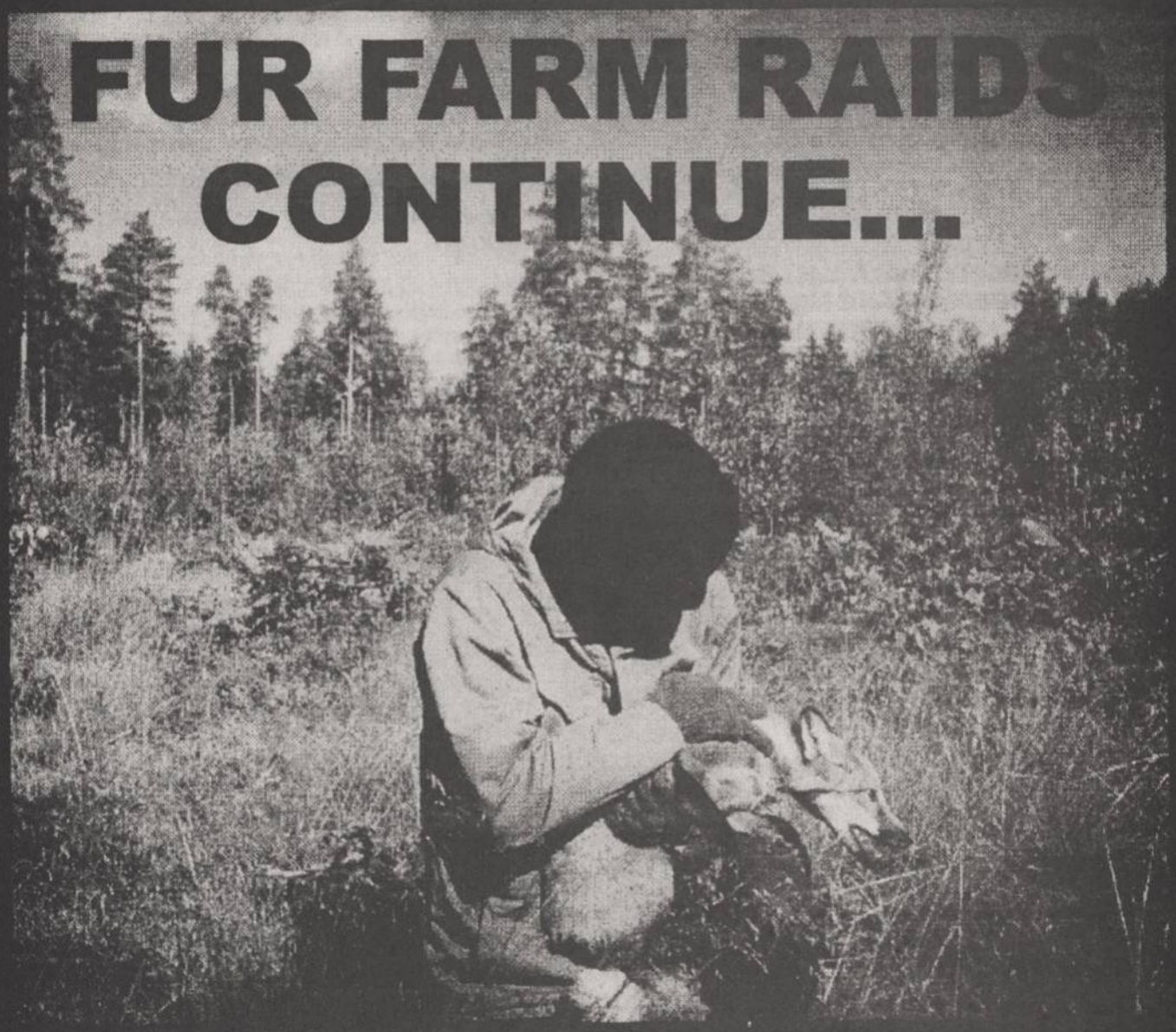
UNDERGROUND

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT SUPPORTERS GROUP

ISSUE #9 | Winter '97 | FREE TO PRISONERS | $3



also inside: End the Canadian Seal Hunt * Gandalf Trial Concludes * Diary of Action * Mink Release Myths and Facts * Prisoner Justice Project: Year in Review * Animal Lib Prisoner Updates AND PLENTY 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sure to write **"FOR PUBLICATION"** on anything you send us for the newsletter, so that we know what should and should not be published.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 *Underground*, 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.

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Suggested costs for a membership to the North American A.L.F.S.G. (including a year's subscription to Underground) are on a $20-30 sliding scale. Canadian subscribers can pay in Canadian currency, we ask that U.S. and overseas subscribers pay in U.S. currency (U.S. cheques or money orders). PRISONER SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE FREE. All funds, EXCEPT merchandise and distribution orders should be sent to:

NA-A.L.F.S.G.
BOX 69597
5845 YONGE ST
WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO
CANADA, M2M 4K3
email: <naalfsg@envirolink.org>
Cheques and money orders made out to "NAALFSG"

Write us for a catalogue of NA-A.L.F.S.G. merchandise, for distribution information and/or to order products. **PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR ROSWELL DISTRO ADDRESS IS NO LONGER VALID. ALL ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE MAILED TO OUR CANADIAN ADDRESS. THANX!**

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A.L.F. 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 liberationist.

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 a 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 *Underground* and other merchandise produced by the Supporters Group; 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 A.L.F.S.G. must be approved by the NA-A.L.F.S.G
- Distribution/Subscription drives: if you can help us distribute *Underground* or increase subscriptions, that helps us educate about animal liberation.

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 ti with a sponge. Remember, you should expect that all of our mail and any other SG's mail is opened and read by the authorities. DO NOT inform us of upcoming actions BEFORE they happen.

Notes from the NA-A.L.F.S.G.

Greetings! Welcome to issue #9 of Underground. We hope you all are in the best of health and your spirits are strong (unless you're a vivsector, fur farmer, butcher or all round animal abuser, in which case we hope your research grants dry up, your farm collapses into bankruptcy and you wake up to find your shop fitted with "air conditioning" care of an A.L.F. brick.) At any rate, it has been a busy year over all for animal liberationists of all caliber, and we're pleased to say that 1998 shows no sign of slowing down. As the Swedish activist on our cover shows, fur farm raids are still happening with overwhelming frequency around the world, although for some the debate on tactics continues. We received a letter from the Swedish group, Djurens Befrielse Front, condemning the actions of Swedish fur-farm raiders like the Wild Mink, who have struck numerous times throughout Sweden, releasing thousands of mink. Our intention is not to step into the debate or take sides, but we do recommend for those concerned about the issues surrounding mink liberations to review Rod Coronado's piece, *"Opening the Cages — A Look at Mink Liberations"* **(Underground #5)** to understand more about mink survivability, appropriate and inappropriate release times/seasons, environmental impact, etc. Another good resource for mink liberation information is the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (CAFT) :
Box 822411, Dallas, TX 75382, USA.

In other news, we regret to announce the closing of the NA-A.L.F.SG's Roswell GA Distro group. Merchandise is still available for you to order, but those interested should write our Willowdale Ontario address from now on. Unfortunately, there remains a huge mess to clear up with the old distro — we are still waiting to receive records of unfilled orders — many of you have been waiting as long as six months for shirts, magazines and leaflets, and for this we can only apologize. At this moment there are dedicated activists within Canada who have taken over the Distro and will work hard to fill those outstanding orders. However, we are also still waiting for folks in the U.S. to ship us a number of merchandise items that we don't have stocked here. At any rate, without boring you all with the details of our quest to be reunited with our merchandise, suffice to say we will do our best to make it up to everyone who has been waiting.



One final note: for several weeks Canadian postal workers have been on strike, and hence many of your letters and updates have not reached us in time for this issue. There is however, a pile of very interesting stuff between the pages of this magazine, and we hope you all enjoy!

yer Editor,
t.

Letters to Underground



ACTIVIST NEEDS OUR SUPPORT

About a month or so ago two persons from the Worcester (central Mass.) area, Vern Flynn and Chat(?), were arrested and charged with one felony, "possession of a incendiary machine". Allegedly going to be used to burn a veal crate lot. Chat talked, but did not admit and got a deal, one year probation and 55 hours community service. Vern did not talk, and is going to pre-trial Nov.10. Vern has two other open mis. Civil Disobedience charges.

So far no one has put the word out about this and no one seems to know about it. So, in turn Vern has not seen any support. He has a public defender, but does not seem to have much faith in him.

Letters of support can be emailed to **<MASSHardline@juno.com> or sent to:**

Vern Flynn
PO BOX 381855
Cambridge, MA 02238

Alex from Boston

Letter From Lise Olsen and Harold Thompson

Dear NA-A.L.F.S.G.

I send my warm @ greetings from the belly of the beast!

I hope this letter finds you and all at NA-A.L.F.S.G. in good health and spirits with everything going well. At this time I am in fair health and low morale with things going in typical chaotic fashion here. Still no news on our forced double cell or the lack of vegetarian diet lines lawsuits. One positive note is I'm still alone in my cell with its limited, though cherished, privacy.

I have been asked by Lise Olsen to send you a statement about her present situation/circumstances which is below:

I have been asked by my very dear friend, supporter, and former AR prisoner, Lise Olsen, to contact you with an current update of her situation. After having served her entire prison sentence at Lise's second trial she was acquitted of the four felonies and received a sentence of "time served" on the last remaining felony charge of "unauthorized use of a weapon" charge so is legally free at this time. In reality the felony she was convicted of at her second trial was the "crime" of possessing in excess of three tablespoons of gasoline under Illinois state law. The only reason Lise Olsen was convicted on this felony at all was the Grand Jury had indicted her on the first half of the statute but left off the second part of the statute pertaining to weaponry. Her conviction is on appeal at this time and Lise Olsen has informed me she has spent thus far approximately five thousand dollars on this appeal.

Recently Lise Olsen relocated from Chicago to another state, which she prefers not be disclosed at this time in order to lessen chances of her being framed on additional bogus charges by law enforcement, and she is doing well. She is working to rebuild her life after her legal ordeal, to recuperate spiritually and physically following her period of incarceration and later Lise's electronic monitored house arrest. Lise Olsen requested I thank all who supported her during her time of suffering, plus all who cared enough to communicate during it. Lise Olsen requested I express her gratitude, love and admiration for all good people struggling in behalf of the animals worldwide.

Take care, stay strong and continue to struggle against the monsters of the earth for the animals and for a better day for all!
In struggle & Solidarity,

Harold H. Thompson, #93992
Turney Center Industrial Prison
Route 1, Only, Tennessee 37140-9709, USA

FROM PARTISANS TO FIRE ELVES

For those who never read the *EF! Journal*, or bother to keep abreast with some actions, then one would not be guilty if they had not heard of the Earth Liberation Front. But the Earth Liberation Front is now becoming quite a name amongst the radical movement, plus an annoyance to the security services. So just what is the ELF?

