECTORY)
HOBSBURN HOUSE, HOBSBURN, BONCHESTER BRIDGE, ROXBURGHSHIRE (HUNT HOTEL)
PATEY (LONDON) LTD, 1 AMELIA ST, LONDON SE17 3PY (HUNT CO.)
COUNTRY LANDOWNERS ASSOC, 16 BELGRAVE SQUARE, LONDON SW1X 8PQ
HOUNDS MAGAZINE, ROSE COTTAGE, HUGHLEY, SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE
FIELD SPORT PUBLICATIONS LTD, 48 QUEEN ST, EXETER, DEVON EX4 3SR
FARLOW'S, 5 PALL MALL, LONDON SW1 (SHOOTING SHOP)
DAVID BARNES, 1-3 DOGS HEAD ST, IPSWICH IP4 1AF (HUNT SOLICITORS)
KEVIN COKER, ROUGHAY FARM, COLDEN COMMON, HANTS (HUNT TERRIERMAN)
Mrs D OWEN, THE OLD RECTORY, TEIGH, OAKHAM, LEICS LE15 7RT (HUNTER)
Mr P HILL-WALKER, MAUNBY HALL, MAUNBY, THIRSK, N YORKS YO7 4HA (HUNTER)

This list continues on the second sheet enclosed...

MARCH 16/96: London - One of London's top furriers, Michael Hockley of the Philip Hockley fur shop in central London, has resigned from his job as manager due to pressure from animal rights activists who visited his shop and home during a day of action against fur. A letter from Michael Hockley's solicitors, Davenport Lyons, was hand-delivered to the office of London Animal Action. It stated:

"Dear Sirs,
Our client, Michael Hockley, has instructed us to inform you that having given consideration to the overall position, your campaign and your recent activities have left him with no alternative but to resign his position as manager of Philip Hockley, No 20 Conduit Street, W1 and to give up any connections and interests whatsoever in and with the fur industry.

You should know that although our client is the manager of Philip Hockley of Conduit Street, he and his family have no beneficial interests of any nature or sort in the firm, he being merely an employee.

Mr J SNOWBALL, NEW HOUSE, NURSERY FARM, RICHMOND, N YORKS DL10 6ER (HUNTER)
Mr J FURNESS, KNOWLE HOUSE, KIRKBY, THIRSK, N YORKS (HUNTER)

WH SMITH, STRAND HOUSE, 7 HOLBEIN PL, LONDON SW1W 8NR (MAJOR HUNT RAG STOCKIST)
PETER HUMPHRYS, ASHTON MANOR, ASHTON, BISHOPS WALTHAM, HANTS (HUNTER)
ARTHUR CARTER, BARTON GATE, PANCRASWEEK, HOLSWORTHY, DEVON (WATERLOO CUP)
IAN HODGE, PENGELLY, WADEBRIDGE, CORNWALL PL27 7LA (HUNT FANATIC)
RW BIRD, PASTON RIDINGS, PETERBOROUGH PE4 7UY (HUNTER)
Dr J PECK, BILBOA HOUSE, DOLVERTON, SOMERSET TA22 9DW (HUNTER)
A HART, PARSLOES COTTAGE, BAGENDON, CIRENCESTER, GL7 7DU (HUNTER)
SIR DAVID STEEL MP, HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON (PRO HUNT MP)
BULLET PUBLISHING LTD, PO BOX 1383, WINDSOR SL4 3LG (HUNT PUBLISHERS)
ACEVILLE PUB. LTD, 89 EAST HILL, COLCHESTER, ESSEX CO1 2QN (HUNT PUBLISHERS)
RAVENHILL PUB. Co LTD, STANDARD HOUSE, BONHILL ST, LONDON EC2A 4DA (HUNT PUB.)
ST MARTINS PUBLISHING, PO BOX 4041, LONDON W9 OZH (HUNT PUBLISHERS)
G MOWBRAY LTD, 21 BRIGHTON RD, CROYDON CR2 6UL (HUNT PUB.)
EMAP PURSUIT PUB. LTD, BRETTON COURT, BRETTON, PETERBOROUGH, CAMBS PE3 8DZ
COUNTRYWIDE PERIODICAL PUB. LTD, YELVERTON, DEVON, PL20 7PE
HARMSWORTH ACTIVE, ASTLEY HOUSE, 33 NOTTINGHILL, LONDON W11 3JQ (HUNT PUB.)
BPG (BOURNE) LTD, 2 WEST ST, BOURNE, LINCS, PE10 9NE
CLIFFORD SMARTS ANGLING HOLIDAYS, 29 BRIDLE RD, BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS, NN15 5QP
KINGS ANGLING HOLIDAYS, 27 MINSTER WAY, HORNCHURCH, ESSEX RM11 3TH
ANGLERS WORLD HOLIDAYS, 46 KNIFESMITHGATE, CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE S40 1RG
ANGLERS ABROAD, 14 HIGH ST, WOMBWELL, BARNSLEY S73 0AA
CAST AWAY, IRISH ANGLING HOLIDAYS, IRISH TRAVEL BUREAU, 1 MARSLAND RD, SALE MOOR, MANCHESTER M33 3HP
ARTHUR OGLESBY, 9 OATLANDS DRIVE, HARROWGATE HG2 8JT
THE SALMON & TROUT ASSOC, FISHMONGERS HALL, LONDON BRIDGE, LONDON EC4R 9EL
POLAR FURS LTD, BELLSIDE HOUSE, 4 ELTHORPE RD, LONDON N19 4AG
EKER FURS LTD, 19-29 REDCHURCH ST, LONDON E2 7DJ
M MICHAELS LTD, 38 TRIANGLE WEST, BRISTOL BS8 1ER (FUR SHOP)
PARISIAN TAILOR LTD, 29 HULME ST, SOUTHPORT, MERSEYSIDE PR8 1PQ (FUR SHOP)
Dr K ALEXANDER, DIRECTOR, THE LEATHER TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, LEATHER TRADE HOUSE, KINGS PARK RD, MOULTON PARK, NORTHAMPTON NN3 1JD
FUR EDUCATION COUNCIL, PO BOX 1EW, LONDON W1A 1EW
THE RESEARCH DEFENCE SOCIETY, 58 GREAT MARLBOROUGH ST, LONDON W1
SCHUCO INT, LYNDHURST AVE, LONDON N12 ONE (VIV EQUIPMENT MAKER)
ANDREW JAMES REDPATH, 79 ELMS RD, LONDON SW4 9EP (GILLETTE DIRECTOR UK)
DR A LANSDOWN, DEPT OF COMPARATIVE BIOLOGY, CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL, FULHAM PALACE RD, LONDON W6 (VIV)
INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY, THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL, QUEEN SQUARE, LONDON WC1
DEPT OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY, WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL, HORSEFERRY RD, LONDON SW1
PADDY EDWARDS, 13 TANFIELD PARK, WICKHAM, HANTS
WILLIAM CARTMELL, BINGHAMS, MISLINGFORD RD, WICKHAM, HANTS
SIMON DAY, TORBAY FARM, SCIEVERS LANE, LOWER UPHAM, HANTS
CHRIS BISHOP, BLAGDEN FARM, CLANFIELD, HANTS
DON BARRET, WYETH LABS, HUNTERCOOMBE LANE, TAPLOW, MAIDENHEAD SL6 OPH
JUDY McARTHUR-CLARK, 12 AYNSLEY COURT, SANDWICH, KENT (VIV)
DAVID WALKER, OLD HAWTHORN FARM, HAWTHORN LANE, FOUR MARKS, HANTS
Dr D BARRY, GROUP DIRECTOR OF R & D AND MEDICAL AFFAIRS, WELLCOME PLC, PO BOX 129, UNICORN HOUSE, LONDON NW1 2BP
THE DIRECTOR, ICRF, PO BOX 123, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON WC2A 3PX
THE DIRECTOR, CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN, 10 CAMBRIDGE TERRACE, LONDON NW1 4JL
THE DIRECTOR, BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION, 14 FITZHARDINGE ST, LONDON W1H 4DH
JASON AMESBURY, 32 ELDER ST, LONDON E1 (SELLS SHARKSKIN SHOES)
MISS ALICE MARY PASCOE, 995 GREENFORD RD, GREENFORD, MIDDX UB6 ONN (VIV)
PP TRAVEL, 16 HAMILTON RD, LONDON NW10 1NY (BULLFIGHTING TRAVEL AGENTS)
THE BACKPACKER Co, 2 ADELAIDE GROVE, LONDON W12 0JJ (as above)

and as if we would forget;
JEREMY PHILLIPS, LWTP, LONDON TELEVISION CENTRE, UPPER GROUND, LONDON SE1 9LT

Yours faithfully,
Davenport Lyons"

The Daily Telegraph reported that his wife's car had been sprayed with paint a few weeks previously, and it could have been this coupled with the home demo which made him decide to resign.

APRIL/96: Petworth, Sussex - A.L.F. liberate 9 hounds from Chiddingfold hunt kennels. Sadly, two arrests.

APRIL/96: Barlavington, Sussex - A.L.F. liberate two birds imprisoned by blood-junkie games keeper. Cages were trashed.

APRIL/96: Sunderland - A.L.F. warn chemists to stop stocking products tested on animals.

APRIL/96: THE SOUTH - The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) damages the inside pages of shooting magazines on sale in W.H. Smiths.

APRIL 28/96: Avon - A.L.F. activists liberated 21 hens from a battery unit at School Time Eggs, Myrtle Farm, Syston. All hens were in extremely poor condition - all were pecked bare, all had foot sores, some had foot deformities. However, now all the liberated hens are in safe, loving homes and able to live out normal lives without abuse.

MAY/96: Barkingside, Essex - A.L.F. glue and spraypaint a Butchers.

MAY/96: Seven Kings, Essex - A.L.F. brick Halal butcher's window.

MAY/96: Lancaster - Animal Rights Militia (ARM) torch Rentokill van.

MAY/96: London - A.L.F. smash a butchers window in Hackney.

MAY/96: Sussex - Animal Libbers bomb hoax Hastings Council to protest tree cutting. The loss of habitat inevitably leads to animal suffering.

JUNE/96: Liverpool - McDonald's restaurant is sloganized, locks were glued and paint splashed on walls.

JUNE/96: Liverpool - Boot Chemist shop on Smithdown Road was hit with the slogan VIVISECTORS and all

windows were broken, two nights running.

JUNE/96: Liverpool - Several shops on Lark Lane were hit by busy activists, including L'Allouette, a restaurant that sells veal had its windows smashed. As a result, veal has been pulled from the menu! Other actions were taken against a betting shop and a fish shop, where windows were smashed out.

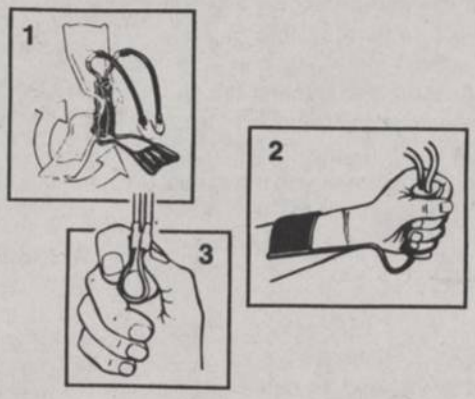
JUNE/96: Kent - Incendiary devices discovered on a railway line. Police believe they may have been left by anti-live export activists.

JUNE/96: Liverpool - A.L.F. glue and paint a McDonald's. Slogans are painted and windows are smashed at the Boots Chemist on Smithdown Rd two nights in a row. Also smashed were the windows of L'Allouette, a reasturant that sells veal (the veal was shortly after deleted from the menu!). Also, a betting shop and a fish shop in Lark Lane both had their windows smashed.

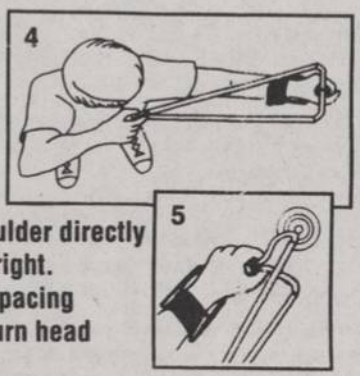
JUNE 24/96: Cambridgeshire - Firebomb attacks hit cattle trucks in the yard of a cattle hauliers In Cambridgeshire. Michael Speechley, 42, arrived at his yard at Dry Drayton, Cambs, at night to find two of his five lorries ablaze. He moved another truck out of the way and only later found that an incendiary device had been placed on top of the front off-side wheel. It failed to explode.

JUNE 24/96: Minsterworth, Glocestershire - two lorries and a barn were destroyed by incendiary devices in H Lyes and Son's abattoir yard. Damage was estimated $300,000. The owner said police found three petrol bombs - two of which failed to go off. Army bomb disposal experts made safe one device which was being examined by police.

JUNE 28/96: Avon - A.L.F. activists return and liberated 50 hens from a battery unit at School Time Eggs, Myrtle Farm, Syston. From the Press Release: *"50 hens were liberated from a life times incarceration in the barbaric and outdated "battery hen" system. All hens removed were of an appauling condition, showing the common signs of suffring these birds endure. Many were severely defeathered, de-beaked, had ulcerated feet and showed signs of injuries due to fights which break out due to the stress of never being able to walk, spead their wings, with five birds in each individual cage ... This is at least the fourth time this "farm" has been raided by the A.L.F. ... in the last two years over 200 chickens have been given a life far removed from what School Time Eggs had planned for them!"*



3. *Loading:* Center ammo in the middle of the pouch, pinching the ends of the pouch over the ammo, using thumb an index finger.