The ELF was established after the first EF! gathering in Brighton UK, in 1992, as a method in protecting the sabotage side of EF!, and also to protect the surface direct action movement from infiltration similar to what

has happened in the US. But more importantly the ELF rose from an inspiration of the A.L.F., plus previous radical revolutionary groups such as Autonom and the Angry Brigade. It was these decentralised, confrontational based movements that to many in the ELF showed the way forward, especially as mainstream environmentalism had failed, and even the EF! approach was limited. It was decided at the gathering that the two groups would publicize each other, with the ELF as the underground wing of EF!.

Sadly, this never really happened, as some sections of the movement were trying to link up with the mainstream, and saw the elves as an embarrassment. Those in the EF! movement who supported the ELF were isolated and frowned upon. Naturally, this didn't stop the ELF, who saw themselves as much more homogenous than EF!, and had originated through a struggle for earth/animal liberation, rather than as a bunch of red-necks ... The ELF philosophy was also totally different, in that it immediately formed a link with animal liberation, something that took EF! ten years to do. In Britain, when EF! had need of person-power on the protest line, they would utilised hunt sabs. The ELF saw a holistic link between earth, animal and human liberation, and focused on issues such as anti-fascism (round River ELF being responsible for targeting green fascist papers such as *Nexus)*, and eco-feminism.

What was important to the ELF was the whole aspect of revolutionary means to overcome the common enemy, multi-nationals and big business. Instead of getting into endless discussions of deep Vs social ecology, it praised revolutionary ecology, which says, "lets hit the bastards with a well organised eco-resistance movement, rather than prating around with intellectual gobblygoop." Underground zines like *Partizan* and the *terra-ist* were produced, that openly printed a "scum directory," causing heavy security to be placed around directors, etc. Some elves, seeing the need for prisoner support, set up the *ELP*, which featured A.L.F. and eco-prisoners. Not content with this,the ELF began travelling the globe, setting up units in europe and elsewhere, doing interviews, pushing the annual earth nights.

Internationalism was vital in taking on the trans-nationals, playing them at their own gain. One only has to remember the "Send Shell to Hell (SSHA)," a sister groups of ELF, who focused purely on SHell.

The ELF is now active in 10-15 countries, with some daring actions taking place in the Netherlands, Finland, Poland and now Canada and the US. Of course, as said above, we do have a problem with some element of EF! in Britain, the most recent being the Manchester EF!'s "Action Update" to Eco-vegan, which said the ELF never existed and was just a joke. Such scumbags are a disgrace to the movement, and are a joke themselves. Hard work and an activist risking their freedom is forgotten about.

We need solidarity not refusal, the Gandalf 6 - with three *Green Anarchists* going down saw more support from the Animal lib activists then the green movement. It's alright to wear a monkey wrench on your T-Shirt and to shout "no compromise," but if you're not prepared to use it, then what's the point?

An ELF group recently said that the biggest worry for the security services will be when the earth & animal liberation movements get together. Well, they have -- world watch out , 'cause we've got a big planet to save, plus millions of species depending on us. United we can begin to claw back the territory we've lost. With Earth Night just around the corner, we now have the ultimate chance to do that. Lets get serious and use the best weapon we have: "imagination".

There is now a web site sit up where folks can send news etc. (use security at all times) at http.www.fortunecity.com/skyscraper/sterling/58,/index.html, or write <E.L.F@exitemail.com which has prisoner news etc on it.

Earth Liberation Front



NEWS BRIEFS

Finnish activists shot by fur farmer

December 6/97

Orimattila - During what appears to have been an early morning raid against a Finnish fur farm, one woman and four men were shot down by the farm owner. The five were hit by shotgun blasts after alarms alerted the farmer to their presence. One activist remains in hospital, while the remaining four were arrested by police. The farmer, Markku Kuisma, was also arrested.

According to reports, the farmer opened fire without warning. After his initial shot the farmer charged the activists, shooting at least ten more times, hitting several activists in the legs, arms and in the back.

The Finnish activist community was outraged when news of the shooting was released. Over 150 people attended demonstrations in Lathi outside the police station, showing support for the activists. When the demo ended, protesters peacefully rallied outside the farm where the activists were shot.

Finnish animal rights activists have vowed to step up the direct action in the war to end the fur trade.

Contact the Finnish ALF-SG (P.O. box 403,00121 Hki, Finland)

Demo at Huntingdon: rooftop demo & Several arrests

ENGLAND - On Sunday 21 Sept. there was a national Animal Rights Coalition meeting at the protest camp outside Huntingdon Life Sciences. About 100-200 people were present, and took the opportunity to demonstrate to the few workers on the premises.

Although it was a Sunday, a few staff come in to feed the animals, etc. These were delayed from leaving by several hours by crowds blocking the gate, and it was gone 8pm by the time police reinforcements arrived to escort them out.

The Group 4 security guards had been joined by other private security with dogs (from Crimeshield?). An inner perimeter fence has been constructed across the site facing the camp and triple rolls of razor wire have been laid all round the place. Despite all this security, motion sensors on the fence have been repeatedly cut in several places, and three activists managed to scale the fence and gain access to the roof of one of the labs.

They had a banner highlighting Barry's demands. Local press turned up eventually, from the local TV, radio and newspapers. The three people on the roof announced they were on hunger strike for as long as they were up there and as night set in blankets were allowed to be passed up to them.

There were nine arrests outside the gate, mainly for obstructing the police.

Two activists were knocked down by cars speeding from HRC. Ambulances arrived and carted them off to hospital, but not surprisingly the police did nothing.

Later that night there were reports of a home visit to an employee of HRC who got about 20 windows smashed. There were no arrests that we know of.

There have been reports in the local media, TV, radio and papers, generally good coverage.

Swedish Demo Trashes Fur Shops

Stockholm, Sweden - September. Roughly 30 activists gathered in protest against a busload of fur-scum planning a trip to a huge Swedish fur store in another city. Activists delayed the bus by blocking the road until police arrived. Eventually the bus was able to leave.

Activists met again at noon in the central of Stockholm where two



demos were planned, one against a fascist organization and the second one against fur shops. Over 100 activist had gathered for the first demo, but the fascists never turned up, so the activists went to a nearby fur store and blocked entrances. Protest chants filled the air as one activist poured red paint over fur coats and leather jackets. Paint bombs rained down on the shop walls and windows. A fur store owner was also covered with paint.

Events escalated quickly and undercover cops started to try and make arrests, starting with an activist in a balaclava and pro-A.L.F. shirt. Attempts were made to "de-arrest" as cops were pushed and beaten, but were unsuccessful. Incredibly, the activist broke free and ran through the streets, but was sadly arrested again.

Over 14 police vehicles arrived, and officers placed themselves between the store and the angry crowd. Two other activists were quickly arrested. As police cordoned off the street, the activists dispersed and headed for another fur store.

The next fur shop targeted was Amores, a large fur retailer that had been targeted in the past. Police were already at the shop when activist arrived, and despite the huge police presence a bottle of red paint flew right through one of the shop windows, covering some very expensive chinchilla coats in red paint.

As activists cheered the broken window police attacked the crowd and arrested at least 24 activists, including one who had only just been released from an arrest at the other demo. Activists were charged with rioting, one for "maltreatment" and one for "criminal damage."

Damages at the two shops were heavy, with the first suffering over 70,000 SKR ($10,000 US) while the second was hit with an estimated 1,000,000 SKR (roughly $150,000 US).

NIEMAN MARCUS EXEC. JAILED FOR ASSAULT ON PROTESTOR

Sept 27/97

Dallas, TX - Police arrested and jailed a top security executive with Nieman Marcus Headquarters for assault and battery after he attacked and choked an anti-fur demonstrator as she was driving away from a protest at the Dallas downtown store.

Activist Lydia Nichols, founder of the Dallas animal rights group Animal Liberation of Texas, was thrown to the ground and her head rammed into the pavement. She was also chocked.

Other Nieman Marcus security personnel joined the fracas, beating J.P. Goodwin, director of the national anti-fur organization Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade as he attempted to defend Nichols.

Nichols was rushed to Baylor Hospital after she sustained major contusions, and blacked out from the attack. Goodwin was also taken to the hospital for numerous cuts and bruises.

Activist Gets Prison for Illegal Gun Buy

Nov 6/97

SLC, Utah - Jacob Lymon Kenison, an animal rights activist accused of setting a Tandy Leather store on fire was sentenced to 16 months in prison for illegally acquiring an assault rifle.

Jacob was charged in February with one count of aggravated arson for allegedly starting a June 15, 1995, blaze at the Murray store. Damage was estimated at more than $300,000. In March, one month after the arson charge was filed in state court, Kenison bought an assault rifle at Golden Spike Firearms. As part of the transaction, Kenison was asked whether he was facing charges for any crime for which he could be imprisoned for more than one year. Kenison was indicted on a federal count of acquiring a firearm by false statement a month later. He pleaded guilty to the charge in August.

At sentencing, defense attorney Deirdre Gorman asked U.S. Chief District Judge David Sam to consider probation. Kenison bought the gun as a birthday present for a friend, Gorman said. The friend pawned the gun and did not commit any crimes with it. ``It's a situation where there is no harm done," she said.

Kenison faced 10 to 16 months of incarceration under federal sentencing guidelines. Sam ordered Kenison to serve 16 months, noting the teenager has been in custody and has credit for three months. Sam said he would recommend Kenison for a boot-camp program, and ordered 36 months of supervision after his release. Kenison also must serve 100 hours of community service. The state arson case against Kenison is pending.

NEW ZEALAND ACTIVISTS CHARGES DROPPED

Oct 2/97 Auckland, New Zealand - Five activists facing trespass and intimidation charges stemming from a demonstration on the property of Auckland Medical School Dean Dr Peter Gluckman, were happy to hear their charges had been dropped.

Gluckman and his wife refused to appear in court to present evidence, at which point police asked

that the matter be adjourned, but were turned down. According to the judge, the case had "already languished for too long in the courts," and the matter proceeded.

Prosecutors were without any primary witnesses and were forced to admit they had no evidence to offer. The trial judge then dismissed all charges against an elated five activists.

McDonald's Arsonist Jailed

Sept/97 SLC, UT - A 19-year-old man who last year helped firebomb a West Jordan McDonald's restaurant to protest the slaughter of cattle, chickens and fish was sentenced to a year in jail. Mark Klein's sentence is similar to two other teens-- Ryan Zacharie Durfee, 20, and Jason Troff, 19-- who were sent to jail in August by other judges for the same arson fire. A fourth defendant, age 17, was given probation by juvenile-court authorities. Prosecutor Ernie Jones had urged 1-to-15-year prison terms to send a strong message to other animal rights activists. Discouraged, Jones said he may file future arson cases in federal court, where the teens could have faced a minimum of 35 years behind bars.

Judge Timothy Hanson said Klein's youth and an absence of any prior criminal record justified probation. And it made a difference that the building was under construction and unoccupied. **See our prisoner listings for addresses to write to!**

Oh, Too Bad! Fur Feed Supplier Burns to Ground

Oct/97 Finland - One of the largest fur feed suppliers in Finland burned to the ground due to an electric malfunction. The damages were estimated at between $5-7 million US.

2 face charges in '96 release of 3,000 minks

October/97 Two men have been charged in connection with releasing minks from two South Jordan farms last year.

In the early morning of July 17, 1996, two people entered the Holt Mink Ranch and released more than 3,000 minks from their cages, according to 3rd District Court charges filed Friday.

The release caused more than $200,000 in damage to the mink farm, the charges state. The loss included damage to fencing, genetic records and a truck motor. Agents from the Salt Lake Area Gang Project and Utah Criminal Investigation Bureau arrested Kevin Dexter Clark, 21, and Clinton Colby Ellerman, 20, hours apart and at different places. Police state the two admitted to police that they were ``involved in the Holt Mink Ranch release and destruction of property," the charges state.

The 20-year-old also admitted that on June 22, 1996, he was involved in another vandalism at the Beckstead Mink Ranch, also in South Jordan. During that incident, the release of minks and vandalism to the farm cost more than $50,000 in damage, the charges state.

Both men have been charged with criminal mischief, a second-degree felony; release of fur-bearing animals, a third-degree felony; and burglary, a third-degree felony.

Police said Ellerman is related to Douglas Joshua Ellerman, 19, who has been charged with the March 11 bombing at the Fur Breeders Agricultural Co-op in Midvale. Six pipe bombs were detonated at the Midvale mink feed plant under trucks, causing about $750,000 damage.

West Haven Fur Arson now at Trial

October 97
OGDEN -- Trev J. Poulson, who is accused of attempted aggravated arson at a West Haven fur company went to trial in October. Prosecution said Poulson gave them a detailed confession for the incident March 19th at the Montgomery Fur Co., 1678 S. 1900 West.

Deputy Weber County Attorney Gary Heward said two accomplices were ready to testify against Poulson. He faces up to 15 years in prison if found guilty.

Agents from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms joined the Weber County Sheriff's Office in investigating the foiled arson, meant as protest of harvesting animals for fur or meat.

"We're not trying Mr. Poulson on his beliefs," Clark reminded the eight-person jury. "Keep that dear to your heart...this young man is different. He's not normal...he subscribes to an online service for animal rights activists. He is anti-government. He is paranoid about law enforcement. He is paranoid about big bureaucracies. He subscribes to a magazine that accuses the ATF and the FBI of abuses, of planting evidence."

According to the prosecution, Poulson, 19, of Layton, and an alleged accomplice were identified by a security guard at Montgomery Fur, who told police that he watched the two men pour an estimated 25 gallons of gasoline around the base of the building early the morning of March 19.

As the suspects were preparing a one-gallon milk carton to use as a fuse, the night watchman yelled at the two men and they fled in a pickup truck.

Terry Montgomery, the owner of the fur company, testified Thursday about two other "terroristic" incidents at the business. He said he sells hunting and trapping gear, plus "raw furs."

Last November, Montgomery said he went to the office one night to discover the place had been broken into and gasoline had been splashed around the office.

In January 1997, tires were slashed on several vehicles at the fur company. One vehicle had the letters ALF scratched on the body, which Montgomery said he took to stand for "Animal Liberation Front." After that, he said, he hired a security guard.In news reports the ALF took credit for planning the abortive March 19 incident.

Clark said a witness will testify that Poulson was in Logan visiting her at the time of the crime. But Heward said that convicted co-conspirators Cameron M. Kraus, 18, of Centerville, and Bret G. Walton, 18, of Bountiful, will testify against Poulson.

Clashes at animal rally

England- An animal rights protest at a farm that breeds cats for scientific research erupted in angry clashes between demonstrators and police.

Eight people were arrested and several suffered minor injuries as 300 protesters gathered outside Hillgrove Farm near Witney, Oxon. Activists pelted the police with stones and other missiles. Officers, some mounted and many with protective gear and shields, tried to push back the crowd and disperse the demonstrators.

About 150 police, backed by a helicopter and dogs, tried to prevent the demonstrators breaking down the farm's perimeter fence but were later accused of using "heavy-handed" tactics. One woman campaigner, who suffered an ankle injury when she fell as the crowd was being pushed back, was taken to hospital. A woman police officer suffered a wrist injury and other demonstrators, including children, sustained cuts as they fell into barbed wire fences.

Hillgrove Farm has been a focal point for animal rights demonstrations following revelations that cats are bred there for medical experiments. Earlier this year, activists broke in and released 14 cats. Thames Valley Police described the incident as "serious" but rejected the suggestion that officers had been heavy-handed and said that every effort had been made to facilitate the protest. A spokesman said: "We fully support people's right to peaceful protest but we cannot stand by and allow people to commit criminal acts." The eight held during the protest were arrested for public order offenses and were in custody at a police station in Oxford.

A spokesman for the protesters said: "The point of the campaign is that Hillgrove breeds cats for vivisection in laboratories,and we feel that both lawful campaigning, regular demonstrations and direct action can help close them down."



"We had to let the animals go. No one informed them of their rights when they were arrested."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SWEDISH GROUPS CRITICISM RAISES DEBATE ON MINK RELEASES

A recent press release sent to radical animal liberation organizations has sparked off some serious debate over tactics used in mink farm raids. Originating from the Sedish A.L.F.'s (DJURENS BEFRIELSE FRONT) ress officer, Emilie E:son, the release has stirred up plenty of emotion on both sides of the issue. Cutting through all the name calling and back stabbing that all to often accompanies this sort of debate, we've decided to publish Emilie E:son's original release, and the Swedish direct action group The Wild Mink's response. Also accompanying the two letters is some straight forward information provided by the Coalition Against the Fur Trade about mink releases. Back issues of *Underground* contain information on both the history of the DJURENS BEFRIELSE FRONT (issue #3) and expert mink liberation advice (issue #5).

THE RELEASE:

The Swedish ALF
DJURENS BEFRIELSE FRONT
BOX 179
5-265 22 ASTORP
S W E D E N

AN ANIMAL- AND ECOLOGICAL DISASTER

A nameless, unknown group or individual have released eight thousand (8000) minks from two fur farms in Svenljunga, Boras in southern Sweden on Oct 12-13, 1997. Minks are not a natural Swedish animal and to let out 8000 is nothing else than animal abuse and an ecological disaster. Already a lot of the minks has been run over and killed by cars and soon, in a couple of weeks, the minks won't find anything to eat.

According to ALFs/DBFs guidelines "activists must take all necessary precautions against harming any animal, human and non-human"!! The people responsible for these mink releases can not be serious animal-rights activists, but people who doesn't care for animals and who wants to destroy the serious animal riqhts movement.
The Swedish ALF, DBF who have over 12 years experience in the business have a policy saying :

- not more than 20-25 minks from each fur farm
- only minks with dark fur
- if the fur farm is located close to roads and traffic, bring the minks to safe areas and release them there.

At many occations in Sweden non-ALF/DBF actions has taken place, carried out by peopie without knowledge nor respect for animals and who cowardly have used ALFs/DBFs name. The Swedish ALF/DBF strongly condemn these kind of actions

Emilie E:son
(Press Officer)

THE REPLY:

DBF-REALLY FRIENDS OF THE ANIMALS?

After the direct action group "The Wild Minks" raided 2 mink farms in Svenljunga, southern Sweden, and released all together about 7-8,000 mink, lots of animal rights groups condemned the actions claiming it caused pain and death for the animals.

We expected it from the legal ones, but not from the DBF, a group similar to the ALF, though they don't use arson. Another difference is that you have to apply to their press officer Emilie E:son to become a "member". Emilie E:son, press officer for the DBF, went out in the media after the attacks, totally condemning the actions.

We, the Wild Minks, do not publicize this to cause in-fighting in the movement, but to open the eyes for many people abroad that have no idea what is happening in Sweden.

Emilie E:son condemned the activists and called them STUPID, UNPROFESSIONAL, AND NOT SERIOUS. She also accused the activists of causing the animals pain and a secure death. She also said if DBF releases animals they only release 20-25 because they can destroy the eco-system.

We ask us the question-what's the point in going to the media and condemning the Wild Minks and not the fur industry? In what way will that help the animals tortured on fur farms? The Wild Minks feel sad about her comments, but really we don't care, WE CARE ABOUT THE ANIMALS, but we feel it necessary to say what she has done, because it is betrayal.

The release of all mink has been criticized a lot, but we will continue because mink can survive in the wild, even though they kill other animals, they will spread, they might kill each other, they will be re-captured. One day in freedom, one day with grass under their paws is much better than a life in a barren cage. On only one of the mink farms in Svenljunga the owner claimed 2 million SEK in damages, 5,000 mink lost and many years of breeding work destroyed.
WAS IT WORTH IT? IT'S UP TO YOU TO DECIDE.
The Wild Minks
Sweden, October 26th, 1997
end-----

MYTHS AND MINK RELEASES: A CLARIFICATION.

by CAFT.

As the Animal Liberation Front, the Wild Minks, and other direct action groups have carried out their campaigns, there has been an element of our movements that has criticized their liberation efforts. Specifically, more conservative groups and "activists" have claimed that liberated mink would somehow pose a threat to the ecosystem that they are released into.

The Coalition Against the Fur Trade is convinced that mink liberations are a good thing. We have studied the works of various mink biologists, and have concluded that mink releases are good for the animals and the earth.

One must be especially glad that these liberations have led to the closing of fur farm death camps which are destroying water systems from the tons and tons of waste that they produce each year.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT MINK RELEASES



The following will address the most common arguments that the fur industry, and conservative activists, have used to discredit mink liberations on ecological grounds.

Myth: Liberated mink will destroy native wildlife, causing irreparable harm.

Fact: It is interesting that this argument is usually preceded by the claim that the mink will starve to death because they haven't been taught to kill. If this were true and they don't know how to hunt, then they certainly won't be killing any wildlife. The truth is, however, that mink kill out of instinct, much as the domestic cat does. No training or rehabilitation is necessary.

So do liberated mink destroy wildlife? Of course they destroy some wildlife. They are predators, and they help maintain the balance of nature by killing and eating prey animals. But, at the same time, they do not pose a threat to any particular species as a whole. Mink are not specialized predators. Certain predators, like lynx, will have a principal prey that they rely on. Lynx will usually only eat snowshoe hare, otter normally eat fish, etc. On the other hand, the mink have a varried diet.

Examination of mink scat shows that this animal will eat mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. They do not specialize, but rather eat whatever is most readily available. Furthermore, the mink is a very solitary animal. The only time one will see mink together is when they are mating, or in the weeks immediately following their birth, when the mother is still caring for her kits.

When released mink go in search of their own habitat, they will not tolerate the presence of other mink. Mink normally have a range of just under 3 square kilometers. Being so spaced apart it is unrealistic to assume that the mink could have enough of an impact on any particular species to make any noticeable difference at all.

Myth: Because ranch raised mink are often bred for mutant color genes, mink liberations can damage the environment by polluting the wild gene pool.

Fact: The standard mink genes found in wild populations are dominant over most mutant color genes that have been exploited by fur farmers. Studies indicate that these mutant color genes are bred out of existence in just a few short generations.

In England the entire mink population is the offspring of animals that escaped from fur farms. Despite the fact that there were no wild mink to breed with, the recessive mutant color genes have been virtually diminished by the more dominant standard genes that most ranch mink carry. A 1986 study in Devon, England found that only 3% of the mink population was showing any sign of these mutant genes. A similar study in Scotland showed nearly the same results.

Myth: Mink in England have decimated the otter and the water vole.