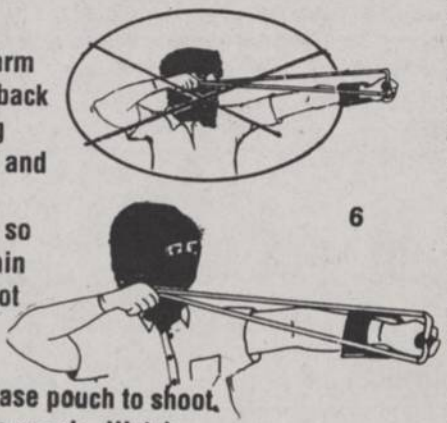


4. *Stance:* Point your left foot and shoulder directly at the target, while turning body to the right. Distribute weight evenly on both feet, spacing approximately shoulder width apart. Turn head directly towards target.

5. *Aiming:* Hold slingshot handle parallel to the ground. Use top prong of yoke as aiming reference. Move yoke up or down, adjusting for distance.

6. *Drawing Bands Back:* Hold left arm straight and firm. Draw right hand back level with right side of chin, holding ammo pouch firmly between thumb and index finger.

***Accuracy Tip:* Always pull ammo so that bands are not twisted and remain level, centered between the slingshot yoke.**



7. *Firing and Follow Through:* Release pouch to shoot. Hold position until ammo has left the pouch. Watch where ammo has left the pouch. Watch where shot hits and adjust aim for next shot.

JULY/96: Liverpool - For the Earth Liberation Front's (ELF) "Animal's Revenge" Earth Nights BONA PETS on Bold St. was paint attacked. Also, a slogan was written on the pavement outside the shop, a big mirror was smashed and flyers circulated calling for a boycott of the shop. Elsewhere in

Liverpool for Earth Night an aquarium, a veal restaurant, a butchers and a betting shop all had their locks glued.

JULY 26/96 Bristol - 2 explosive devices were placed in high Street shops, including the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (vivisectors) and British Home Stores. Unfortunately an arrest was made, and the activist reportedly had four more devices on his person. According to papers, the 44-year-old man had four explosive devices strapped to his body when captured by officers in a struggle in Halfords store in Bristol's central Broadmead shopping centre. It is understood they had tracked the suspect from the west Midlands and followed him into stores where devices were planted.

Newspaper reports describe the incendiary devices. They were "all of similar construction, involving a 20-pack of Superking cigarettes attached to small white-taped packages, one of which incorporated a watch as an apparent timing device.Wires connected the cigarette packet to two white-taped smaller packages. The wires were attached in every case with similar blue tape."

What, like the diagram on page 14?

AUGUST/96: A.L.F. PRESS RELEASE
"Enclosed is a letter sent to Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber at his home address on August 1, 1996.

To Andrew Lloyd Webber, Ostrich Killer.

the Animal Liberation Front is FUMING MAD at you, you lowlife animal abusing wretch. What the fuck have ostriches ever done to you? From now on it's full scale war. Theatres playing your musicals will be targetted with incediary devices and other packages. Windows will be smashed, record shops selling your soundtracks will be targetted and we will leave them in do doubt as to WHY they were targetted. The A.L.F. is going to break you just like we did the entire fur trade. We HATE scum like you.

Final warning. A group called the JUSTICE DEPARTMENT have been known to plant car bombs and mail out high explosive parcel bombs to animal abusers like you. So unless you want your hands blown off we suggest you stop your little exercise in ostrich murder and LEAVE THEM WELL ALONE.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!!!"

WALES

MARCH/95: Clywd - JD post a razorblade to the British Assoc. for Shooting and Conservation.

MAY/95: Police confirm that a number of A.L.F. actions take place in Wales every month.

NORTHERN IRELAND

FEBRUARY/96: Belfast - Several butchers loose their windows. Also, Ian Buchanan, the Master of the Co.Down Staghounds had a rock thrown through his fron window late one night. Letters of "sympathy" to Ian Buchanan, 21 Fort Rd, Drumbo, Belfast, N. Ireland. Tel: 01232 826795.

GREECE

FEBRUARY/96: Athens - Arson attack against a McDonald's in Sytagma Square. Sadly, one arrest.

HOLLAND

NOVEMBER/95: Amsterdam - A.L.F. hit several meat trucks. Tires are slashed.

NOVEMBER/95: Groninger - A.L.F. target meat trucks. Tires slashed.

DECEMBER/95: Oostzaan - Animal Justice Front (A.J.F.) arson attack on a meat truck.

JANUARY/96: Castricum - A.J.F. arson attack on meat truck and meat processing plant.

FEBUARY/96: Halfweg - A.J.F. arson attack against Hot Dog King truck. Elsewhere the A.J.F. painted anti-meat slogans on a training school for butchers.

MARCH/96: Amstelveen - A.J.F. arson attack on several meat trucks.

MARCH/96: Den Helder - A.J.F. arson attack against a butchery, slaughterhouse and meat truck.

MARCH/96: Hilversum - A.J.F. arson attack on meat trucks.

MARCH/96: Rotterdam - A.J.F. arson attack on meat trucks and a meat company building, causing hundreds of thousands of guilders worth of damage.

GERMANY

MAY/95: Selm - Animal libbers torch poultry breeders. Over $2,000,000 damage!

JULY/95: Anton Pohlmann - Animal libbers torch another poultry breeders with resulting damage reaching as high as $17,000,000!

Date unknown, (OCT?): Westerheim - activists from Germany and Switzerland worked together to destroy a slaughterhouse. $60,000 damage done, but sadly, five people arrested, all from Switzerland.

JUNE 25/96: Offenbach (Hesse) - the Anti-Jager Front (Anti-Hunter Front) destroyed over 23 hunting towers in the forests near Offenbach/ A flyer was left on each tower : "Wie die Dinge liegen, liegen sie richtig - ANTI-JAGER FRONT" ("How these things lay, they lay right - ANTI-HUNTER FRONT")

NORWAY

MARCH/96: Oslo, Dyrenes Frigjorings Front (DFF) smashed 28 windows, threw in a stink bomb, glued the locks, spraypainted slogans and paint attacked the Norweigan Fur Animal Breeders Assoc. 300,000 NOK damage. This was the second time this building was targeted.

MARCH/96: Tonsberg - DDF smashed windows, glued locks and painted slogans at Pels atelier Knut Poverud (furrier). After smashing the windows a paintbomb was thrown in, wrecking 60,000 NOK worth of fur.

MAY 3/96: Sennesvik - An attempt to sink a Norwegian whaling vessel took place. Water was allowed to flow into the engine room when activists tampered with a pipe. The whaling vessel was in the port of Sennesvik by Mortsund when the sabotage took place. One of the owners discovered the damage friday morning. If it had passed unnoticed, the vessel would probably have sunk, according to the police at the Lofoten and Vester-len PD.

FINLAND

JANUARY/96: Helsinki - Elainten Vapautus Rintama (E.V.R. -- the Finnish A.L.F.) spraypaint a butchers, smash the windows of Tuagany fur store, similar treatment given to two other furriers. A bloodsports shop had its windows smashed and "HUNT SCUM" and "BLOODSPORTS" slogans painted. E.V.R.

JANUARY/96: Tampere - E.V.R. smash two windows at a furriers.

FEBRUARY/96: Helsinki - Several meat ads vandalized. The furrier Taganay is attacked twice. First time they lost a window, the second time "WORST NIGHTMARE" slogan was painted over the new window. Similar treatment dealt to Valtonen fur shop. A bloodsports shop was hit and painted with "HUNTING IS MURDER." "McHUNGER" was painted on a McDonald's and the furrier Saukko lost three windows. E.V.R.

MARCH/96: Helsinki - E.V.R. vandalize several furriers and bloodsports shops.

MARCH/96: Lappeenranta - E.V.R. smash a fur store window.

MARCH/96: Oulu - E.V.R. hit a McDonald's, smashing a window.

APRIL/96: Helsinki - E.V.R. hit several furriers and bloodsport shops.

APRIL/96: Jyvaskyla - A fur shop loses a window. E.V.R.

APRIL 5/96: Lappeenrata - E.V.R. attacked McDonald's - two windows smashed and slogans painted to nearest tunnel. E.V.R.

MAY/96: Helsinki - E.V.R. hit a circus and several furriers and bloodsport stores with slogans.

MAY/96: Kauniainen - E.V.R. hits a McDonald's.

MAY/96: Lahti - E.V.R. put cancelled stickers on advertisments for an animal circus.

MAY 20/96: Helsinki - Anti-fur protesters clashed with police Monday outside one of Finland's largest fur auctions. Police detained about two dozen of the 100 demonstrators after they tried to force their way into the auction grounds in Vantaa, 12 miles north of Helsinki, the capital.

MAY 31/96: Lappeenranta - E.V.R. in action: Meat truck vandalized, windows smashed, locks glued and slogans painted. A fur store gets its locks glued. McDonald's tunnel receives more anti-McDonald's slogans. E.V.R.
JUNE/96: Imatra - A McDonald's window smashed a few weeks before opening.

JUNE/96: Espoo - E.V.R. glue locks and sloganise a furrier.

JUNE/96: Helsinki - Two McDonald's get their windows smashed out. Also, numerous meat ads have "GO VEGAN!" spraypainted on them.

AUGUST 6/96: Imatra - E.V.R. gets very angry with a new McDonald's, and painted all over the building over 15 slogans, including "THERE IS NO PEACE BEFORE JUSTICE," "McTORTURE," "WE'LL BE BACK," and "E.V.R.." Six locks glued and painted. Security number system was glued and painted. Doorbell glued and painted. Building next to McDonald's (owned by McD.) also received attention: Slogans painted all over and 2 locks glued. Some McD's signs painted. E.V.R.

AUGUST 8/96: Lappenranta - McDonald's was targeted. Three windows smashed and "ELF" [Earth Liberation Front] painted on the walls. ELF

AUGUST 11/96: Lappeenranta - 2 fur stores hit, locks were glued. E.V.R.

AUGUST 12/96: Lappeenranta - McMurder gets 5 windows smashed out. ELF

SLOVAKIA

JAN/96: Bratislava - A.L.F. target Liska (fur trade company) stealing their postbox, advertisement board and some rings. A Liska shop also had slogans painted and its locks glued. Similar treatment was given to several other fur shops. Two billboards belonging to HYKO (turkey farmers) were destroyed. Four butchers had their walls painted and slogans painted.

FEB/96: Bratislava - A.L.F. destroy a hunting platform, glue and paint six furriers. Also destroyed were two HYKO and a zoo billboard. Locks were glued at the Atrakt (fur trade) building.

SWEDEN

APRIL 7/96: An egg factory was attacked by arsonists in Umea. As well as torching the building the activists wrote on a metal door HAPPY EASTER YOU BLOODY MURDERERS.

MAY 7/96: Gothenburg - A meat truck from Scan (Sweden's largest meat producer) was burned out. MEAT STINKS, ANIMAL LIBERATION, and MURDERERS was spraypainted. -Militant Vegans

MAY 9/96: Obbola - A closed down fur farm had its empty animal sheds burned out, as well as the killing shed.

JUNE/96: Lulea - Militant Vegans (MV) attack a group of Nazi skinheads.

JUNE/96: Umea - Animal libbers torch SCAN truck used to take animals to the slaughterhouse.

JUNE/96: Umea - Militant Vegans suspected to be behind the leaving of an incendiary device on the back doorstep of a vivisector.

JULY/96: Umea - Animal libbers rescue five cats from a University vivisection lab. Slogans on the walls read "NO MORE AUSCHWITZ."

JULY/96: Stockholm - DH paint and stick stickers on three animal abuse shops.

AUGUST/96: Stockholm - DH target several animal abuser shops. Locks are glued, windows were smashed and stickers pasted everywhere.

POLAND

MARCH/96: Bialystok - A.L.F. glue and spraypaint two furriers.

APRIL/96: Bialystok - Zieloni Anarchisci (Polish Green Anarchist) organized a mass demo against McDonald's.

APRIL/96: Warsaw - A warthog, en route to California's San Diego Zoo takes matters into its own hands and escapes from quarantine. It is now living in a suburban woodland. All attempts to capture the pig have failed.

BELGIUM

JAN/96: Gent - Fifty activists blockaded a McDonald's. Action in solidarity with the McLibel Two.

JUNE/96: A.L.F. activists destroyed two hunt lodges.

SWITZERLAND

LATE 1995: Zurich - activists torched a McDonald's on its opening day, causing $80,000 damage.

HUNGARY

MAY 3/96: An autonomous animal liberation group, "Nagerfront" (Rodent-Front) destroyed over 13 hunting towers. A letter to a Hungarian newspaper promised further actins, until such times as hunting is recognized as "real" murder.

LEBANON

SEPTEMBER/95: A hunting ban was imposed just before the season was to begin.

AUSTRALIA

DECEMBER/95: Hawthorn - Three butchers have their windows bricked by the A.L.F. "This is the A.L.F." and "Meat is Murder" slogans painted. A.L.F.