Fact: Sadly, the mink became the scapegoat for the decline of the otter. Otter populations were decimated by pesticides and hunting. In recent years the otter has made a comeback, and examination of their scats has shown that contrary to claims made by mink hunters and the fur trade, otter actually kill and eat mink. Mink do not kill otters.

The water vole is another species whose numbers have been decimated by man, yet we continue to blame the mink for their problems. Studies show that in areas with the water vole, this animal still only accounts for about 2% of the minks diet. It is doubtful that feral mink could have any noticeable impact on the number of water voles when they are not in any way a principal source of food for mink.

Those are the most common anti liberation arguments used by those that would rather see predators confined to cages, instead of out in the wild, serving the purpose nature intended. There have been 35 fur farm raids in North America, in a time span of 2 years. Approximately 75,000 fur farm prisoners have been released into the wild. If any of these arguments had any merit, then why aren't we seeing some evidence in areas were mink have been released? This doesn't have to be a hypothetical argument based on interpretations of scientific literature Mink have been released in large numbers, so where is the damage? The fact is, there hasn't been any.

We know that the mink have survived. One chicken farmer wrote a letter to a Utah newspaper complaining that a mink released from a farm months before had eaten some of his chickens. And yet, we aren't seeing this ecological damage the fur trade has predicted.

In many ways the ALF has done the earth a favor by raiding these farms. In addition to stopping the mass accumulation of animal wastes by shutting these places down, they have re-introduced mink to areas where they had been nearly wiped out. For example, the ALF freed 400 mink from a fur farm in Sheboygan, WI. At roughly the same time there was concern about the lack of mink along the Sheboygan River.

It is estimated that as few as 150 lynx may still exist in Montana, yet the state still allows a trapping season. Montana is the home of several lynx fur farms, and there could very well be more lynx in captivity than in the wild.

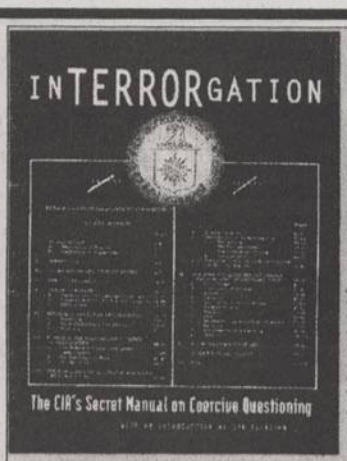
The lynx is only a few short generations out of the wild, and even the Forest Service has considered using ranch lynx for reintroduction (see Lynx, Wolverine, and Fisher in the Western United States, Research Assessment and Agenda by John Weaver, 1993). Imagine what direct action groups could do without all of the red tape and bureaucracy.

The Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade has always supported the release of fur animals, and always will. Direct action groups have sent us anonymous communiques which we have publicized, so as to generate attention on fur animal death camps. We will always be willing to act as the spokesgroup for those that risk their freedom for the benefit of others.

In the meantime, please use the evidence presented here to show people that the fur industry, and conservative activists, lie when they claim mink liberations are a bad thing.

Until the last cage is empty,

Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade
PO Box 822411 Dallas, TX 75382
MINKLIB@aol.com



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GANDALF TRIAL CONCLUDED

Portsmouth Crown Court: Judge David Selwood, 66, finished his four-day summing-up in the case of Steve Booth, 38, Simon Russell, 33, Sax Wood, 24, and Noel Molland, 24 on November 11. The four have been on trial since 26th August 1997 for editing *Green Anarchist* and the *Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group Newsletter* (hence GA-aND-ALF), a supposed conspiracy to incite criminal damage. The jury returned the next day with their verdict, finding Booth, Wood and Molland guilty of "being part of a conspiracy to incite criminal damage." Noel Molland's publication *Eco-Vegan*, which also lists animal/earth direct actions, was said to encourage others to carry out similar actions. The three were sentenced to serve three years in jail.

Simon Russell, the former editor of the ALFSG UK newsletter, was happily found not guilty and was released.

The Gandalf trial went on twice as long as it should have. Defence solicitor Tim Greene estimates it has so far cost 2 million pounds. The two year long Operation Washington that preceded it cost 2 million more and involved 60 cops at its height. When the defendants were all finally arrested on 20th January 1997, Limington and Lyndhurst police stations were set aside exclusively to process them. At one stage Sgt. Gunner, one of the Operation Washington team, was sent on an all- expenses paid 'fact finding' trip to Italy. Operation Washington may also have cost the life of kidnapped French student Celine Figar, as Hampshire police (who should have been searching for her) were instead seizing alternative newspapers from bookshops and homes. The Gandalf Defendants Campaign consider the 4 million pounds spent a gross waste of public resources: it would have been cheaper for the cops to buy up *Green Anarchist* at 1,000 pounds a copy!

By convicting three of the defendants, basic freedoms of expression, association and conscience have undermined by this case. If people can't report direct action news or express opinions, receive unsolicited phone calls, write innocent letters or attend rallies with thousands of others without risking imprisonment, England is no longer a democracy. Much has been made of 'how to' advice defendants are accused of publishing but this is a smokescreen. The vast majority of the 6,000 pages of evidence discussed in the Gandalf trial were just political opinions that the State wishes to criminalise.

What also became apparent during the trial was the prosecution's hit-list hierarchy, revealing who they wanted to jail most. As was no surprise to anyone, Robin Webb was their number one target. The general Editor of Green Anarchist was second, and Noel Molland, who compiled diary of actions and sold Black Widow slingshots to activist in Europe was third. The two folks involved with the distribution and mail order side of *Green Anarchist* were four and five, while the former editor of the ALFSG Newsletter was in sixth place.

JUDGE SELWOOD

Judge Selwood agreed originally to exclude jurors with a military background 'to ensure a fair trial'. Not only did he fail to do this -- one juror served 17 years in the Royal Navy, while another's father was an RAF cop -- but he holds the rank of major general himself, having served all but the last five years of his career officiating over military courts with NATO. Selwood also failed to exclude a juror who said he knew the victim of an A.L.F. attack on a

dairy in Fareham who's statement was in evidence! During half-time legal arguments, Selwood refused to listen to defence submissions. Sax Wood's barrister, Steve Kamlish, had to threaten to refuse to present further evidence and go straight to appeal to get Selwood to even give reasons why his arguments were being unheeded! The reason given was that "he thought the defendants guilty." He then went on to indirectly tell the jury that one defendant, Sax Wood, was guilty. Consequently, the defence team have denounced the Gandalf trial as a 'travesty' and 'farce.'

During the first afternoon of his summing up, judge Selwood was clearly drunk. Even sober, he was unable to remember the names of defendants he's spent the last three months in the same courtroom with, referring to 'Saxon Webb', 'Saxon Booth', 'Simon Robin" and 'Simon Rogers' and calling the publication at the centre of this prosecution '*Green Activist*'. He was similarly confused as to evidence, attributing publications to defendants who hadn't written them until even prosecutor Dick OnSlow had to intervene and set Selwood straight. The judge had clearly acted as a second prosecutor throughout the trial, drawing the jury's attention to stuff OnSlow has missed, but his summing-up even included reference to arguments and evidence he'd previously ruled inadmissible!

DARREN THURSTON

Anyone doubting this is apolitical prosecution should check out the case of Simon Russell's witness, Darren Thurston. Simon was accused of the 'crime' of putting a report about Justice Department activities on the Internet. In fact, North American A.L.F.S.G. member, Darren Thurston, did. The court agreed legal aid to fly him in from Vancouver, Canada, and he was due to arrive 10th October 1997. On arrival at Heathrow, Darren was immediately deported as an undesirable alien on advice from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) that he had firearms charges outstanding against him.

Not only was the RCMP's allegation untrue, it should have been no reason to bar him from the UK as a visitor, let alone as a witness in an important trial. The involvement of the RCMP, a foreign security service, shows the lengths the State went to twist the trial to secure a conviction.

THE PRESS

Given that the Gandalf case will have profound implications for the freedom of the press in the UK, the reaction of the media deserves particular mention here.

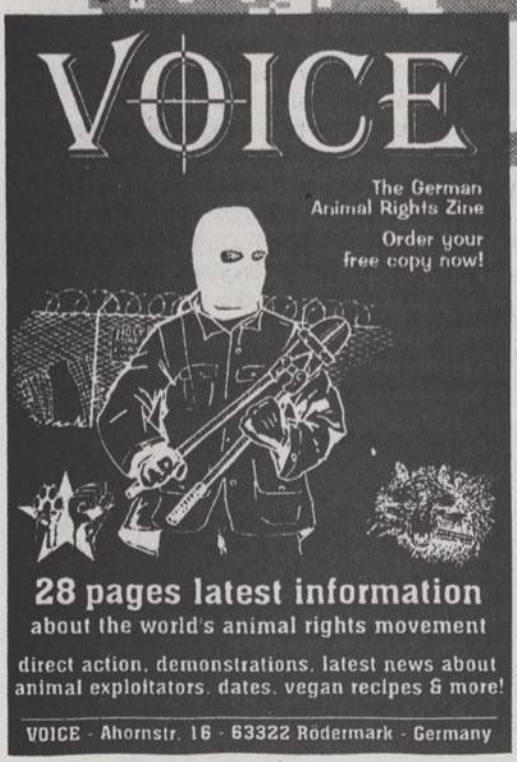
The solidarity shown by the alternative press has been marvellous. The majority of animal liberation publications have affiliated to the Gandalf Defendants Campaign, all publications distributed by INK have agreed to a motion in support of the defendants and over 150 publications and individuals (including four college professors) have signed an Alternative Media solidarity statement. They realize that any restriction of free expression that applies to Green Anarchist will also apply to them.

The mainstream media's reaction, by contrast, has been almost universally disgraceful. The silent collaboration with Special Branch's attempt to stifle free press is clear. Green Anarchist is on trial for carrying the direct action news that they wouldn't. The timid conformity of the mainstream media is epitomised by Portsmouth News reporter Graham Keeley, who appeared to be wholly at the beck-and-call of the state. Coming to court only when invited by OnSlow, and talking only to the police, Keeley refused to correct even the simplest errors in his pro-prosecution propaganda despite repeated requests to do so.

STILL TO COME

It now turns out that Robin Webb, will have his case put back to trial, for much of the same charges as the other defendants faced. Expect his trial to begin sometime in the new year, possibly at the same time Paul Rogers, Green Anarchist's general editor, goes back to court. Rogers was severed from the Gandalf trial when his barrister Ken McDonald resigned.

For addresses of the three defendants convicted through this farce, please refer to our prisoner section at the back of the magazine.









STOP THE SEAL SLAUGHTER

The Canadian government continues to subsidize the mass slaughter of seals off the east coast of Canada. Since 1996, over 100 sealers have been convicted or are facing charges of illegal acts ranging from skinning seals alive, using illegal weapons, killing protected seal pups and other atrocities.

The Canadian government's own internal reports show about 8 out of 10 seals killed are just days or weeks old. About 220,000 seal pups were killed in 1997 alone. Meanwhile, Canadian tax dollars are used to purchase seal meat, fund the Canadian Sealers' Association and finance many other industry supported services, all for a hunt that only creates the equivalent of 100 to 120 full-time jobs.

In 1996, the hooded seal quota set by the government was exceeded by more than 300%, and a government scientist has said that up to 500,000 harp seals, twice the legal limit, may have been killed that year. Many seals were killed solely for their genitalia, which can sell for more than $600 as traditional Asian aphrodisiacs. This type of international trade in wildlife parts has already driven rhinos, tigers, elephants, large whales and many species of bear to the brink of extinction.

The Canadian Seal hunt is cruel, criminal, and out of control. Your help is needed to bring it to an end. Get organized and get informed. You can order a short video from the NA-ALFSG ($5 to cover postage) that will highlight many of the violations and cruelty that has taken place during the slaughter. Help arrange demonstrations and protests at Canadian embassies — stir things up! Boycott Canadian products and businesses until the bloodbath ends.

IT'S TIME THE SEAL HUNT WAS PERMANENTLY SHUT DOWN.

DIARY OF ACTIONS

CANADA

NOV 24/97: Montreal, QU - Four bombs exploded at buildings owned by the company that invented a popular anti-AIDS drug. No Injuries were reported and damage was minor. Two bombs rocked the headquarters of BioChem Pharma Inc. in Laval, just north of Montreal, and two more blasts went off at the company's plant in Montreal. The bombs exploded within a 70 minutes of each other. Police defused two other bombs at the headquarters building. The blasts there were preceded by a telephone warning but authorities provided no details. Spokespeople confirmed that the company conducts tests on animals. A further bomb threat was called in to the pharmaceutical plant the next morning and the plant was evacuated by police, but no further devices were found. There was also speculation that AIDS activists might have been responsible, as a way of protesting the high cost of AIDS/HIV medication. CTV News reports later stated that Laval police state they believe the Animal Liberation Front was responsible for the four bombs. Police said an anonymous call had been placed to a Quebec newspaper, claiming the bombs were planted by members of the A.L.F.'s Quebec cell. The bombs were of a high-explosive type usually used in mining operations. The name of the manufacturers was found on the two devices defused by police. The manufacturers say they have checked their inventory and have not found any explosives missing.

Quebec police are probing a possible link between these explosions two bombings in Alberta, in which one blast destroyed $5 million worth of equipment at a logging camp a week earlier. The other, a month earlier, damaged the concrete base of a public waterslide, leading Calgary police to believe the bomber "was practising." The RCMP in Alberta are working on the assumption that "eco-terrorists" destroyed logging machines at the Water Valley timber project, 90 kilometres northwest of Calgary. Police said, "the conclusion 90 per cent of us would make" is that 'tree huggers' planted the bombs."

UNITED STATES

JUNE/97: Indianapolis, IN - Picking a warm summer evening the A.L.F. toured the city defiling some of the biggest oppressors in the nation—fast food restaurants. Windows were broken in eight or nine different fast food restaurants this fine night. The restaurants included two McDonald's (with nice, large plate glass windows with the big "M"), a Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Dairy Queen, Hardy's, Burger King, and an Arby's. From the communique: *"While many times more significant targets can be found, fast food restaurants will be aware that, as some of the largest abusers of the animals and the earth, they will not escape the tide of action against oppression.* ANIMAL LIBERATION"

JULY 16/97: West Palm Beach, FL - locks glued at the Revillion and Valentino boutiques. -A.L.F.

AUGUST 19/97: Fort Collins, CO - the premises of Wildlife Pharmaceuticals Suite 600, 1401 Duff Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80524 (970) 484-6267 was raided. After holes were drilled and incendiary attack was made. Unfortunately only minimum damage was sustained.Wildlife Pharmaceuticals is the solitary manufacturer of Prime-X melatonin implants for the fur farm industry in North America. The implants are used by mink and fox farmers to unnaturally speed up the fur growth process allowing the animals to be killed 4-6 weeks earlier. Pounding the final nail's into the fur industry, Animal Liberation Front

SEPT/97: Washington, D.C. - The A.L.F. struck Andriana Furs in Northwest Washington, in which etching-cream-filled lightbulb "bombs" exploded on two of the store's display windows. In an attempt to cover up the huge splotches (right at head-level of the mannequins) without replacing the windows, the fur store decided to put up an autumn-leaf-collage-type window display, plastering several leaves on top of each other over the etching cream, in the center of the two windows that had been hit. Needless to say, the cover up job looked--and still looks--ridiculous. As well, "FUR HURTS" was etched in big, thick, beautiful letters in a second hit. Again, Andriana's tried to cover the message with a few leaves, but the words are still very visible.

SEPT 7/97: Hollywood, FL - locks glued at Jordan's furs for the second time this summer. -A.L.F.

SEPT 7/97: Pompano Beach, FL - locks glued at the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) headquarters. -A.L.F.

SEPT 12/97: Oviedo, FL - Boys Town research centre hit by activists. Damage inflicted included a resident passenger van (all 4 locks glued, body paint-stripped, all tires slashed, slogans painted, engine monkey-wrenched). The facility was also hit and had 3 windows shattered by a sledgehammer, as was the front door. The A.L.F. warned, "Actions will escalate

as long as kittens die at Boys Town. Time for the killer$ to pay. -A.L.F.

SEPT 20/97: Anderson, IN - On the early morning the A.L.F. raided Adam's Fox Farm. Unknown number of animals released.

Upon reaching the house of the fur farmer, the liberators snook around the property hiking through a field. It was necessary to cut one of three fences in between the clearing and the actual cages. After cutting the first barbed wire fence, and trekking through the thick woods for some time, another barbed wire fence faced the A.L.F., which were easily cut in various places with large wire cutters and peeled back.

Upon reaching the cages, another fence, about two to three feet tall was encountered which was stomped to the ground almost in it entirety to allow the fox escape to freedom. Several cages were empty, but there were eight full rows of twenty cages found. From the communique: *"Each cage had one or two fox in imprisoned within. The cages were about fix feet long mesh wire with wooden boxes on the end with metal tops on them that merely had to be pulled off or pushed up to allow the fox to jump out. The fox never made a sound once we began opening cages. They were all quite timid, and most would look at the liberator for a second before turning its back until we were safely out of their sight. As we opened the cages very few were jumping out immediately, but as they are quite timid creatures, they began to jump out as we were leaving."* About 200 fox were liberated that night.

SEPT 23/97:Hillsborough, NJ- Milk billboard on Rt. 206 vandalized with slogans "Animal Liberation", "Milk = Pain", and "Stop Hurting Cows". -A.L.F.



SEPT 24/97: Bridgewater, NJ - Hind and Fore Quality Meats and Seafood on Rt. 28 has one of its two front windows broken, and "Meat is Dead" spray painted on its back wall. -A.L.F.

Late SEPT/97 Rockville, Maryland - Two bottles of fox urine were opened and the contents were poured onto the carpets and merchandise of a Sports Authority store.The urine, collected on fur farms, is sold by the national retailer for use by hunt scum attempting to cover their foul odour while out killing innocent animals. From the communique: *"The urine has quite a smell and sends customers running for the door. Activists are urged to visit their local Sports Authority and open a bottle in memory of the animals killed fro their fur and urine."*

OCT 2/97: Oviedo, FL - The local branch of BOYS TOWN (research facility) windows were broken and 'A.L.F.' was spraypianted along with the warning "NEXT TIME THERE WILL BE FIRE."

OCT 5/97: McHenry County, IL - 5000 mink released by activists on a raid against fur farmer Larry Frye [Frye Fur Farm, 2222 Benham Rd., Crystal Lake, IL 60014-2632 (815-455-4862)]. Roughly 5000 of Frye's mink escaped after the A.L.F. cut through chicken wire and opened pen doors early Sunday morning. Industry experts say Frye's losses could reach $800,000 because the activists also stole all the farm's pedigree records. Without the pedigree records, Frye cannot verify the lineage and quality of his mink. Some are of such "high quality" that a single pelt can sell for $1,000. According to the papers, Frye was quoted as saying: "I don't know if we'll be able to go on. It takes years to breed in the best qualities. I'm sure I'm going to lose breeder sales for at least the next three years. I recently sold four males for $10,000. Now I'll be lucky to get $100 for an animal." Frye is a member of the Illinois Mink Breeders Association Board of Directors. From the communique: *"The farm has approximately 40 sheds. Surrounding the concentration camp was a chicken wire fence 4 feet high. Attached to the top of the fence were strips of sheet metal suspected to deter mink from climbing over or to make noise if any unwanted guests attempted to climb over. Above the fence was one electrical wire. For unknown reasons there was no electrical current running through it. We were prevented from rolling the fence up because it was buried in the ground at the bottom. Instead we cut holes 2 feet high and 15 feet or more across in 3 sections. The chicken wire was folded down along the ground so as to allow the mink to run away. We cleared 8 regular stock breeding sheds each containing 400 cages with measurements 18" x 12" x 6" (l x h x w). The wooden nesting boxes were lifted from each cage. The mink would climb out if not already in the boxes when lifted out. 5 sheds with breeding stock mink were cleared along with the breeding stock of 3 sheds filled half with regular stock and half with breeding stock. Each full shed contained 200 cages each measuring 18" x 12" x 12" (l x h x w). Some cages confined two mink in each. The nesting boxes were unattached from the front leaving an exposed opening for the animals to jump out of. The breeding cards in each cleared shed were*

torn from the beams above the cages and thrown mixed together in the excrement below the cages. Cables to a tractor were cut, the electrical system's wires slashed, and the water pumping system sabotaged. An estimated 5,000 mink were liberated. Stores will be attacked and farms raided until the whole industry is destroyed and all animals are free. Millions of animals are slaughtered each year at the hands of the fur industry and by their support from callous and selfish humans. This is the season of blood. Fur farmers and animal murderers beware!THE ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT VISITS YOU NEXT!"

OCT 6/97: Preston, ID - The A.L.F. paid a visit to an Idaho mink and fox farm where thousands of breeding cards were removed from both mink and fox cages. Next, the cages were opened and nesting boxes removed. From the communique: *"The mink quickly climbed out of their prison cells, jumped to the earth, and excitedly ran through the fields, enjoying their first taste of freedom, ever. The foxes, being much more shy and cautious (and a bit neurotic after spending their entire existence in small, filthy cages) did not exit their cages as anxiously as the mink. Nevertheless, we did witness a handful of foxes leave their cages and one sprint away from the farm, never slowing down or looking back! A water pipe in one of the sheds was also broken."* -A.L.F.

OCT 7/97: Downers Grove, WI - activists released 4,000 minks from the Charlie Ide Fur Farm.

OCT 17/97:Watertown SD - activists struck mink farms in Iowa and South Dakota, releasing a 5000 mink in one action and a further 4000 in the second.

OCT 18/97: Bridgewater, NJ - Hind and Fore Quality Meats and Seafood hit a second time. The words "Meat is Murder" spraypainted on the back wall, along with "A.L.F." in numerous spots once with "Ed", the death shop owner's name). Both front windows broken. -A.L.F.

OCT 19/97: Elizabeth, NJ - Three leather couches, valued at $2000 a piece, were slashed in an IKEA furniture store. -A.L.F.