JANUARY/96: Melbourne - A.L.F. smashed six windows and painted slogans at a McDonald's in Doncaster St. They then went next door and did the same to KFC. In nearby Tunstall Square a butchers and a chicken shop had their windows bricked.

JUNE/96: Perth - A.L.F. cover circus posters in paint. Also Hungry Jacks and a KFC are sloganised.

NEW ZEALAND

JANUARY/96: Hamilton - KFC walls painted and windows were smashed.

FEBUARY/96: Dunedin - Three butchers and a McDonald's were painted with animal rights slogans.

MARCH/96: Christchurch: Opening day of Sydenham McDonald's delayed as A.L.F. glued all the locks and left a hoax bomb by the door.

MARCH/96: Christchurch: Windows broken at Hunting shop in Montreal St as well as at a Leathergoods shop in Fitzgerald Ave by A.L.F. slingshots.

APRIL 24/96: (World Day for Laboratory Animals), the A.L.F. claimed it had contaminated Sunsilk Shampoo and put them on supermarket shelves. Sunsilk is made by Lever-Rexona, a subsidiary of Unilever who test their products on animals. Hundreds of thousands of bottles have been recalled by the manufacturer. In a statement delivered to 'The Press' (a Christchurch newspaper), the South Island Animal Liberation Front claimed it had put bleach into some shampoo bottles. The same group sent a letter from Auckland on Tuesday to the manufacturers claiming to have added red food colouring to bottles throughout the country.

APRIL/96: Christchurch - GunCity hunting and fishing shop painted with slogans, superglued and GunCity car splashed with red paint.

MAY/96: Auckland - Four butcher shops lose their windows, KFC in Dominion Rd loses window, Laura Mumaw, Director of Auckland Zoo has her car paintstripped in her driveway. A.L.F.

MAY/96: Auckland - KFC and three butchers in Ponsonby Rd all get locks glued. A.L.F.

MAY/96: Wellington - Prestons Meats in Hopper St get windows smashed and completely covered in anti-meat slogans (Hit #5 in just six months). Charcoal Chicken in Cuba St. had its windows smashed and a free repaint from the A.L.F.

MAY/96: Wellington - Slogans painted at KFC in Courtney Place and Georgie Pie in Adelaide Rd.

MAY/96: Auckland - Five butcher shops get their windows smashed including Perfection Meats, Great North Road for the second time in a week. Also, Deidre Goatley, and ostrich farm investment promoter has her driveway painted with animal lib slogans.

MAY/96: Auckland - Four butcher shops get holes in their windows, indluding Puhinui butchers, Blockhouse Bay and Westend Road. One milk delivery truck was covered in red paint.

MAY/96: Auckland - A McDonald's and several butchers were painted with animal lib slogans.

MAY/96: Christchurch - A.L.F. destroy 15 duck shooting platforms on Lake Ellesmere a few days before hunting season was to begin.

JUNE/96: Christchurch - Hibbards Butcher shop in Stanmore Rd had its windows smashed and walls covered in red paint. A fish shop round the corner had its locks glued.

JUNE/96: Christchurch - GunCity was hit with red paint and animal rights slogans. Two windows were also smashed out, locks were glued. Unfortunately, two people were arrested in connection to this action.

JUNE/96: Christchurch - Three butchers on Colombo St. were superglued and paint bombed. A.L.F.

JUNE/96: Dunedin - McDonald's gets its locks superglued with the A.L.F.'s secret-sauce.

JAPAN

JULY/96: Osaka - Animal Lib group ALIVE along with British group ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATION GROUP (ACIG) help to expose the National Cardiovascular Research Centre in Osaka, as carrying out horrific animal tests. For more info, contact ALIVE, 2-5-12, 2F Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113, Japan.

SOUTH AFRICA

APRIL 19/96: Steytlerville - Game reserves for wealthy tourists shoot lions, leopards and Springbock were hit by the South African A.L.F. (Spear of the Tigers). The following message was sent to a south african press agency:

"In the early hours of Wedensday morning the barbed wire fences of 2 huge concentration camp 'farms' in the Steytlerville district have been cut by activists from a shadowy new, animal liberation movement- the Spear of the Tigers. Just as we as a proud African people did not want to be interned by apartheid, so Spear of the Tigers give expression to our animal brothers and sisters desire to be free from oppression. Spear of the Tigers boldly claims equality & freedom, justice & peace for all! This is the beginning of total animal liberation in Africa. This is the beginning of an African reinassance where all Africans, human and animal, will live as one with our Mother Africa. Beware trophy hunters, poachers, all oppressors! This is only the beginning!

The cutting of the fences is thought to have allowed hundreds of animals to return to a natural habitat free from the danger of becoming a trophy hunter's wall ornament.

NEWS BRIEFS

ALF APPRECIATION DAY

April 2, 1996

SEATTLE -- The first ever "A.L.F. Appreciation Day" took place April 2 in front of the Magnuson Health Sciences Centre, on Northeast Pacific Street, on the University of Washington Campus. Supporters conducted a press conference and encouraged the A.L.F. to visit the facility. Other events took place in Minneapolis, San Francisco, Honolulu, Memphis, Washington DC, Bloomington, Syracuse, Buffalo, Atlanta and Rochester.

The A.L.F., which has caused tens of millions of dollars in damage to U.S. research labs, factory farms and fur farms in 15 years of existence, has been branded a "terrorist" organization by the justice department and the FBI. However, no one has ever been injured or killed in A.L.F. actions, which are designed to rescue abused animals and sabotage animal abuse industries.

April 2 has been declared "A.L.F. Appreciation Day" in honour of the 1989 raid at the University of Arizona (Tucson), where an estimated 1,200 animals were freed and more than $250,000 in damage was done to the labs.

April is also the anniversary of the costliest attack ever by A.L.F. -- the destruction of an animal diagnostics research lab at the University of California, Davis in April, 1987 (total damage estimates: $4.5 million).

SYSTEM OF JUSTICE IS OUTRAGEOUS -- TIME FOR TOTAL NON-COMPLIANCE

-name withheld by request

Once more I have been totally shocked by the completely unjust nature of our "system of justice", as it is called. Yesterday a hunt sab and friend of mine was convicted of assault at Corby magistrates.

No police person has seen anything. No evidence of injury was provided at any stage, not even immediately after the incident. Only 3 huntspeople 'witnessed' what happened, but no-one of them actually saw the defendant do the alleged assault. One said, he felt the assault, and two others said, they saw the defendant with a raised arm.

As a matter of fact there was NO assault on a hunter, as has been witnessed by 6 other protesters. On the contrary, 2 hunters lost their temper and attacked a protester by riding at the defendant and squashing him between their horses. He managed to escape and was then followed on foot by the 2 hunters and assaulted. The sabs who witnessed that, threatened to inform the police, which led to the hunters claiming an assault against them had happened in turn. While the complaint of the protesters left the police unmoved, they took the defendant's details only because some hunters said so.

The two female and one male judge, all probably hunters or shooters or at least affiliated to such, had the audacity to smile at us and then, without much deliberation, just said "we find the defendant guilty". The sab faces now even potential prison, as he is in breach of a conditional discharge and has a number of earlier 'convictions' against him. The sentencing has been adjourned.

I think that this 'system of justice' does not deserve our respect. It is a farce, a joke, really. I think we, in Britain at least, should adopt a policy of total non-cooperation with police and courts. We should from now on, in the event of an arrest, refuse absolutely everything, refuse to move, to talk, to eat, to drink, to even open our eyes and acknowledge the presence of anyone and anything until this 'system' has set us free again. Let them carry you into the police cell, and let them carry you out again later, if they want to. Refuse to go to court, refuse to acknowledge their correspondence, refuse to sign anything, refuse to address the magistrates, refuse to pay any fines, refuse refuse refuse.

This type of "justice" does not deserve anything else.

We should seriously talk about the implementation of such an approach for ALL animal rights related cases, especially mass arrests. Imagine 200 protesters being arrested and going completely limp and not regaining consciousness until they are dumped outside a police station. I can't imagine how they would deal with that.

TERRORISM BILL PASSES - RIGHTS TO DISSENT, FIRST AMENDMENT, PRIVACY LOSE

The President of the United States signed the terrorism bill into law Wednesday, April 24, 1996, Public Law #P.L. 104132. With its passing, US citizens lost some key safeguards to free expression and the right to dissent.

THE DANGERS IN THE TERRORISM LAW

In sum, P.L. 104132:

GUTS STATE PRISONERS' CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO APPEAL

The habeas corpus right of state prisoners to appeal their cases to federal court has been effectively cut -- even when they have good evidence of their innocence or having been wrongly jailed. Now prisoners will have to prove the state has acted "unreasonably" - a very tough standard. Further, prisoners have only a short time - a year usually - to request their one round of federal review. The federal courts can't overrule state courts' interpretations of federal constitutional law - an amazing headstand of precedent. People who need this provision most are the poor and people of colour who are more likely to have had inadequate representation in their original cases. This provision includes everyone convicted under state jurisdiction , not just those who are on death row - EVERYONE. Those in jail on "terrorism" offenses are in federal prisons and so are unaffected entirely by these habeas changes.

DEFINES TERRORISM OVER-BROADLY

The definition of terrorist activity is so broad (encompassing even threats to do property damage as long as they involve conduct in the U.S. and abroad). The provision would make state and federal laws including murder and kidnapping but also illegal property damage now federal terrorism offenses with higher sentences. In practice, the label inevitably will be used selectively and in a political way.

CRIMINALIZES HUMANITARIAN FUNDRAISING

The new law allows the Executive Branch great latitude to label groups "terrorist". The law bars fundraising even for acknowledged humanitarian assistance for groups even remotely affiliated with labelled "terrorist" groups, again inviting selective use, and violating First Amendment activity.

Through writing and distributing information, speaking out, and taking direct action, we attempt to educate the non-imprisoned public about the prison industry, from a prison abolition perspective. As abolitionists, we support efforts to create non-exploitive alternatives to incarceration. We believe that the prison industry can only be abolished as part of a social and economic revolution that destroys capitalism. While we are abolitionists, not reformers, we support prisoners' struggles against the currently inhumane living and working conditions that many prisoners do not survive.

The Prison Justice Project aims to support prisoners' struggles for freedom, justice, and dignity. We act in solidarity with:

* political prisoners, prisoners of war, and others imprisoned for their beliefs or for progressive political actions
* prison activists and jailhouse lawyers
* people incarcerated because they are Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual or Transgendered
* people imprisoned for resisting injustice (e.g., battered women, people of color resisting racist or police attacks)
* poor/working class people jailed for acts of economic survival

We strive to increase visibility and understanding of prisoners, and of prisoner issues, in all progressive movements, including the animal liberation movement.

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with the assistance of Settlers In Support of Indigenous Sovereignty

NO JUSTICE ON STOLEN LAND - NATIVE PEOPLES IN THE PRISONS OF CANADA

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"It might be well for you to remember that the native people of this land lived here for hundreds of thousands of years, millions of people, without prisons and prison guards, without police and lawyers and without judges. Because we knew how to live then and we still know how to live now..."[1]
- Art Solomon, Ojibway Elder



When the European colonizers first washed up on the shores of the Americas 500 years ago, they brought with them all the decaying institutions of their own lands. One of these institutions continues today in the prisons of North, South and Central America. A look inside the prisons of Canada today shows a severe "over-representation" of Native Peoples locked up. It also shows Native Peoples struggling for basic human rights which the colonizers claim to represent, and that this struggle has been going on for a number of years now. Yet, there's not a lot said about Natives in prison, except that "there's a lot of them", by either the government or many Native organizations and groups. The reasons for government silence are obvious: the statistics on Native prisoners show nothing but a racist legal system based on colonialism. The reasons for Native organizations' own silence are not so obvious, except we know that a lot of them get their funding from the Department of Indian Affairs. And there are probably other reasons, like these same organizations being more interested in meeting white politicians in 3-piece suits than working and organizing with Native Peoples. The end result is that Native men and women in the prisons are isolated and forgotten, by their own people!

People who fight for liberation cannot forget those imprisoned by the state, whether they are political prisoners or Prisoners of War (like Leonard Peltier), or Native people who have reacted to the effects of colonization (such as stealing one thing or another because they don't have the money).

THE IRON HOUSE AKA PRISON: WHAT IT IS

"A criminal justice system reflects the values of those who hold power in society."[2]

Prisons as we know them today are really new forms of social control which have their origin in Europe. Along with the courts and laws, prisons were developed to control the lower economic classes. To better understand the role of prisons, it's helpful to look at their origins in European society.

Up until the 16th century, criminal offenses as defined by the ruling classes were punished by a variety of brutal methods. Those convicted of even minor offenses such as begging, theft or prostitution would be punished by: the cutting off of a hand or finger, cutting off or tearing out the tongue, putting out an eye, cutting off an ear, castration, branding, burning, or torture on the wheel.

For capital punishment, the methods of execution were just as varied: one could be slain by knives, axes or swords, buried alive, tortured to death by hammering nails through the body and stripping off the skin, strangled to death, drowned, bled to death, drawn and quartered, or ripped to shreds.