OCT 24/97: East Millstone, NJ - Huntington Life Sciences had two spotlights smashed, and a window broken on its medical building. -A.L.F.

OCT 25/97: Bridgewater, NJ - Hind and Fore Quality Meats and Seafood has one front window damaged, but not broken. On this third attack of the meat market, it is noted that the invested in thicker glass, and 5 or 6 spotlights in a weak attempt to protect his area. -A.L.F.

OCT 26/97: Medford, WI -Three raids against mink farms took place over the weekend with approximately 800 mink released from the Smieha fur farm in Independance, and more than 300 from a second mink ranch near Tomahawk. Over 3000 mink were freed from the Jack Dittrich farm.

OCT 29/97: Hebo, OR - The A.L.F. has claimed credit for a raid that led to freedom for 6 rabbits that were being held at a former mink farm. The group claimed that the mink farm was closed down, but that the owner seemed to be getting into the rabbit fur and meat business.

OCT 31/97: Berkeley, CA - Nearly 30 activists dressed as A.L.F. members payed a late night visit to a UCB vivisector. A tire jack from his garage was applied to the lights of his sports car.

NOV 5/97: NJ - Marianne Fur in Highland Park had a rock with "A.L.F." painted on it thrown through its front window. -A.L.F.

NOV 5/97: Ft. Wayne,IN - In the early morning hours of Wednesday, November 5th, the A.L.F. raided the Lair Fox Farm on Shoaff Rd. (owner Blaine Leffers). From the communique: *"As we approached the farm we noticed a bright flashing light and heard loud music blasting from a radio. This was an obviously weak attempt to deter liberators from breaking in and setting the prisoners free. The cover of the loud noise from the radio allowed us to cut two 8 foot long and 3 foot high holes in the surrounding fence. Once inside, we opened the cages. A total of 125 foxes were liberated. "Free the Enslaved-ALF" was painted on a wall. All of this was accomplished in full view of a security camera on a nearby barn. As we left, we saw many of these bluish-silver foxes run to freedom. -A.L.F."*

NOV 5/97: Highland Park, NJ - Marianne's Furs on Woodbridge Ave. had 2 windows broken with two rocks. The rocks had "ALF" written on them, along with "Fur is Dead", and "Stop or be Stopped". -A.L.F.

NOV 5/97: Bridgewater, NJ - Hind and Fore Quality Meats and Seafood had its front window broken with rocks exclaiming "ALF", "Meat is Dead", and "Animal Liberation". -A.L.F

NOV 8/97: Metuchen, NJ - Lowey Designer Furs has two front display windows, and a glass door broken. -A.L.F

NOV 8/97: Hillsborough, NJ - McDeath's on Rt. 206 has it's drive through speakers broken. -A.L.F.

NOV 8/97: Flemington, NJ - McDeath's on Rt. 202 has

it's drive thru speaker broken, and glass broken on the drive thru menu. -A.L.F.

NOV 25/97: Mission Bay, CA -activists with spray paint and marker pens did more than $5,000 damage to signs and buildings at Sea World. Police believe the vandalism occurred sometime between midnight and 2 a.m., said San Diego police spokesman Bill Robinson. He said the graffiti referred to the capture of animals for display at the park. Police had no suspects.

NOV 29/97: Portland, OR - The Animal Liberation Front (A.L.F.) and the Earth Liberation Front (E.L.F.) claimed responsibility for the release of 500 wild horses and a fire that destroyed a BLM corral on November 29 near the town of Burns, Oregon. This latest action was designed "to help halt the BLM's illegal and immoral business of rounding up wild horses from public lands and funnelling them to slaughter." From the communique: *"The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) claims they are removing non-native species from public lands (aren't white Europeans also non-native) but then they turn around and subsidize the cattle industry and place thousands of non-native domestic cattle on these same lands. This hypocrisy and genocide against the horse nation will not go unchallenged! The practice of rounding up and auctioning wild horses must be stopped. The practice of grazing cattle on public lands must be stopped. The time to take action is now. From an investigation like the Associated Press' to writing the BLM to an action like ours, you can help stop the horse slaughter and save our Mother Earth,"* said both the A.L.F. & ELF.

ENGLAND

APRIL/97: Warwickshire - Activists attacked a Midland livestock transport firm and caused over 20,000 pounds damage. Spiers Haulage had an HGV tractor unit destroyed, and a device attached to another vehicle went off while fire crews were at the scene. Two further bombs were defused by army bomb disposal experts. Activists have threatened to launch a firebomb blitz across the UK. -A.L.F.

APRIL 9-11/97: Exeter - Exeter University hosted a vivisectors conference, but every night the Science Dept was visited and had windows smashed, as was the sleeping quarters of the vivisectors. The conference also was bomb hoaxed on the last day.

APRIL 28/97: Oxfordshire - Windows smashed at OLAC, a lab animal breeders.

MAY/97: Banbury - badger baiters were beaten up outside the magistrates when they came out of court following their first hearing.

MAY/97: Dorchester - the Dorset Meat Co. was visited by activists and had 1,300 pounds worth of windows smashed. The owner told media, "I moved down from London four years ago to get away from all that vandalism -- now look what happened."

MAY/97: Isleworth - The A.L.F. visited Spreo Pets painting the front of the shop and leaving a threatening letter, telling the owner to get out of the business of selling animals.

MAY 29/97: Stukely Meadow - Eight guinea pigs, all heavily pregnant were liberated from Interfauna. This was the first raid on this particular site. The raid took place in broad daylight, when activists took advantage of the fact that decorators were in and had left the doors open.

JUNE/97: McDonald's all over the UK had windows smashed, locks glued and toilets blocked up following the verdict of the McLibel case.

JUNE 10/97: all the windows at the home of Hobbs, a director of Consort, smashed.

JULY/97: Stevenage - Animal rights activists walked through the main gates of GlaxoWellcome, a research facility, barricaded themselves in an office and accessed computer files for over two hours before being discovered. The two activists were seeking evidence of animal testing. Sledgehammers were needed to break down the door, as the pair had piled furniture against it, refusing to come out. They were eventually arrested on suspicion of criminal damage.

JULY/97: Activists happened upon a trailer full of fully grown chicks, parked beside the entrance to a batter unit. In the few minutes the driver was gone, 47 chicks were liberated and are now safe and sound, happy and free.

JULY/97: 150 hens liberated from Leyton St. Slaughterhouse.

AUGUST 16/97: Oxford - The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for several weekend attacks on the homes of five notorious Oxford University animal torturerers. In a statement to the press, the activists said they were "trying to draw attention to a fellow activist, Barry Horne," who was on hunger strike in jail at the time. The vivisectors, including Colin Blakemore, had their homes and vehicles redecorated with slogans and paint-stripper, locks glued and tires slashed, causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. An A.L.F. spokesperson warned, "The severity of actions can be escalated." In a bizarre twist Colin Blakemore later offered the A.L.F. a "place at the negotiating

table", a euphemism for the whitewash which passes as the Scientific Procedures Committee. -A.L.F.

AUGUST/97: E. Sussex - 200 battery hens liberated from a unit in Polegate.

SEPT 8/97: Huntingdon - One of the Huntingdon Research Centre employees in court on cruelty charges had his car redecorated by A.L.F. activists. Andrew J Mash, 4 Grainger Ave, Godmanchester, Huntingdon, Cambs, who was filmed last year by an undercover investigator shaking and hitting beagle dogs undergoing experiments, had blue paint poured all over his car. At a later date his house was attacked by activists who used bricks and iron bars to smash every window. In what appears to have been a sustained attack, reinforced doors prevented entry to the property. Mash and four or five 'friends' inside the house who had armed themselves with various implements to ward off a beating. Apparently on leaving, activists warned Mash that they would return before too long to ensure he "receives real justice for his crimes."

SEPT 22/97: Labour Party HQ bomb hoaxed because of government unwillingness to implement animal welfare policies. -A.L.F.

OCT 27/97: WH Smith HQ bomb hoaxed again as they sell bloodsport magazines. WH Smith have now had 25 known bomb hoaxes. -A.L.F.

OCT 27/97: John Lewis HQ bomb hoaxed since they own a shooting estate where their directors and guests shoot hundreds of animals every year. [John Lewis is a newsagents chain in the UK]. -A.L.F

OCT 27/97: The HQ of Sainsbury's supermarket was bomb hoaxed because they sell ostrich meat. The campaign against supermarkets selling "exotic meats" has recently had good results, as Tesco stopped selling ostrich and kangaroo meat recently. Somerfield supermarkets announced they were also dropping plans to sell crocodile meat as well. -A.L.F.

SWEDEN

Following fur farms has closed down during 1997:

Uggelsta Fur farm, Uppsala * Vimmerby fox farm, Oskarshamn * Kristdala Fox farm, Oskarshamn * Madsens Fur farm, Alvangen * Mink farm, Habo * Nordic Fur farm, Perners

Closed down fur stores 1997:
Pals-Bruno, Lulea * Polar Pals, Hokarngen * Goran Korsnar, Dstersund * Orion Furs, Stockholm * Palsbutik, Halmstad

SEPT/97: Stockholm - After a fur farm raid, several fur store owners went out in media to the media to complain about the trouble the A.L.F. has caused during the last year. Here follows some quotes taken from CNN Sweden: "The vegans vandalism has increased. To our store I estimate that they have vandalized for over 1 million skr all together. The insurance companies do no longer want us as customers..." - Fur store owner, Stockholm.

"This year they have smashed my windows 8 times. Every time it costs me 10,000 SKR. Soon I can't take it anymore...."
- Another fur store owner in Stockholm

"They(The insurance companies) don't want to do business with us anymore. The vegans cost to much!" Surprise, a fur store owner, Stockholm

SEPT/97: Karlstad - A sustained A.L.F. campaign against a meat company was successful in completely closing it down. Activists hit the company four times smashing windows, gluing locks and painting slogans. Owners of the company refused to comment to the media for fear "of reprisal."

SEPT/97: Ume - A vivisection company called Biopol got their windows smashed and animal liberation slogans were spraypainted. The action was dedicated to Barry Horne.

SEPT 9/97: Overhornas --A fur farm in the north of Sweden was raided by the A.L.F., with over 30 foxes liberated before several vehicles arrived and interrupted the raid. The activists fled through the forrest, to their nearby parked car, and drove away. No arrests. The same farm had been raided around a month ago. -A.L.F.

SEPT 18/97: Vingaker - Kasta fox farm raided and several foxes released. -Wild Mink

SEPT 30/97: Alunda - During a day light raid on Monday 29, Sept. the direct action group 'The Wild Minks' raided another fox farm. Tranbyns Fur Farm in Alunda, was raided in the past by the Swedish A.L.F. at which time they found six foxes, releasing two of them (Red Foxes) into the wild. On this visit the activists found five foxes (one red and four silver), possibly the same four silver foxes seen on the previous raid, with one red recaptured. Two of the silver foxes had missing tails. All five foxes were liberated by the activists and carried out from the farm and released into the nearby forest. This farm looks like it was closing down and cages had been taken down by the farmer.

OCT 6/97: Vingaker - The direct action group, The Wild Minks, hit a fur farm, for the second time. Kasta fox farm had been raided previously on Sept 18. This time the activists were determined to free all the foxes. This farm is a breeding farm that breeds foxes and sells breeding foxes to other fox farms throughout Sweden, so it was chosen as a good target. When we entered the farm we were happy to see that the animals released last time had not been recaptured. The remaining 13 foxes (mostly red and silver, some arctic marble) were carried out from the farm and released into the woods where they quickly disappeared to a new life- a life of freedom, free from abuse. Every year 20,000 foxes are killed for fur in Sweden. We will continue to fight the evil fur trade until it is gone, whatever means necessary... SMASH THE FUR TRADE. The Wild Minks

OCT 11/97: Karlstad - A new opened butcher shop and a skin-store gets it windows smashed and slogans painted.

OCT 12/97: Karlstad - The same butcher shop is attacked again. Activists empty two spraycans on the store. They sent out an communique, which was covered by local papers and tv.

OCT 13/97: Svenljunga - Hulan mink farm was raided and holes were cut in the fence surrounding the farm and all the gates left open. Activists opened the cages and freed about 4,000 minks (media and farmer claim 5-6,000). The mink quickly made their escape. Breeding cards and some mink traps were destroyed as well. -Wild Mink

OCT 13/97: Svenljunga - Bloms mink farm also raided. The farm had both polecats and mink. The fence was cut down and activists opened the cages for 2,000 mink. Breeding cards destroyed. -Wild Mink

OCT 14/97: Fargelanda - Bjorkebo mink farm was the next farm to get a visit from the Wild Minks. This farm has 14,000 mink captive and about 1,000 of them were released.

OCT 18/97: Karlstad - A meat company was hit again by activists: slogans painted and several big windows smashed. And the crushed glass flew into the machines so they was damaged! The company's boss said this to local media: "This can mean the death for our company!" The same night a hunting-firm had windows smashed and slogans painted: "For all the dead elks"

OCT 21/97:Falun - the Wild Minks attacks mink farm - 200 free. Hemmingsbo mink farm had the surrounding fence and cages trashed. According to local media the farm owner lost his newly bought breeding animals, which makes this raid even more expensive.

OCT 21/97: Hofors - Sweden's biggest fur farm was attacked. Activists cut several holes in the surrounding fence before they entered this massive concentration-camp, with over 11,000 foxes imprisoned within. The activists destroyed the skinning-machine, a tanner-machine, all the interiors, dressing room and the employees personal stuff/lockers, and poured oil over the clothes, floors and ceiling. Then the activists started to carry out blue-foxes. After around 25 blue-foxes had been carried out a car came up and stopped around 5 metres from the activists. The activists were able to escape to safety and no one was arrested. On the farm the activists found corpses of dead animals, victims of cannibalism. An unworthy death after an unworthy life.

OCT 13/97: Ullunda - 13 rabbits saved from vivisection by the newly founded group Djurrattsmilisen (Animal Rights Militia) from a vivisection breeder in Enkping (Gunnar Hagdahl, Ullunda 5462, 199 91 Enkping, Sweden). The activists broke into one building where they found 40 rabbits. They were able to take 13 with them and placed them in loving homes. The Breeding records of the rest of the rabbits were also stolen. "Djurrattsmilisen" was spraypainted on the building. Gunnar Hagdahl has bred animals destined for animal testing since the early '80s.

Nov 18/97: Eskilstuna - DE VILDA MINKARNA (The Wild Minks) raided Kungsor mink farm in Eskilstuna. This farm was attacked previously in May when 70 breeding males were released and all breeding cards stolen and slogans sprayed. This time, 7 holes was cut in the fence and the activists released well over 1000 minks. -Wild Mink

FINLAND

APRIL/97: Lappeenranta - 11 containers belonging to the largest milk producer, Valio, sloganized. -EVR

APRIL/97: Tampere - Fur store has a window smashed.

APRIL/97: Lappeenranta - Fur store has window smashed and slogans spraypainted. -EVR

APRIL/97: Helsinki - Fur shop has windows smashed.

MAY/97: Tampere - Fur shop has two windows smashed, another fur store and a leather shop each lose a window.

MAY/97: Varkaus - Two hunting towers destroyed.



MAY/97: Tampere - ad signs for McDonalds is destroyed. -ELF

MAY/97: Helsinki - several fur shops have windows smashed.

JUNE/97: Tuuslua - a hunting tower is destroyed.

JUNE/97: Tampere - A digger was sabotaged. -ELF

JUNE/97: Tuusula - Five hunting platforms were wrecked.

JUNE/97: Hameenlinna - A fur store has its walls sloganized. -EVR

JUNE/97: Lappeenranta - two fur shops have windows smashed. EVR

JUNE/97: Mellila - several tires of slaughterhouse vehicles got
slashed.

JUNE/97: Pieksamaki - 9 hunting platforms destroyed.

JUNE/97: Hameenlinna - meat processors truck sabotaged and slogans spraypainted.

JUNE/97: Lappeenranta - Slaughterhouse was attacked: windows smashed, slogans spraypainted and two vehicles damaged. -EVR

JUNE/97: Ylojarvi - Six hunting platforms destroyed.

JULY/97: Vihti - Fur farm raided and 300 breeding cards taken. 50 mink were released. -EVR

JULY/97: Helsinki - A huge fur store lost one of it's windows.

AUGUST/97: Vihti - Second raid a fur farm, and over 100 mink cages opened.

AUGUST/97: Karttula - One beagle rescued from a vivisection breeding house.

AUGUST/97: Pohja - Shell station sabotaged. Also painted was a Shell ad and a Meat advertisement. - ELF

AUGUST/97: Parkano - about 500 mink set free from a fur farm. An estimated 6000 breeding cards were destroyed.

AUGUST/97: Helsinki - a road construction machine loses windows. -ELF

AUGUST/97: Orimattila - About 50 fox cages opened in a fur farm (raided twice in the last year). Activist fled when owner Markku Kuisma woke up. (The same owner who has shot several activists ih December '97)

AUGUST/97: Lahti - Jarvenpaa road construction site has road survey sticks removed on several occasions. -ELF

SEPT/97: Korsnas - over 700 mink released from a fur farm by EVR activists. Slogans included "EVR" and "concentration camp." -EVR

SEPT/97: Maalahti - roughly 350 foxes set free from their cages. A large number of breeding cards destroyed. Many fox remain free.

SEPT/97: Vassa - Hundreds of mink and foxes liberated from a fur farm.

SEPT/97: Riihimaki - attempted fur farm raid, unfortu-



nately the farmer awoke due to his restless guard dog. No arrests made. Minimal damage.

SEPT/97: Lahti - Jarvenpaa road construction site visited several times and many survey stakes removed.

SEPT 21/97: Tampere - A Tampere university laboratory was raided by activists: 30 rats were rescued, green paint sprayed everywhere, the glass of a washing machine broken and the messages "Vapaus. Lopettakaa el inten kidutus. EVR." was painted on the wall (Freedom. Stop the torturing of animals. A.L.F.). Activists raided the lab on a Sunday knowing staff were away, sometime between 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. -EVR

SEPT 22/97: Kuopio - Raids took place at the university animal breeder's building in Karttula. Four beagle dogs were rescued. Karttula has been raided three times within one year, six beagles in total have been rescued. -EVR

SEPT/97 Korsholma - EVR activists raided another fur farm where several hundred mink were released and breeding cards were destroyed. -EVR

SEPT 28/7: Forssa - Two meat trucks belonging to the large meat company, LSO-Food burned to the ground. The trucks were used by the company to transport animals.

OCT 4/97: Linkping - An unknown number of meat trucks belonging to Farmek (a cooperative with Scan meats) were set on fire by activists. -A.L.F.

NOV 14/97: According to media sources, over the weekend unknown persons dyed at least 400 foxes in Porvoo farm. This far has about 1500 foxes and it has been raided 3 times already (1995: 110 cages were opened and 20 foxes remained free, 1996: some breeding cards were stolen), This raid resulted about 200,000 FIM in damages (about $45,000 US).

NORWAY

NOV 11/97: A Norwegian fishing vessel owned by Steinar Bastensen, a well known whaler and fisherman and leader of the whalers own organization in Norway. It is believed that the action had been carried out by activists opposed to Norwegian whaling.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NORWEGIAN A.L.F.
In late December 1996, Dyrenes Frigjrings Front (DFF), the Norwegian A.L.F., formed a group in the city of Bergen in Norway. Multiple small actions were performed against the commercial fur and meat industry. At least 10 actions have take place so far in 1997.

AN OVERVIEW:

January 4th, 1997, the DFF attacked the largest corporation in Norway selling eggs from battery chickens, Prior.Slogans like "Ban Battery Farming" and "Hens out of Cages," were spraypainted on the building. Windows were smashed and locks glued. Three trucks were also painted and windows were smashed, locks glued. Total damage is estimated to be 15,000. The largest sabotage action by DFF was done the 16th of July 1997. The attack was against the largest slaughterhouse in the area, Fatland. At the slaughterhouse the buildings were spraypainted, windows smashed, locks glued and a manifest was pasted on a door. One large truck and a van, were first spraypainted, before they both were torched and burnt to the ground. Total damage has been estimated at 65,000. The following week the press informed that the slaughterhouse owner had received a death threat on his and his family's life, signed DFF. DFF claimed no responsibility for this, and spoke out against these kinds of tactics in the press. Later, it has been revealed that the police investigators, in conspiracy with the slaughterhouse owners, sent this death treat in an attempt to discredit DFF and their means.

Unfortunately, 5 DFF activists have now been caught by the police after extensive investigations and media hysteria. They are all pending trial in early 1998. At the same time, couple of members of the legal animal rights group, NOAH, were also arrested and charged with DFF actions. However, charges have now been dropped, and NOAH's name has been cleared. Two DFF activists were held in police custody, but have since been released. One activist sat in jail for 55 days. Being a vegan, he rarely given anything he could eat, but is now doing ok now...

AUSTRIA

According to articles in Austrian news papers, several fur shops recently attacked by activists with butyric acid claim 4 million schillings damages in Salzburg and more than 60 million schillings damages in Vienna. Police have raided homes and arrested at least two people and the animal rights group Animal Peace's office in Salzburg has also been raided.
By the way, 65 million Austrian schillings is roughly 9 million German marks, 3.25 million British pounds.

BRAZIL

NOV 17/997: Santa Catrina Federal University - A dog was liberated from a dissection class in which he was scheduled to be killed so his lungs could be studied. The rescue took place in the middle of the day, when three biology students took the dog and placed it in a home where he is being well cared for. The Lab regis-

tered theft and "invasion" charges against the three with the university police, but they are standing strong. This is the same university that the A.L.F. hit in February '97, liberating more than 80 monkeys.

AUSTRALIA

NOV 7/97: Victoria - A number of women activists rescued hens and labelled eggs as "cruelly produced" at Montalto Poultry Farm 12 McDonalds Road Epping Victoria Australia 61-(0)3-9404-1524. In a daring night raid on one of Victoria's notoriously cruel battery hen farms seven women from AWA successfully rescued eight seriously ill battery hens. It was the sixth rescue at the Montalto Poultry Farm in Epping and the women also managed to correctly label over 1,000 battery eggs with an ink stamp reading MADE WITH CRUELTY.