Although the European nobility had plenty of imagination in all this, these savage methods of punishment were not, at first, widespread. Generally, fines were more common backed up by periodic displays of torture. Very quickly, however, these methods did become more common in the face of a growing population and increased impoverishment.

During the 16th century the overall population of Europe expanded greatly, spurred on in part by the invasion of other lands. Between 1450 and 1600, this population grew from 50 million to 100 million. So too did the number of poor and unemployed peasants who were thrown out of the towns and cities, becoming vagabonds and beggars in the countryside (Robin Hood and all that).

While landowners could exploit this "excess labour pool" to lower the wages of those working, the growing number of beggars came to be viewed as increasingly volatile and a growing threat.

More and more, judges began to turn to executions and torture as both an attempt to stop the poor from feeding

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themselves (called theft) and as a way to reduce that 'overpopulation'.

"More and more during this period, which spans the 16th century, judges handed down the death penalty to those members of society whom they deemed troublesome or undesirable. The extent of this repression is extraordinary. For example, during the reign of Henry VIII (1509-1547), it is estimated that 72,000 people were hanged, this during a period in which the average population of England never exceeded three million."[3]

By the 17th century, the population growth that had created more and more poor under Europe's feudal system had begun to taper off. At the same time, the potential for large markets had been opened up in the invasions of the Americas, Africa and Asia. Europe found itself in a severe shortage of labour and resorted to a number of methods to reverse this. Tax benefits were given to couples with large families and cash incentives to those bearing large families, and laws were enacted limiting the emigration of labour. Child labour was increasingly used. And all those men and women the judges were sentencing to death came to be viewed in a different light:

> For criminals comprised a group which the state could easily control and put to work to fill the labour shortage, using convicted felons to do those especially difficult tasks for which employers were finding it hard to secure labour. For them, the state encouraged the establishment of houses of corrections...such institutions placed at the disposal of the state a large and ready source of cheap labour that could easily be exploited at exactly the moment in history in which the labour shortage was most acute.[4]

These houses of correction were factories that, besides filling a labour shortage, also broke even or made profits.

By the 1800s, the population growth the ruling classes had sought was firmly in place: between 1720 and 1801, the population of England grew from 5.1 million to 9.2 million. Once again the ruling classes had an excess labour pool to exploit, and the resulting unemployment and poverty produced a dramatic rise in crime rates. In some areas it went up by as much as 500%. As the crime rate rose, a national system of prisons began to be constructed; "two of its central functions [were]...the warehousing of useless labour, and the preservation of a social order which was being periodically threatened by the victims of impoverishment."[5]

During the same period, prisons in North America were developing along similar lines. In 1790 the Quakers established one of the first prototypes of modern prisons — the Walnut Street Jail. In attempting to reform the worst brutalities of prisons, the Quakers believed that quiet and solitude — along with a bible in hand — would lead to the prisoners turning to God and emerging penitent. Instead, many of the prisoners went insane or committed suicide. (Whoops! So much for good intentions.)

In Canada, the first prison built was the Kingston Penitentiary, constructed in 1837. This was followed by prisons at Saint John, New Brunswick and Halifax, Nova Scotia. Colonialist expansion left a trail of prisons in its wake, so that by 1911, prisons would be constructed in Quebec, Manitoba, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Canadian prisons were influenced and guided by both English and U.S. models, being based on principles of complete isolation from society, compulsion to work, no leisure or recreational facilities, strict silence (i.e. no talking), and compulsory Christian indoctrination.[6]

Today, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) operates some 59 prisons: 2 high maximum, 15 maximum, 16 medium, 13 minimum, and 13 Community Correctional Centres, employing 26,924 people (10,863 of whom are employed in federal corrections).[7] There are also many more pretrial jails, psychiatric centres, etc. Prisons are generally divided up between federal and provincial institutions; those sentenced to two years less a day go to provincial prisons, the rest to federal prisons.

Briefly, we've seen how prisons developed historically depending on the needs of the ruling classes and changing economic conditions. But how do these European forms of social control work under colonization?

PRISONS AND COLONIZATION

"Today these prisons are only an extension of the Christian persecution and genocide that my people resisted for centuries. The struggle is war." - Stuart Stonechild, Nehiyawak (Cree)[8]

Under colonialism, prisons perform the same basic functions as those used in the colonialist centres [of] Europe. That is, they are used to control the most oppressed, and therefore the most rebellious sectors of society. However, the fundamental difference is that in colonialist situations the role of prisons is directed more against the colonized peoples. The differences between the methods used in Europe and those used in the colonization of the Americas, is that under colonization they are carried out in a context of genocidal war of conquest, were more widespread, and were carried out not only under European legalities but also a racist doctrine of white supremacy.

In this context of total war, tens of millions of Native Peoples were killed. Millions were also worked to death in mines and plantations under a vicious slave system that also imported some 15 million African peoples, with upwards of 40 million perishing in the ships used to transport them. In effect, these slaves can be seen as the first Prisoner of War in the colonization, captured and forced to carry out the physical labour necessary for the build-up of the European empires.

As the European powers consolidated their positions, reserves and concentration camps were established as methods of isolating and controlling First Nations: they worked as essentially prison camps where movement on and off the reserve was controlled by a pass system, where substandard rations and supplies were issued, and disease and malnutrition flourished. The First Nations were forced into these camps and reserves at gunpoint, and their aims were the same as those of prisons: isolation and control.

On the other hand, the colonizers used the actual prison camps and the taking of Prisoners of War for more specific repression. Many of the well-known warriors who led armed resistance against colonization were imprisoned: Montezuma, Cacxamatzin, Atahualpa, Caupolican, Satank, Geronimo, Crazy Horse, Cochise and many others. They were used as hostages to force the Native Nations into submission. In Florida, Fort Marion was used as a POW camp in the late 19th century for hundreds of Commanche, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa and Apache warriors (including Lone Wolf, White Horse, Geronimo and Mamanti).

During the armed struggle conducted by Indian and Métis warriors in 1885 in Manitoba, the full weight of the colonizers' legal apparatus was brought down. Forty-nine Indians and Métis were killed in battle and hundreds wounded. In the ensuing legal attack, 9 Métis and Indian were executed (including Wandering Spirit, Iron Body, Little Bear, Louis Riel, and 5 others), 23 Indians were sentenced from two to 20 years, and 21 Métis sentenced from one to seven years, making a total of 44 Prisoners of War.[9]

As well, the legal system was used in the criminalization of Native cultures under the Indian Act of 1876. For example, those who defied the ban on Potlatches in B.C., particularly the Kwagiulth Nation, were frequently imprisoned for up to six months. In April 1922, twenty-two Natives were sentenced from two to six months in Oakalla prison in

Burnaby, B.C. They "brought back from prison stories of the humiliation felt by women who were forced to strip naked for medical inspections...of firehoses turned against them."[10] The Indian Act laws against the Potlatch — and against the Sundance — were not removed until 1951.

Similarly, the legal system was used against those who resisted Indian Act laws restricting Native fishing and hunting, as well as the band councils imposed under the Act, and those families that refused to send their children to the brutal residential schools.

Clearly, prisons were not only forms of control but also became a method of repressing the struggles of Native Peoples by imprisoning or threatening to imprison those who resisted. Prisons, and by extension the courts, police and laws have a historical record of being used to carry out the policies of colonization.

Despite this, it was not until the 1960s during widespread civil rights struggles in the U.S. led by Blacks that the question of Native imprisonment came to be examined. What was found was a disproportionate number of Native people in Canadian prisons. And it also appeared to be a newer phenomenon:

> It is interesting to note that the high incidence of conflicts with the law have occurred only within the last twenty years since Native people have begun to extend their participation beyond the boundaries of the reserve...Native crimes can be viewed as the consequence of increased interaction with institutions of the larger society where the pressures to assimilate are acute."[11]

Several factors can be seen as contributing to this. One is the expansion of resource exploitation into once-isolated Native communities and the destruction such expansion has brought. Justice Thomas Berger, in asserting the causes for a rapid rise in alcoholism, crime, violence and even welfare dependency in the Northwest Territories, cited the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline and other industrialization projects: "I am persuaded that the incidence of these disorders is closely bound up with the rapid expansion of the industrial system and with its persistent intrusion into every part of Native people's lives..."[12]

A second factor is the overall increase in imprisonment rates in Canada.

Since 1965, the federal prison population has risen from 7,518 to 11,289 in 1992. In provincial prisons, the increase has been from 12,627 to 17,944.[13] Overall, there has been an increase of 9,088 prisoners, or an increase of approximately 50%. In contrast, Canada's population rose by only 35% during the same period. What's more, provincial prison populations have risen 14% from 1986-87 to 1990-91.[14]

In terms of the rate of imprisonment for 100,000, Canada has gone from 81.9 in 1900 to 96.5 in 1960 to 96.9 in 1980,[15] to around 114 in 1992. That means for every 100,000 people in Canada, 114 were in federal or provincial prisons in 1992.

Compared to other so-called "advanced industrialized countries" only the USA has a higher rate per 100,000 at some 228.[16] [Note: Another estimate includes both U.S. prisons and jails and places this number at 426 per 100,000[17]; however, Canadian rates include only those sentenced to prison, and not those in pre-trial jails, etc.] "In terms of the national rate of imprisonment, historical and comparative data indicate that Canadians have traditionally incarcerated a higher proportion of their fellow citizens than most other democracies other than the U.S."[18]

In regards to Native imprisonment, a final factor which needs to be considered is the extent to which prisons have gone from being specifically tools of repression against Native struggles — a function they still perform — to methods of colonial social control replacing that once found in the reserves, and to a certain extent, the residential schools.

Although Native Peoples make up some 3% of the population in Canada, they are at least 10.6% of the federal prison population[19] and 18% of the provincial prison population.[20] Native women serving federal sentences make up 23% of the total women's population.[21] While these estimates of Native prisoner populations are, by the CSC's own admission, underestimated, the numbers are even more dramatic when broken down by the province of sentencing.

For Provincial Prisons:

In B.C. and Alberta, Natives represent 3-5% of the population but made up to 18% and 34& of admission to prison in 1990-1991.[22]

In Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Natives represent 6-7% of the provinces' populations but made up to 49% and 68% of the admissions to prison in 1990-1991.[23]

In the Yukon and Northwest Territories, Native Peoples made up 63% of the admissions to prison in 1990-1991.[24]

GENOCIDE AS A STATISTIC: WHITE SUPREMACY IN THE GREAT WHITE NORTH

"White supremacy, which had been propagated since the beginning of European imperialism, became woven into Canadian institutions such as the church, the schools, and the courts, and it has remained the working ideology of these institutions."[25]

There have been a number of special conferences and inquiries into Native imprisonment rates in Canada over the years. The most critical of these might come to the conclusion that there is indeed a problem of racism in the justice system, and go on to offer recommendations such as more Native involvement in the courts, police and prisons. However, reducing the reasons for Native imprisonment to a problem of racist cops and judges, or even a racist justice system in bad need of reform, ignores the reality of colonization and the devastating effects it has had. While it is true that cops and judges and the entire justice system operate under the principles of racism, they are only the judicial wing of an entire system based on the same principles. Although many of us Native people know and see the effects of colonization first hand, it's useful to now measure it:

- The infant mortality rate for Natives is 17% compared to 5% for the rest of Canada (meaning that 17% of Native babies die before they are one-year old).[26]
- The life expectancy for Natives is 63 years, compared to 72 as the Canadian average.[27]
- Unemployment rates for Natives are 66% compared to around 10% for the national average.[28]
- The suicide rate for Native Peoples is two to three times the national average. For teen-aged Native women, it is 10 times; for teen-aged Native men it is 7 times.[29]
- A Native person is ten times more likely to get tuberculosis than a non-native.[30]
- More than 33% of Native deaths are of a violent nature, compared to 8% for non-Natives.[31]
- Native household incomes average $17,300 compared to $31,600 for non-Natives.[32]
- In some Native communities, 78% of the families live on an annual income of less than $5,000 and 26% have no personal income at all.[33]

These conditions are the direct result of colonization and its attack on Native culture and community, its theft of Native land, and its industrialization. The results of this destruction are seen everywhere, in poverty, alcoholism, frustration, infant mortality rates, life expectancy, suicides, etc. Poverty in and of itself compels those without the means to live a decent life to resort to illegal methods. This is true everywhere and for everyone; for Native Peoples, it's not different. However, colonialism also inflicts on the Native a tendency to turn the anger and frustration

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inward, both upon oneself (i.e. suicide, alcoholism, etc.), and upon one's own people (i.e. internalized racism). As Frantz Fanon noted, "[t]he colonized man will first manifest his aggressiveness which has been deposited in his bones, against his own people."[34]

In discussing patterns of criminality in French-occupied Algeria, Fanon, a Black psychiatrist, observed that "...Algerian criminality takes place in practise inside a closed circle. The Algerians rob each other, cut each other up, and kill each other. In Algeria, the Algerian rarely attacks Frenchmen..."[35]

Similarly, Don McCaskill observed that Native Peoples in Canada

> ...commit only two types of crime — theft and assault. Among Native inmates of federal and provincial...correctional institutions, over 90% of all crimes fell into these two categories. Of the crimes against property all were committed against the property of a non-Indian...whereas all crimes against the person were committed against other Indians.[36]

The point here is that Native Peoples' imprisonment and relations to the legal system involves colonialism and its effects on colonized peoples, not simply a legal system warped by an undefined racism. White supremacy is what defines the ideological basis of European colonialism.

More than the easily-identifiable beliefs of the Aryan Nations or the KKK, white supremacy can be defined as the basis for a system created and maintained in the interests of European peoples, cultures and values. When people, particularly Europeans, think of white supremacy, it's assumed this refers only to the KKK or the apartheid system in South Africa. However, as Cedric Mayson states, "Apartheid isn't a sort of civilization that differs from one in the West, it's just the raw, unopened heart of it. Apartheid is the lens through which you can see the whole, a revelation of what Western Society really is."[37]

Without exception, white supremacy carries out colonization in a genocidal way. The United Nations has defined genocide as any or all of the following:

a) Killing members of the group;
b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.[38]

Many of the government policies in regards to Native Peoples meet these definitions. One needs only to look at hydro projects such as James Bay 1 and 2, the Rafferty-Alameda, or the Oldman River dam, or resource extraction carried out by logging, mining and fishing. And of course the endless statistics on Native Peoples' lives. ▼

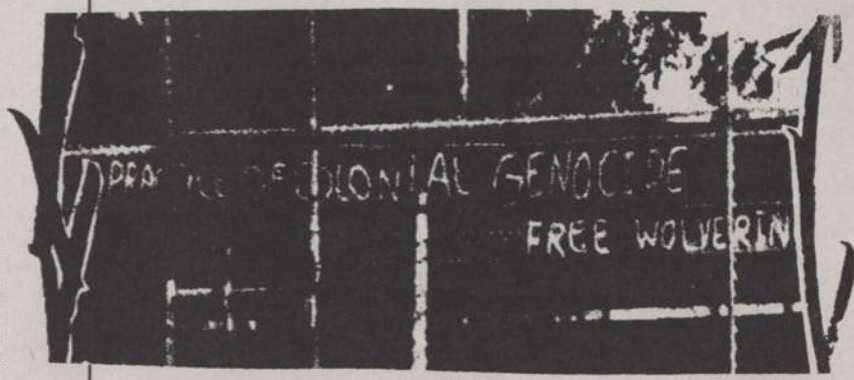
footnotes were omitted for space; they are available, on request, from the Prison Justice Project.

FROM THE FRONT-LINES TO THE COURTS:

Information from Ts'peten Defenders, "The Martlet" #36(4), "Prison News Service" #52

"I'm here because the NDP (New Democratic Party) wanted to kill Natives to get votes." - Wolverine, Ts'peten Defender & Political Prisoner

The world watched Canada explode last summer as police shot three people defending Native lands, killing one indigenous man. A year later, the people who were besieged by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and military forces at Gustafsen Lake, Shuswap territory (claimed by the colonial government as part of Brutish Columbia) are fighting another battle - inside a courtroom and behind bars.



graffiti in Victoria, B.C. (Canada): STOP THE PRACTICE OF COLONIAL GENOCIDE - FREE WOLVERINE

In 1989, Shuswap Faith Keeper Percy Rosette informed American cattle rancher Lyle James that, in keeping with spiritual leaders' and elders' visions, a Sundance site would be set up on land being used by James in Shuswap territory near Gustafsen Lake. James agreed not to interfere.

Early in 1995, Rosette built a shelter on the Sundance grounds for the maintenance of the site and cooking. In early June, Sundancers reinforced a fence around the sacred grounds to keep Lyle James' cattle from defecating on the site. They also posted signs to discourage trespassing.

Lyle James responded by attempting to serve an 'eviction notice' on Faith Keeper Percy Rosette on June 13. Rosette was not at the site when James and his ranch hands drove in, so James and crew proceeded to read the notice out loud to assembled Sundancers. They then violated the site by taking pictures of the land, structures, artifacts, and a fasting Sundance singer. According to Sundancer Splitting the Sky, the ranch hands then pulled out rifles and threatened to kill the Sundancers. One pulled out a bullwhip and said, "This is a good day to string up some red niggers."

The next day, five of Lyle James' employees vandalized the Sundancers' cookhouse and stole the stove inside the shelter. When Percy Rosette returned to the site that evening, and refused to accept Lyle James' second attempt to serve the eviction notice, one of Mr. James' men pinned the notice to a sacred staff.

On June 16, a drunk ranch hand came into the Sundance grounds, yelling and whooping. When confronted by Sundancers, he told them that the ranchers intended to burn the council lodge, and that the RCMP were planning an invasion of the camp. The Ts'peten (Gustafsen Lake) Defenders responded by putting out a press release calling for a peaceful resolution to the conflict and impartial third-party intervention to address the issue of jurisdiction in Shuswap territories.

Defender 'Wolverine' (William Jones Ignace) had tried several times previously for a peaceful resolution to the Canadian and BC governments' ongoing theft of Shuswap lands. In 1991, he went to the International Court in the Hague; in 1992 and 1993 he took the issue of stolen lands to the United Nations. Both bodies refused to take concrete steps to resolve the conflict.

After the Sundance and related ceremonies were concluded in mid-July, the Ts'peten Defenders announced that they were staying to protect the site and that any police invasion would be resisted. The next day, one of Lyle James' ranch hands trespassed on Sundance grounds and insulted one of the traditional chiefs in the camp. He was told to leave, and to keep his horses and cows outside the Sundance site perimeter. As he left, he threatened to return; immediately afterwards, two shots were fired towards the camp.

In response to a call for assistance, local and international support for the Defenders began to come in. Police assured Defenders' supporters that they were seeking a peaceful resolution through negotiations will all parties and would not invade the camp. However, in mid-August, unidentified, armed people in camouflage gear surrounding the camp were spotted

by Defenders. At first the RCMP vigorously denied that the armed men were their officers, but within several days RCMP media relations official Sgt. Peter Montague called the media to inform them that the police were indeed holding the Defenders under siege. He then warned that the RCMP was "ready to move in and disperse" the people inside the camp.

Over the next month, police did virtually everything in their power to escalate the siege into a bloodbath. Mounting the costliest 'exercise' in their history, the RCMP employed 400 tactical assault team members, five helicopters, two surveillance planes, eight Armoured Personnel Carriers, percussion mines, flares, and thousands of rounds of ammunition - five million dollars of military machismo. All against 18 Defenders - four elders, two young girls, two teenagers, and ten men and women - who repeatedly expressed their desire to find a peaceful solution to the conflict. Police cut off any access to or from the camp, denying Defenders access to water, food, or medical supplies.

When Dudley George was killed by Ontario Provincial Police on September 6 during an unarmed Native occupation of Aazhoodena lands at Ipperwash, Native and non-Native people around the world held demonstrations of outrage. Warrior Societies made it clear to the Canadian government that if there were any more deaths, at Ipperwash or Gustafsen Lake, it would be considered an act of war and there would be serious repercussions.

Five days later, a truck coming from the camp to meet Native negotiators was destroyed by explosive devices the police had planted in the road. When the two unarmed occupants of the truck fled into the bush, police opened fire, hitting one woman. Police continued to fire as the Defenders swam across the lake to the safety of their camp. Police then deliberately tracked and shot one Defender's dog.

The international and local outrage at this unprovoked attack led the RCMP to back off, and allow Native spiritual leaders to enter the camp. On September 17, the Defenders decided it was time to leave the camp. They walked out voluntarily, and were promptly taken into police custody. Fifteen of the Defenders were charged with trespassing, mischief, and other relatively minor charges. Two - 'Wolverine' and his son JoJo - were charged with attempted murder, for allegedly firing at police officers during the standoff. Both were incarcerated pending trial.

Although the siege officially ended last September, the police harassment of the Defenders has continued. Police have repeatedly questioned and threatened Defenders, in their homes and in public settings, always without the presence of a lawyer. JoJo was granted bail only after being severely beaten while in prison. Bail for 'Wolverine' has been denied at every hearing.

The Defenders consistently stated they were looking forward to their upcoming trial so that the truth about the siege would be made public. During the siege, the RCMP had prevented all media from speaking with the Defenders, and mainstream media faithfully reprinted RCMP press releases as 'accurate' reports of the siege's developments. On September 4, police had held a huge press conference to announce that RCMP officers had been shot at and that the officers had been stalked through the bushes by Native gunmen all through the night. Despite numerous contradictions and inconsistencies with their story, most reporters uncritically printed the RCMP's version of events as fact. (In court, it was revealed that the RCMP completely fabricated this incident to justify bringing in military vehicles and additional soldiers. All that had happened was that the officers panicked when their truck accidentally hit a tree branch.) Many journalists supported government and police demonization of the Defenders and their lawyer Bruce Clark, calling them "terrorists", "thugs", "lunatics", and people with "a cult mentality".

After much pre-trial manoeuvring, the Defenders' trial began on July 8, 1996, with Judge Josephson presiding. The trial may prove to be as expensive as the siege itself, with a $50,000 cost for each day in court and a trial expected to run well into December.

Not surprisingly, police have been stricken with conveniently selective memory loss when called as witnesses. While Constable Ken Tassell (the file coordinator for the siege) remembered the exact time he picked up Emergency Response Team (ERT) members in Kamloops to take them to Gustafsen Lake, he could not remember who gave him the order to pick up the team. Others, such as Constable Flemming, Seargant Grey, and Corporal Smith apparently "did not take notes" of their actions during the siege and were thus unable to remember details.

Some witnesses, not content with selective memory loss, resorted to blatant lies and bizarre twists of logic. Cst. Tassell repeatedly insisted that he had no direct knowledge of the information he had shared with ERT members (!) Rancher Lyle James testified that he and Faith Keeper Percy Rosette had made a signed agreement stating that the Sundance site belonged to the James Cattle Company, but the 'agreement' presented as evidence by James had no signatures from James or witnesses, only an 'X' next to Rosette's name. James also testified that one of his ranch hands had indeed brought a bullwhip when attempting to serve the eviction notice, but that he was just "playing with it", not threatening Sundancers with it.

The B.C. and Canadian governments insisted from the beginning of the siege last year that the conflict at Ts'peten was NOT a political issue. The Crown Prosecutor emphasized this point repeatedly during opening statements, calling for the jury to treat the trial as criminal rather than political. However, Defenders have made it clear that land and native sovereignty are the primary issues behind this trial. One self-represented Defender is determined to push this point by presenting native sovereignty as her only defense. According to Shelagh Franklin, because the Ts'peten site is land that has never been ceded to the colonial governments by treaty, the RCMP and courts legally have no jurisdiction on the land.



'Wolverine' and others have pointed out that the siege was political not only in terms of theft of Native land and disrespect of Native religious practices, but also in terms of the government motivations behind the standoff. According to 'Wolverine', the siege was a deliberate attempt by the New Democratic Party (NDP) to whip up anti-Native sentiment and prove that the NDP was a party that would 'get tough' on Native peoples, on behalf of non-Native B.C. residents. Wolverine asks, "Is this how politicians will get re-elected in the future? Bump off a few more of our people?" ▼

SUPPORT THE TS'PETEN DEFENDERS

The **Ts'peten Trust Account** was set up to raise funds for the Defenders to pay for their legal fees, transportation costs, and outstanding and current phone and fax bills incurred by their supporters during the standoff. You can make a direct deposit at any Royal Bank of Canada, account number 5024401/transit number 06609-003, or send a cheque or money order, payable to "Ts'peten Trust Account":

c/o PO Box 6117, Hinton, Alberta T7V 1X5 Canada
Phone/fax: (403) 865-7549

Both 'Wolverine' and JoJo are currently in jail. Write to William Ignace/'Wolverine' and Joseph Ignace/'JoJo', at

Surrey Pre-Trial Centre
14323 57th Ave.
Surrey, BC
V3X 1B1 Canada

Settlers In Support of Indigenous Sovereignty is collecting solidarity letters to send to the Defenders.

Settlers In Support of Indigenous Sovereignty
PO Box 8673, Victoria, BC, Canada V8X 3S2
email: <uc389@freenet.victoria.bc.ca>

For more information, check out SISIS' web site at http://kafka.uvic.ca/~vipirg/SISIS/SISmain.html

THE INDIANA SIX

SHAKA SHAKUR is a politically active prisoner who has taken it upon himself, since his incarceration in 1982 at age 16, to educate himself and his fellow prisoners. He has worked with many political, cultural, and human rights organizations - including Amnesty International - "to expose and challenge the inhumane conditions we are held in and the racist practices and policies of the Indiana Department of Corrections that are primarily aimed at Afrikan prisoners."

SEKOU B. MAJEKODUNMI is a former gang member who has, in the last several years, become Muslim and worked to "make conscious decisions not just for myself but for all oppressed people as a whole."

AKONO G. OLATUNJI writes, "I'm 29 years old, Black, and in prison - an all too common profile for many young Black males in Amerikkka. But while this unfortunate truth is readily available to Amerikkka's public, what is not so readily available is the truth as it relates to the pressures, persecutions, and sometimes prosecutions of Black prisoners who dare to undertake the task (neglected by the state) of rehabilitating ourselves. As strange as it may sound to some, the fact is that the very institutions designated to correct the anti-social thought pattern and likewise behaviour, is in fact punishing those of us who have opted to change our criminal disposition to one of responsible, up-right Black men."

IDRIX ABDUL MALIK was imprisoned at the age of sixteen, in 1980. According to Idrix, "in 1982 I took a progressive step in my own education....Through my studies, I came to overstand that all Black people are African people and are a part of a single national entity, and that we were colonized and enslaved and forced under domestic colonialism to live in america, where our labor is exploited for economical purposes and political advantages. It was inside the colonialist Indiana prison system I began my contribution in fighting imperialist and colonialist ideology. I adopted the revolutionary ideology and begin to fight theoretically and practically in raising the consciousness of other prisoners about their history, and most of all prison conditions and confinement."

ANANE BAYE CAMARA describes himself as "a conscious African prisoner. I'm 36 years old, raised on the ugly streets of the ghet-colony known as Chicago, IL. I came to prison at the age of 18, serving a total of 92 years. Through the support of family and revolutionary comrades I have been able to arrest a reactionary attitude of exploitation, drug use, and misguided frustration. My 18 years of imprisonment has seen me make the qualitative leap from confusion to that of an African man committed to reversing the destruction that has many if not all prisoners within its clutches."

KOPANO FARD MUHAMMAD writes, "Since coming into the knowledge of self, kind and others, and transforming my criminal colonial mentality into a revolutionary mentality, I have always been the target of one or another of the colonialist states machines of repression. So I was not surprised or shocked when this latest attack occurred....The daily resistance of our oppressed and colonized people in every field of our struggle is a result of colonialism, and in each encounter, whether it be peaceful or military, our beautiful strong courageous brothers/sisters have been criminalized by the criminals/the u.s. government, and assassinated by the same."

The following information is from a booklet printed as a fundraiser for twelve prisoners fighting charges, convictions and disciplinary time for daring to raise their voices against the execution of Ziyon Yisrayah. -The booklet contains photos of all those convicted as well as others facing repression due to their stance against the murder of Ziyon.

Order from: BCAC • P.O. Box 93312 • Milwaukee, WI 53203 USA; email <blast@csd.uwm.edu>. Please make cheques payable to W. Leech. BCAC is requesting a donation of $5 per booklet.

NEW AFRIKAN PRISONERS PUNISHED FOR SPEAKING OUT AGAINST MURDER

On December 11, 1980, the Indianapolis (Indiana) police department made a pre-dawn raid on the home of Ajamu Nassor (s/n Gregory Resnover) and Ziyon Yisrayah (s/n Tommie Smith). The men and women in the house were asleep when the police kicked in the door, and started firing and throwing tear gas inside the home. Sgt. Jack Ohrberg of the police department was killed and Ziyon Yisrayah was wounded. When the officer was shot, he had been facing Ajamu and Ziyon. The evidence was clear that this officer was killed by someone behind him, and only police officers were in that position. Nevertheless, Ziyon and Ajamu were convicted and sentenced to death. On December 8, 1994, the state of Indiana executed Ajamu Nassor. Ajamu maintained his innocence to the end. Ziyon Yisrayah's execution date was set for June 14, 1996.



On May 27, 1996 approximately 150 people of all nationalities, imprisoned in Indiana State Penitentiary, ate their afternoon meal in complete silence to protest this planned state murder of a second innocent man. The following day prisoners Shaka Shakur, Anane Baye Camara (s/n Armen Sylvester), and Akono G. Olatunji (s/n David Bellemy) were kidnapped and placed in the hole, under investigation for "encouraging others to demonstrate". Their personal property was seized and taken to the investigators' office, where all personal letters and paper were read and copied. This marked the beginning of the state's conspiracy to arrest over 15 New Afrikan (Black) men and charge 10 of them on trumped-up charges of conspiracy to disrupt the scheduled murder/execution of Ziyon.

In the early morning of June 6, ten New Afrikan prisoners from all over the prison were roughly pulled from their beds by Department of Corrections SWAT teams. Each prisoner was forced to wait for four hours, then was strip-searched, placed in bright red jumpsuits, and chained up. According to Shaka Shakur, "as We were being placed into single file under the threat of kkkops in black fatigues, combat boots, with UZI machine guns, Glock 9mms, stun guns and pepper spray mace, We were told We were being moved to the maximum control complex (Supermax) in order to 'keep the peace'."

The ten men were marched single-file through the administration building, facing the stares of secretaries, cops, counsellors, and other prison staff. They were then led outside into "a full military operation of K-9s, visitors and employees cordoned off to the sidewalks by UZI and Glock carrying kkkops. As traffic was blocked while We were thrown into two vans under the watchful eyes of the overseer/warden, the message to be conveyed was that these 10 shackled and chained Black men are dangerous animals. We must protect

you from these kind of people. The D.O.C. played upon and manipulated the racist fears of people and fed into the racist images that every major news broadcast projects of Afrikan people in society. Black men are dangerous and it must take Us white men to control them!" When they reached the Supermax, each man was forced into an empty cell, stripped of all furniture, and strip-searched again. Those with dreadlocks were forced to pour disinfectant on their locks. At all times, five cops in full riot gear stood by to enforce orders.

Shaka Shakur writes, "Why were We all being subjected to this? Because We dared speak out against the premeditated murder of an innocent man. Because We as New Afrikan men dared reclaim Our humanity and transform Our kkkriminal mentality and reject the kkkriminal attempts by this sick system and society to have Us mentally deranged, morally depraved and socially backwards. Do prisoners have a right to express outrage at a decision made by the state to kill an innocent man? Do We as human beings suppose to be denied of all human emotion and feelings because We are prisoners?"

On June 18, the ten men were charged with 'Attempt to Riot' and 'Threatening'. Two weeks later, these charges were heightened to 'Conspiracy to Riot' and 'Threatening'. In their accusations that the men were gang leaders or members, the state perpetuated its long-standing campaign of criminalizing positive New Afrikan activism. As Shaka Shakur points out, the charges were designed not only to punish the Indiana Ten, but "to send a message to the other 1,600 prisoners here. You have no right to speak! Stand up and we shall knock you down with trumped up charges! Refuse to be terrorized into silence, refuse to be terrorized into complicity with premeditated murder and we will brutalize and torture you."

The Indiana Ten were returned to Indiana State Prison on July 3. The Department of Corrections (DOC) then did everything in its power to convict the ten men. The investigator hid evidence that the Ten uncovered in their defense. Staff witnesses who were to testify on behalf of the Ten were threatened and charged by the Internal Affairs Department for 'breaking security' and 'fraternizing with inmates'. The DOC refused to return the Ten's seized personal and legal materials. To try to isolate the Ten from outside support, incoming and outgoing mail was delayed for weeks. The DOC then tried to remove the Ten's jailhouse lawyer (lay advocate) and rush the Ten to disciplinary hearings.

On July 18, Ziyon Yisrayah was murdered by the State of Indiana. Six days later, the judge informed six of the Indiana Ten that "I have to find you guilty". Akono Olatunji was sentenced to 5 years, Shaka Shakur to 4 years, Anane Baye Camara and Sekou Majekodunmi to 3 years, and Idrix Malik and Kopano Muhammad to 1 year imprisonment. The Indiana Six will serve these sentences in the Supermax, where they will be held in solitary confinement, spending 23 hours of each day in all-white cages with bright lights that are never turned off.

If you're still asking yourself why you should support any of these men consider this: all of them have histories within the Indiana prison system, standing up for human dignity and fighting for the basic human rights that are routinely denied to prisoners of Amerikkka. They have histories of helping to transform others from criminal lifestyles to progressive ones. They are men who have committed such criminal acts behind the bars as studying to better themselves, struggling to find ways to heal and reconstruct their lives in an atmosphere that does its best to try and kill their spirit and will. They are facing repression for these reasons - not because of any conspiracy to riot.

Shaka Shakur writes, on behalf of the Indiana Six, "Support Us because tomorrow it could be you or someone you love strapped to that gurney or electric chair. It could be you who speak out only to be terrorized and tortured. The DOC must not be allowed to use Us as examples to the thousands of other prisoners, must not be allowed to carry on its racist tradition of singling out New Afrikan prisoners for persecution because they are political. They must not be allowed to terrorize into silence the hundreds of young New Afrikan men who are slowly throwing off the chains of a slave and parasitical kkkriminal mentality to reclaim their humanity. Take a stance on Our behalf and the countless others. Take a stance because We did!" ▼

DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST OTHERS CONTINUES

Along with the six men facing repression by the Indiana D.O.C. in connection with the states execution/murder of Ziyon Yisrayah, more are under investigation, charged and found not guilty yet still facing disciplinary action or remaining locked down. While the six men that you just read about received the initial blows from the state it is important that we support all of the men implicated in this frame-up.

Lorenzo L. Stone-Bey #10006: Transferred to Indiana Reformatory on Disciplinary Segregation (D/S) status after being found not guilty.

Herman Averhart #900086: Transferred to Indiana Reformatory on D/S status after being found not guilty.

Mangwiro Sadiki (s/n James Malone) #913752: Received one year segregation sentence after initial Indiana 10 investigation. Also lost 90 days good time and was dropped in time class, further post-poning his release.

Malik Umoja "Fraun": Received a one year segregation sentence after initial investigation for possessing a supposed mask.

Bobby Peck #865349: Received one year D/S sentence for possession of a supposed weapon after being cleared of conspiracy to riot and threatening charges.

Kuumba (s/n Robert Carrington) #875749: Being transferred to Wabash Correctional Institution after being found not guilty.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Call, write and fax Acting Department of Corrections Commissioner Ed Cohen. Demand that the charges against the six prisoners be dropped, and that no further disciplinary action be taken against them or other prisoners on this matter.

COMMISSIONER ED COHEN
E 334 Indiana Government Center South
302 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 317-232-5715
FAX: 317-232-6798

Contact members of the Indiana Congressional Black Caucus and urge them to call for an investigation into the racial nature of the charges against these prisoners and the executions of Ziyon Yisrayah and Ajamu Nassor. Demand an investigation into why Ziyon Yisrayah was tortured for 80 minutes before being murdered, and why the D.O.C. tried to cover up such torture by sending his body to a local funeral home to be embalmed, against the wishes of his family.

BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS
c/o Indiana House of Representatives
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Write to the charged prisoners to show your support and offer what help you can. They have all been shipped to various control units in Indiana; call the I.D.O.C. to find their location: (317) 232-5715

Kopano Muhammad (s/n Vincent Hatchett) #25800
Shaka Shakur #28443
Sekou B. Majekodunmi (s/n Michael Ford) #855831
Akono G. Olatunji (s/n David Bellemy) #862113
Idrix Malik (s/n Kevin Holifield) #22275
Anane Baye Camara (s/n Armen Sylvester) #16091

NATIVE PRISONERS IN MINNESOTA FIGHT FOR RELIGIOUS RIGHTS

Earlier this year the A.L.F. Supporters Group received a letter from Behon LaPrairie, the elected Chief-in-exile of a Minnesota Native prison group, Indian American Folklore Group (IAFG). In his letter, Behon LaPrairie asks for support for the IAFG's campaign for legal and political redress of violations of indigenous prisoners' religious rights. According to LaPrairie, "Our resistance calls for federal U.S. court intervention and political support from all peoples and organizations to assist in our efforts to enforce our right, as stipulated by U.S. Public Law 130-141, to practice Native religions inside all U.S. prisons."

"The resistance movement began at a time when the new director of prisons for Minnesota, Frank Wood, was appointed by Minnesota's Republican governor, Arne Carlson. This newly appointed director of prisons holds the view that 'the Indian no longer practices his religion and those individuals who purport to practice their religion, only do so to rebel against, or challenge the authority of prison administration.' Following this appointment, the deputy director of Corrections, James Bruton, issued a memorandum to all state prison administrators announcing, 'The Indians at Stillwater [prison] have had it too nice for too long.'"

Repressive new policies were then implemented. The IAFG responded by filing a class-action lawsuit against the prisoncrats. Prison officials retaliated against organizers within the IAFG, writing fictitious 'incident reports'; involuntarily transferring IAFG Chief LaPrairie, Co-Chief Rouse, and Education Director Brooks to maximum security prisons; denying attorney-client visits; and banning pipe and drum ceremonies. Prisoncrats also refused Medicine Man Reuben Goggleye's request for Native input into prison policy regarding Native religious practices, as had been done in the past.



LaPrairie writes, "the larger picture of our department of corrections in Minnesota is one of a genocidal strategy to control the Native population by subjecting them to coercive programs of assimilation. As one takes note in Minnesota, one sees the state Department of Natural Resources spending over 4 million dollars each fiscal year fighting to abrogate Native Treaties...while outdoor sporting extremists create an atmosphere of racial hatred and distrust against the Minnesota Natives. Similarly, Minnesota state prison officials are spending thousands of dollars fighting against Native inmates' constitutional right to practice their religions, while prison officials and mainstream media collaborate to foster an atmosphere of hysteria against prisoners and to incite racial hatred."

"Our prayer is one of peace and inner-healing for all peoples of this great Turtle Island. We cannot survive as a species if this atmosphere of ethnic and religious 'cleansing' continues. This is what our tribal and spiritual elders have indicated to us."

For more information on the court proceedings, and to find out how you can help the IAFG in their efforts, write to

Behon LaPrairie
c/o Barbara LaPrairie
RR 1, Box 89, Vesta, MN 56292 USA

HAROLD H. THOMPSON

"I am an anti-authoritarian, anti-racist, anti-sexist, Anarchist, revolutionary of proud Irish heritage. I am also a vegetarian and strongly support the animal liberation movement and the A.L.F. world-wide. I stand for civil/human rights and will not break, bend nor be intimidated. I stand in solidarity with all people struggling against oppression, but most particularly with my many brothers and sisters in the Anarchist movement."

Harold Thompson is an anarchist serving time in Tennessee. Since his incarceration in 1979 for politically-related robbery and two shooting incidents, Harold has faced intense repression for his activism from behind bars as a jailhouse lawyer. After a failed escape attempt in 1986, Harold spent five years in maximum security and/or solitary confinement. In 1993, he was sentenced to 15 months solitary confinement, with no infraction report. Harold's political literature has been confiscated numerous times by prisoncrats on the grounds that it contained "narratives of anarchy".

According to Harold, many activists are "brainwashed to believe prisoners are bad people, which is another myth perpetrated by the government to neutralize prisoners....I work to awaken people in here politically but have seen too many give up trying to make contact with movement folks out there, or give up even attempting to learn about the various movements because of the inability to get literature from the various groups due to nothing more than apathy within these movements."

Please help Harold by sending him letters and literature, to keep him updated on what's happening out here. "All personal letters will be appreciated and perhaps keep loneliness from suffocating me as I carry on the good fight."

Harold H. Thompson #93992
Turney Center Industrial Prison
Route 1, Only, TN
37140-9709 USA

You can also help by sending donations, however small, to

Harold Thompson Support Campaign
c/o Mike Lee, *Raze the Walls*
PO Box 22774
Seattle, WA
98122-0774 USA

information and quotes from Anarchist Black Cross pamphlet

ANIMAL LIBERATION PRISONER NEWS:

NEW ZEALAND ANIMAL ACTIVISTS ARRESTED

New Zealand Animal activists Ben Griffiths and Mark Eden were arrested at gun point early in the morning of Tuesday 11 June by police for alleged involvement on an A.L.F. attack at Gun City, one of the biggest hunting shooting and angling shops in the South Island. The two were arrested only blocks away from the shop, which had two large shattered plate glass windows, glued up locks and had animal rights and anti-hunting slogans in bright red paint on it's walls. Graffiti from a previous A.L.F. attack in May was also still visible.

The two activists were made to stand facing a fence with their hands in the air while police searched them and their bag for evidence, and afterwards the two were arrested and charged with wilful damage and possession of offensive weapons (slingshots).

On July 1, Ben and Mark both pleaded guilty to intentional damage to Gun City and a second shop, The Complete Angler, located in Christchurch. Police agreed to drop the more serious weapons charge when they plead guilty to the damage. Both men have been ordered to pay reparations of $955 each and to do 100 hours community services each.

Money is needed to cover legal costs, and any help would be appreciated. Please send funds (made out to ACTIVIST LEGAL FUND) to:
BUST FUND
c/o Box 6387
Te Aro, Wellington
New Zealand

POLICE POUNCE ON SUSPECT BOMBER
Date: Jul 25, 1996

An animal rights activist Barry Horne was recently arrested when undercover police officers pounced on him in Bristol's downtown shopping centre.

The 44-year-old man had four explosive devices strapped to his body when captured by officers in a struggle in Halfords store in Bristol's central Broadmead shopping centre. The devices were made safe later by army bomb disposal experts. They also dealt with two other suspect explosive devices found in a main chain store and neighbouring cancer charity shop.

The arrest is understood to have followed a lengthy surveillance operation by officers of the South East Regional Crime Squad. They had been involved in a five-week long intensive surveillance operation which had taken officers throughout the country. It is understood they had tracked the suspect from the west Midlands and followed him into stores where devices were planted.

Det Chief Insp Roy Lambert, of the regional crime squad, said: "The devices were all live, armed and ready to go."

He said that although only one person was arrested inquiries were continuing. He said the suspect, who was from the west Midlands, was believed to have connections with the Animal Liberation Front.

"The devices appeared to have been designed to cause the maximum damage where they had been placed."

See page 66 for Barry's address to write letters of support to.

TWO DUTCH ACTIVISTS ARRESTED UNDER SUSPICION OF ARSON

In the early hours of the morning of 24 March, two Vegan activists living in Amsterdam were arrested under suspicion of carrying out arson attacks on three meat transport trucks in Zaandam, Castricum and Den Helder, as well as one or more arson attacks, attempted arson and the placing of anti-meat slogans on a Butcher's School and a slaughterhouse. Their house was searched for over 3 hours by a 15 strong task force.

The investigation was started last year by the police in Den Helder, after attacks on slaughterhouses in that area. In December 1995, the investigation broadened to include members of the Regionaal Recherche Team (Regional Investigation Team) of North Holland and police from the Kennermerland area, after there had been more arson attacks in those areas. The two men used the initials RAT (Right Animal Treatment) and later AJF (Animal Justice Front).

Both men have since confessed to the following:

- arson on 23 December 1996 in Oostzaan on a meat transport truck;
- arson, on the night of 20 and 21 January 1996 on a meat transport truck and surrounding meat processing plant in Castricum.
- attempted arson in Halfweg on meat transport trucks of Hot Dog King, early February 1996.
- attempted arson on a butchery in Den Helder, attempted arson on a slaughterhouse and a meat transport truck both in Den Helder on 30 March 1995.
- arson on meat transport trucks in Amstelveen, Hilversum and Rotterdam. The damage caused to 4 meat transport trucks in Rotterdam totals hundreds of thousands of guilders, because the fire spread to a surrounding "meat company" (the press release does not specify if it was a slaughterhouse or processing plant).
- placing the slogans "meat is murder" and "murderers" on a school for butchers in Amsterdam on 11 February 1995.

The two activists Frank Kocera (25) and Eric van de Laan (20) were being held without trial -- as we go to print we have had no word on any new developments -- a trial was supposedly set for July. They stated that they carried out these actions because they are passionately opposed to every form of animal use/abuse. Their actions were an

attempt to mobilise /shut down butcheries and meat processing plants, and to cause meat-eaters to pause and think about the fate of the animals who end up on their plates.
Please drop them both a line to show your solidarity and support. See page 67 for their addresses.

PRISONER UPDATE

Anarchist Dimos Hristofidis was arrested and charged with the attempted arson at a McDonald's in Athens, Greece. No address is known at this time regarding where Dimos is being held.

Swedish animal libber Erika Schriever-Abeln was found guilty in August of another two arson attacks. She was given a $40,000 fine and is undergoing "rehabilitation" into society. (ie they are trying to brainwash her).



Gurjeet Aujla HV2047
HMP Birmingham, Winson Green Road, Birmingham, B18 4AS. England.

Sentenced to 6 years in connection with postal devices sent to various companies and individuals involved in the meat and livestock export trade.

Dave Callender HV3314
HMP Birmingham, Winson Green Road, Birmingham, B18 4AS. England.

Currently appealing against a 10 year sentence for conspiracy to cause criminal damage by arson.

Darren Cole HD2301
HMP Featherstone, Wolverhampton, WV10 7PU England.

On remand charged with arson on farm buildings used in the live export trade.

Michael Green VA2923
HMP Bristol, Cambridge Road, Bristol, BS7 8PS, England.

Co-defendant of Melanie Arnold, charged with arson on abattoir in Gloucester and conspiracy to commit arson at various meat and lairage companies, etc.

ANIMAL LIBERATION PRISONERS

NORTH AMERICA

Rod Coronado #03895000
FC1, South Wilmot Rd., Tuscon, AZ 85706, USA.

Sentenced to 57 months for aiding and abetting arson and handling stolen property in connection with acting as spokesperson for the North American ALF, and for damaging government property as a protest against the treatment of native Aericans (Rod is a member of the Yaqui Nation).

UNITED KINGDOM

Melanie Arnold GJ0940
HMP Eastwood park, Falfield, Wotton under Edge, Gloucester, GL12 8DB, England.

On remand charged with arson at an abattoir in Gloucester and at two Milk Depots in Cheshire, and on conspiracy to commit arson at various meat wholesalers, lairage companies, etc.

Angie Hamp TW1687
HMP Askham Grange, Askham Richard, York, YO2 3PT, England

Serving 4 years for conspiracy to commit arson. Angie has recently been turned down for parole, and is now due for release in Oct. 96.

Barry Horne VC 2141
HMP Bristol, Cambridge Rd, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 8PS

On remand charged with possession of explosive material with intent to cause damage.

Keith Mann EE3588
HMP Full Sutton, Nr Stamford Bridge, York, YO4 1PS, England.

Sentenced to 11 years for criminal damage, attempted incitement, possession of explosive substances, escape and attempted arson and escaping from custody.

Gillian Peachey RL3415
HMP Holloway, Parkhurst Road, London, N7 0NU, England.

On remand charged with conspiracy to use incendiary devices to cause criminal damage and arson.

Micheal Roberts GE3743
HMP Lewes, Brighton Road, Lewes, E. Sussex, BN7 1EA, England.

On remand charged with conspiracy to commit damage.

Geoff Sheppard MD1030
HMP Wormwood Scrubs, po Box 757, Du cane Road, London, W12 0AE,
England.

Sentenced to 7 years for possession of items with intent to make incendiary devices and possession of a shotgun.

Charles Skinner No24250
HMP La Moye St, Beades,Jersey, Channel Isles.

Imprisoned for starting a fire at Jersey to visitors centre which caused 322,000 pounds worth of damage.

Barbara Trenholm RL1292
HMP Holloway, Parkhurst Road, London, N7 0NU, England.

Found guilty of committing arson along with Justin Wright, due to be sentenced Sept 6.

Justin Wright CE3046
HMP Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1E4

Found guilty of committing arson along with Barbara Trenholm, due to be sentenced Sept 6.

HOLLAND

**Eric van de Laan Reg No. 1648819
**
Bijlmer, Demersluis, Postbus 41901, 1009 CE Amsterdam, Holland

Awaiting trial on various charges of arson against the meat industry in Holland.

**Frank Kocera Reg No. 1648820
**
Bijlmer, Demersluis, Postbus 41901, 1009 CE Amsterdam, Holland

Awaiting trial on various charges of arson against the meat industry in Holland.

Animal Liberation Frontline Information Service <http://envirolink.org/ALF/alf.html>

MISSION

These pages at intended to provide an on-line information service dedicated to the activities of the animal liberation movement in Europe, North America and World-Wide. Its aim to provide an uncensored clearing house for information and news about animal liberation activities and activists. This service is needed because many actions go unreported by the mainstream media leaving people in the dark regarding what is really going on.

SCOPE

The service does not aim to supply news on the activities of the main stream animal rights groups since this is being done brilliantly by the Animal Rights Resource Site. What the service does is provide information about the 'underground' groups and individuals that are labelled by the mainstream as; 'extreme', 'terrorist', etc.

SOURCES

The vast majority of the information found here has been provided by various Animal Liberation Front Supporters Groups; such as the North American A.L.F.S.G. and the UK-A.L.F.S.G., and the UK's A.L.F. Press Office.
Some of the information is from national media sources or various on-line sources such as newgroups and mailing lists. Some of it has been sent to us anonymously.

DISCLAIMER

The Animal Liberation Frontline Information Service is not itself part of any existing Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group and is not intended to replace their work. The Information Service exists in the interest of free speech, freedom or information and public interest. The Information Service does not exist to incite people to commit any immoral and illegal acts.

EARTH LIBERATION PRISONERS

E.L.P. prisoners have been imprisoned for actions against the destrcution of the environment. For more info contact EF! Action Update, Box 9656, London N4 4YJ, England.

Clive Dairymple, PB 2529,
HMP Pentonville, London N7 8TT
Tim Barford, LW 1062
HMP Elmley, Isle of Sheppey, Kent
Posco Boscovitch, Casuarino Prison, Locked Bag 1, Kwinana, WA 6167, Australia
Helen Woodson, c/o C. Dixen, 3559 County Highway 6, Wisconson Dells, WLI 53905, USA

PRO-A.L.F. ZINES AND ALTERNATIVE PRESS

****Correction to info from* Underground #4: Schism *(page 50) Schism is no longer around or being published the box has been closed. Sorry for any inconvenience.*

A.L.F. Supporters Group Newsletter (UK)

A.L.F.S.G., BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX, England.
Four issues per year.
A great way to find out what's happening in the British A.L.F. scene, with updates and commentary by and about A.L.F. activists and supporters.

[NEW] @Fobic

Olhos de Raiva Distro, Apt. 1016, 4446 Eremsinde, Codex, Portugal
Portuguese edition only
Excellently produced zine, unfortunately not available in English. For those who can read Portuguese, highly recommended. Articles on the A.L.F., environmental actions, CAFT, the Justice Department, full of neat graphics and cartoons. Also available from this address is a catalogue of newsletters, zines and merchandise available for ordering.

[NEW] Ahimsa

c/o KVY, Box 217, 00151 Helsinki, Finland.
English
Brand new eco-radical newsletter from Mia Salli, one of the two young women arrested for the release of over 600 fox from four different fur farms in western Finland. Published every second month, Ahimsa is designed to provide Finish activists with information, contacts, and establish co-operation between them and foreign groups and activists. Free to prisoners, others please send a donation.

Animal Info

box 22-459 Christchurch Aotearoa/New Zealand.
News for animal liberation with the aim to increase actions in Aotearoa. Great for updates on A.L.F. activities in New Zealand, but includes news from around the world.

[NEW] Animal Justice Fund

Newsletter of the Dutch A.L.F. Supporters Group
Postbus 3607, 1001 AK Amsterdam, Holland

Providing a voice to those who break unjust laws in Holland, this newsletter is great to see, especially when Dutch police have jailed two activists for A.L.F. activities. Donations for a subscription is requested in Dutch guilders, but US funds would probably be welcome.

AnimaLife: The Cornell Animal Rights Advocacy Publication

Willard Straight Hall, Box 39, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 14850 USA
http://envirolink.org/arrs/AnimaLife/index.html

One of the better mainstream animal rights magazines. Fairly representative of North American college/university animal rights activism. Now on-line on the World Wide Web.

Arkangel Magazine

BCM 9240, London WC1N 3XX, UK
Arkangel Magazine aims to unify the Animal Liberation movement by providing a forum for debate and exchange of ideas, and information about pro-animal actions at local, national and international levels. Over all, an excellent magazine for finding out what's up on the UK's animal liberation scene.

[NEW] Dave Callender Justice Campaign Newsletter

Box 38, Manchester, M60 1NX, England.
Dave Callender was sentenced to 10 years in jail for conspiracy to cause criminal damage by arson. Not one pounds worth of damage was caused, no life was endangered, and he was never accused of carrying out ANY actions. The D.C.J.C. Newsletter was set up to publicize Dave's plight and to mobilize support. Campaigners are looking to overturn Dave's outrageous sentence and get him a new trial. Contains articles, interviews, news and updates. Please send a donation.

Dressed in Black

PO Box 6845, Syracuse, NY, 13217 USA
Lots of coverage of civil disobedience, with some A.L.F. articles.

Earth First! Journal

PO Box 1415, Eugene, OR, 59806 USA
Six issues per year.
An excellent journal on radical environmental and animal liberation activism. Focusses on the USA; some international coverage. Also carries information on imprisoned activists, indigenous struggles, and a directory of Earth First! chapters across the world.

ELP (EARTH LIBERATION PRISONERS)
c/o box 23, 5 High St. Glastonbury, Somerset, England.
This is an excellent magazine that keeps track of Earth and Animal Lib prisoners all around the world. ELP is produced by "a busy bunch of ELVES" who have a range of interests including Animal Lib, Green Anarchist, Wobs and Anti-fascists.

Eco-Vegan

BM Heal, London WC1N 3XX, UK
Free with SAE. Contains information concerning animal liberation actions and Earth Liberation activities. If an action happens anywhere in Europe, Eco-Vegan seems to knows about it and has the details listed.

[NEW] Forandringens Fro (Seeds of Change for Animal Liberation)

BCM Gruegt. 23, 0652 Oslo, Norway.
FF is published anonymously by radical Norwegian animal liberation activists, and is distributed throughout Norway, Sweden and Denmark. FF is a forum for radical activists, printing articles concerning animal liberation and imprisoned activists. Also tackled is anti-fascist work, women's liberation, environmentalism and more. Article include "Prisoner Support -- Why and How," "Feminism and Animal Rights," "A.L.F. Established in Norway," to name but a few. FF seeks articles, drawings and photos. Available by subscription. Send a couple of dollars donation to cover costs of printing and postage.

Green Anarchist

BCM 1715, London, WC1N 3XX, England [Quarterly.]
Features a regular animal liberation section in addition to lots of news and articles about earth liberation, from an anarchist perspective. Obviously they're doing something right since police have reached their wits end in an effort to shut them down, arresting editors and contributors throughout the UK. Show your support by picking up a subscription today!

Green World

49, York Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU11 3JQ, UK
Contains news on the Green movement as well as information about animal issues. 3.50 pounds for a year's subscription (inside UK).

Happy Meal

c/o Katie & Jack, 16 Evergreen Square #3, Somerville, MA, 02143-2323 USA
40 pp. $1 or 5 stamps, plus postage. Trades accepted.
Vegan zine from x-edge punk perspective, with a good deal of humour. Described as "a highly personalized view of two whose veganism seems to creep into pretty much every facet of their lives".

Justice for Keith Mann Campaign

c/o ICA, Box 1135, Downs View Rd, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 8AA, England
UK A.L.F. activist Keith Mann was sentenced to jail for 14 years for causing over 6000 pounds worth of damage to animal trucks, attempted incitement, possession of explosive substances, escape and attempted arson. This magazine features interviews with Keith's family, letters of support, sabbing news, updates on UK A.L.F. prisoners and much more. Ideal for learning more details on the prison situation faced by Prisoners of War in the UK. One pound per issue.

Liberator

PO Box 80, Chichester, W. Sussex PO19 4GH, UK
Interesting Animal Liberation magazine, though published very irregularly. Action reports, newspaper clippings, sab news, A.L.F. tips for success, etc. 1.50 pounds (a single issue, inside UK)

[NEW] Muutoksen kevat (The Spring of Change)

Box 847, 33101 Tampere, Finland
Finnish edition with English language summary provided
This is an excellent radical grassroots zine from Finland. Published 4 times a year with a circulation of 2000-3000. Info on monkey-wrenching, the rights of arrested activists, the Basics of Ecological Revolution, interviews with activists, the ethical and political history of direct action, and much more. Very well produced.

No Compromise

Four issues per subscription.
235 CMU, 300 Washington Ave. SE Minneapolis, MN 55455
A great magazine with a definite pro-A.L.F. stance. Informative articles, lots of information on militant animal rights/anti-fur/animal liberation actions and demos. A grassroots magazine with lots of spirit.

Presse pour la Liberation des Animaux (P.L.A.)

BP 66007, 620, St-Jean, Quebec City, PQ, Canada, G1R 1P8
Most P.L.A. literature (pamphlets, magazines, etc.) and posters are in French. The P.L.A. coordinator is bilingual and can answer inquiries in French or English. The P.L.A. is a member of the NA-A.L.F.S.G. and a distributor of *Underground*. Pour avoir de renseignement sur la P.L.A., écrire au P.L.A.; inclure un timbre dans votre lettre, s.v.p.

[NEW] Tierbefreiung

c/o M. Schaak. Postfach 3140, 55396 Bingen, Germany
German language only
Pro-A.L.F. magazine from Germany. Includes articles, interviews, action updates, great graphics and comix, and a merchandise catalogue full of German A.L.F. t-shirts and sweaters. Check it out for a donation.

[NEW] Voice

AhornstraBe 16, 63322 Rodermark, Germany.
German language only
Voice is a radical animal liberation grassroots magazine. Full of pictures, graphics and excellent articles on the A.L.F., veganism, live animal exports, and much more. Each issue lists A.L.F. actions from around the world. 3 DM per issue, or send a donation to cover costs and international postage.

[NEW] Yowl

PO Box 687 Station Q, Toronto, Ont. M4T 2N5

A great zine from a direct-action feminist perspective. Issue #1 covers street fighting for grrrls, an anti-circus article, A.L.F. updates, vegan recipes and tons more. The author is an animal rights activist and the zine is pro-A.L.F.. $5 for a years sub or $1 per issue.

NA-ALFSG...merchandise distribution...NA-ALFSG

po box 767295 roswell, ga 30076

❖BOOKLETS❖

•B01 **Keep Fighting. 64 pgs 1/2 size $3** Interviews with UK ALF Press Officers.

•B02 **An Animal Liberation Primer. 2nd edition. Compiled and edited by @nu. 32 pgs 1/2 size $2.50** A DIY booklet of direct action tactics: how to stake out an action site, breaking into buildings, vandalism, arson, how to react to police interrogation, etc.

•B03 **As long as there are slaughter houses..then there shall be battlefields. 30 pgs $3** A historical look at actions against animal abuse, from 1991 onwards, and some interesting analyses of the ALF. An invaluable look at the ALF in Britain.

•B04 **Explosives Manual. 84 pgs 1/2 size $4** Guide to building explosives and incendiaries from easily acquired materials. Similar to CIA-type manuals.

•B05 **Grand Jury Comix. 1978. 13 pgs 8x14 size. $3** Although put out almost 20 years ago, it provides useful information for our movement today - and is a great tool for public education concerning the evils of grand juries.

•B06 **Huddersfield:4 The State:0. 36 pgs 1/2 size $3** The story of a 1992 trial of four people accused of being ALF activists in England. The trial that "did not make threatening examples out of the defendants and did not produce harsh prison sentences..." Invaluable info regarding defense strategy.

•B07 **Interviews with Animal Liberation Front activists. 52 pgs $3** Compiled in England from interviews with numerous ALF cells. Covers most aspects of the ALF.

•B08 **Into the 1990's with ALF Activists. 18 pgs $2** A how to book from England on ALF tactics.

•B09 **The Power Is Ours: A Manual on Saving the Earth and the Animals. 15 pgs $2** An updated version of Into the 1990's with a slightly different layout and tactical info.

•B10 **Without a Trace: A Forensics Manual for You and Me. 36 pgs 1/2 size 1987 $2** Details the police department's capabilities on tracking activists.

•B11 **This is the ALf. #2 20 pgs 1/2 size $1.50** An Australian primer. Clippings as well as DIY directions.

•B12 **Animal Liberation Primer. 3rd edition. 20 pgs 1/2 size $2** How to guide. Covers some different ground than the previous primers.

•B13 **Press Clippings. 49 pgs 8 1/2 x 11 $3** News clippings from U.S. actions dating back to the 1980s.

•B14 **On The Road Again: Direct Action Underground. 8 pgs 8 1/2x11 $1** A guide to living underground: acquiring fake IDs, transportation, funds, communication, etc.

•B15 **Interviews with California ALF Activists. 6 pgs 8 1/2 x11 size $1** Answers to basic questions asked by beginning ALF activists.

•B16 **Their Lives Are In Your Hands. 16 pgs 1/2 size $1** Summary of actions for '94 ALF attacks.

•B17 **History of the American ALF: Diary of Actions. 1977-1995. 12 pgs 8 1/2x 11 $2** Everything the North American ALF has been up to since 1977.

•B18 **The Final Nail: Destroying the Fur Industry. 24 pgs 8 1/2x 11 $2** Manual for defeating the fur industry. Contains a state by state listing of fur farms, suppliers, etc.

•B19 **Memories of Freedom. 90 pgs 1/2 size $3** A first hand account of the Operation Biteback campaign engaged by the Western Wildlife Unit of the ALF.

❖MAGAZINES❖

north american

•M01 **Underground #3** Winter '95 **65 pgs $3, #4** Spring '96 **56 pgs $3**

•M02 **No Compromise #2** Spring '96 **$3, #3** Summer '96 **$3** Covers militant animal rights groups (CAFT, SOAR, etc.) as well as the ALF. A necessity for all activists!!!

foreign

•M11 **ALF Supporters Group Newsletter from the UK** Spring '95 **32 pgs $2.50,** Summer '95 **28 pgs $2**

•M12 **Arkangel (UK) #13** Spring '95 **68 pgs $4, #14** Fall '95 **60 pgs $4**

•M13 **Liberator (UK) #2** Summer '95 **40 pgs $3, #3** Fall '95 **$2, #4** Winter '95 **$2**

•M14 **Animal Info (New Zealand) #5** Dec. '95 **8 pgs $1**

no longer in print

•M16 **Combat (published by the old Canadian SG) #1 1990 16 pgs $2**

❖MISCELLANEOUS❖

•X01 **Stickers: "Support the ALF" Masked activist with bolt cutters OR "ALFSG" with shackled hands breaking free.** 50 cents ea./6 for $2

•X02 **Bumpersticker: "No Blood For Vanity" (Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade)** Full-sized, professional vinyl bumpersticker. **$2**

•X03 **Fabric Patches, with circled "A" and NA-ALFSG around it.** Perfect for jackets, backpacks, etc. **$2**

•X04 **ALFSG Benefit Compilation.** 17 Canadian punk and hardcore bands. High quality tape. Comes with a 24-page booklet and "ALF Supporter" sticker. **$7.50**

all prices include postage for north america. overseas orders please add 25% for postage.



POSTCARDS

<-- P02 $2/SET OF 4 P03 -->

(not shown: P05: chickens deep fry Colonel Sanders)



coming soon: t-shirts, notepaper, stickers, buttons... designs & other merchandise ideas appreciated



ORDER FORM

CODE	ITEM TITLE/DESCRIPTION	PRICE PER	QUANTITY	COST

NAME	SUBTOTAL	
ADDRESS	-10% (ALFSG MEMBERS)	
	+25% OVERSEAS POSTAGE	
PHONE	TOTAL	

mail to: NA-A.L.F.S.G., Po Box 767295, Roswell, GA. 30076, USA



WANTED:

ANY NORTH AMERICAN A.L.F. VIDEO FOOTAGE

The **North American A.L.F.S.G.** is colaborating with some small film producers to put together a full length North American A.L.F. Documentary/History. **We want your video clips from television news, any action big or small** -- from fur store that got their locks glued all the way up to footage of the Penn State Head Injury raid.

Any quality tapes would be appreciated. We will return tapes after copying and if needed will reimburse people their postage for sending tapes to us.



North American Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group

Box 69597, 5845 Yonge St. Willowdale, Ont. M2M 4K3, Canada.