Montalto Poultry, known for its rat and lice infestations, was once again exposed in dramatic video footage to be a virtual hell for the hens imprisoned in dilapidated and run down old cages. The women were forced to leave the sick hens behind because they couldn't carry any more. Three of the hens had to be humanely euthanased by a vet with three others seriously ill. Many were infested with lice. One hen was so badly trapped under the food trough it took three people to pry her free.

Another tiny hen was so weak she couldn't stand and her head hung limp. On vet examination she weighed a mere 850 grams (normal weight 2.2 kilos). Two had enormous tumours on their heads preventing them from eating. All these hens were being badly trampled and attacked by other hens gone mad in the small cages.

While the women rescued, others stamped over 1,000 eggs with the words "MADE WITH CRUELTY" which is the correct definition of battery eggs.

The rescue team has been involved on over 100 peaceful and non-violent undercover rescues and inspections in Australia during the last three years. The team feel forced to go and rescue factory farmed animals who are so brutally and callously ignored by the authorities. This was the second rescue during the weekend, with a further twelve hens rescued from another property the night before. GRAPHIC VIDEO FOOTAGE AVAILABLE Further Information Contact: Patty Mark 61-(0)3-9531-4367 or Debra Tranter 61-019-181-573



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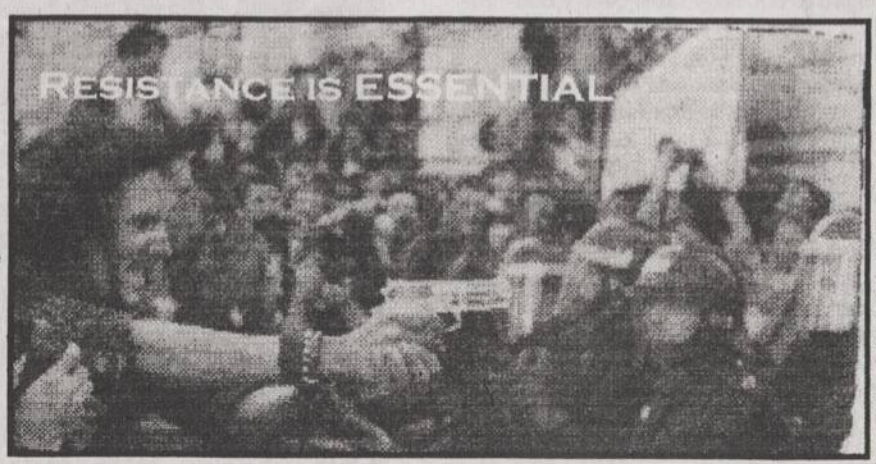
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HOUSE ON FIRE : PRISON JUSTICE PROJECT

1997 the Year in Review

A lot has happened over the course of the past twelve months in the world of prison issues north of the border. Increasingly, the canadian judicial - system is becoming autocratic and punitive. learning its lessons well from the great humyn warehouse that is the U.S. penal establishment. Towards making some sense of the whole thing I've collected together 'newsworthy" events from mainstream news Indexes for 1997, these are sometimes as revealing in what the exclude as in what they record.



The year got off with a bang In January with a riot by 200 prisoners in an Alberta prison. For 5 hours the prisoners fought to reclaim their gulag, ceasing only when several were wounded as guards fired shotgun shells into a courtyard filled with inmates (the shots were intended as warnings but *surprise!* when guns are fired into walls, ricochets happen). Prison overcrowding was discounted as a 'major factor" in the riot by assistant warden Bob Lyttle, in the face of the fact that 575 men are double bunked in the medium security federal facility equipped for a maximum of 468. .

The federal prison system triumphed again on January 17 when it was announced that the mens' Maximum security federal penitentiary In Kingston, Ontario (site of the 1996 political murder of Robert Gentles by an 'extraction team") would be housing womyn requiring maximum security holding. Not surprisingly - especially considering the record of Corrections Canada in dealing with womyn in Kingston (condemned most recently in the Arbour report) the announcement was greeted with rage and dismay. Equally unsurprising was the lack of any consideration for this anger on the part of the state.

February saw Ontario Premier "Chainsaw" Mike Harris announce the opening of a "strict discipline" youth facility in Barrie, Ontario. This same facility had 2 inmates escape on opening day in July! The two young men were recaptured - better luck next time boys!

Also In Ontario, 20 prisoners in a provincial facility in Sault Ste-Marie went on hunger strike after they became the first inmates in the province to be deprived of cigarettes.

March was a significant month for all prisoners in Alberta as they were able to vote in provincial elections there. An appeals court ruling in February upheld an earlier Supreme court ruling giving prisoners the right to vote. The extra appeals court ruling was necessary because Alberta refused to change Its legislation (the Premier, Ralph Klein, Is 'morally opposed" to allowing prisoners to vote - way to uphold democracy Ralph!).

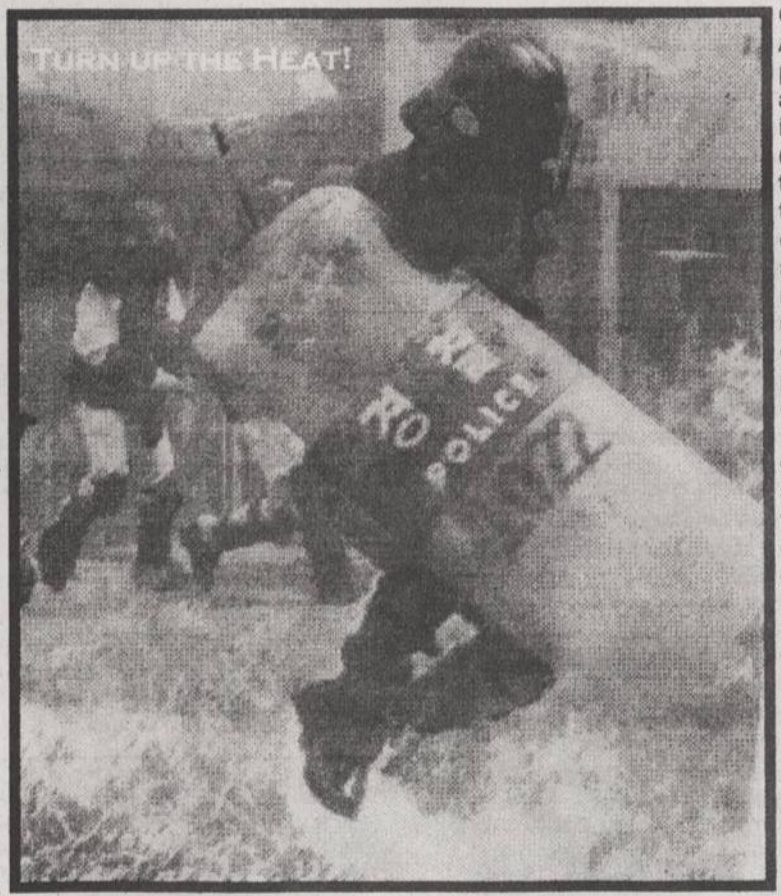
April saw police officer Clifford Deane convicted in the killing of indigenous protester Dudley George during the state assault on the first nations reaction of traditional lands at Stoney Point (Ipperwash) in 1995. (See Underground #8 for more info.) Deane became one of a very few Ontario police officers convicted of unlawful killing on duty, his crime carried a potential sentence of life Imprisonment.

Also In April 3 womyn - Tilly Powder, Dawn Pierson and Sherri Parenteau - escaped from the newly opened Edmonton Institute for Women. Events at the prison prior to the escape included a suicide and an attack on a nurse by an inmate. No news on whether the womyn were recaptured but their escape prompted major renovations to the prison.

In May the Federal government was sticking its filthy paws into the issue of prisoners voting rights. 15 000 federal prisoners cast votes on May 23 in advance polls for the federal election in early June. Ottawa asked the supreme court to have those votes discounted just days prior to the election proper.

In May corrections canada spent 400 thousand dollars to revamp security at the Edmonton federal womyns facility - installing barbed wire and security cameras. The security upgrade came only 6 months after the facility (billed as a new model prison and as the answer to the myriad difficulties encountered In warehousing large numbers of disenfranchised womyn while neglecting the problems that got them there) opened up. Those same precautions were well established when I visited the Grand Valley Women's prison in Kitchener, Ontario shortly after its opening, also in May.

Not a great deal of mainstream news in June of '97 but July was eventful enough to more than make up for it. The canadian court system distinguished itself yet again for blindness and bias when Clifford Deane was sentenced to 2 years less a day for the extra judicial killing of Dudley George. Deane will keep his job as a police officer and serve his term in the community. The prison system showed itself to be mathematically Incompetent at about the same time. It seems that there are about 14000 federal prisoners Incarcerated Canada, 5% of whom are In gangs. This so concerned prison officials that they felt compelled to Issue a warning about the increase in gang activity in the prison system. This warning will naturally be used as a justification to tighten restrictions on prisoner activity and increase police and guard armament. For those not mathematically inclined, 5% of prisoners in gangs means that 95% (13300 out of 14000) of prisoners are NOT in gangs.



The crime of the year was also pulled off in July when a person or persons unknown thieved a tractor-trailer full of 2-dollar coins from a rail yard. The heist was perpetrated in broad daylight on a Saturday afternoon, the coins bear no distinguishing markings and are completely untraceable - nicely done!

And to close off this midsummer month Reform party member (and Christian school-teacher) Stockwell Day (Treasurer for Alberta) advocated that convicted child-killer Clifford Olson be moved to general population so that "moral prisoners" could deal with the problem In a way which "we don't have the guts to do". Let's see, what was that little bit in the new testament about forgiveness, love and compassion? Obviously I'm not as well versed In the scriptures as the (allegedly) honourable Mr. Day - crumb.

In August the Canadian Police Association passed a resolution at their annual meeting calling for (among other things) a return to the death-penalty in some murder cases, restriction of pepper spray to use by law-enforcement personnel and the establishment of specific criminal charges to apply to anyone attempting to disarm a police officer. (So far as I can tell law-enforcement personnell are LEAST able to use the stuff responsibly!)

In September, doing a fine fine job of reading the mood of the media, Federal Justice Minister Alan "Big Brother' Rock introduced new legislation designed to "allow the electronic monitoring of potentially violent people even if they haven't committed a crime." In other parts the Reform party showed their limited appreciation of real life when a federally commissioned report on the spread of HIV in prisons recommended the distribution of condoms and clean needles to prisoners. The Reform response: BAN SEX! Stop condom distribution altogether! (Contrasting sharply with their apparent unconcern with double ceiling.)

Finally (because I only had access to archives up to October) a bit of what may be good news. The Supreme court of Canada enacted a ruling limiting police powers of search and seizure. Previous to this ruling the filth could enter a home on reasonable suspicion that a suspect was there- without having to go through all the fuss and bother of obtaining a warrant or having someone evaluate their suspicion (cos we all know how level-headed and intelligent the police are!). Now an arrest warrant will be required before entering the home, which, if nothing else will slow the bastards down a bit and give folks some time to bunk out before the doors get caved in.

As I said, there is insight to be gained from what was omitted too. There was literally no mention at all about the Ts'Peten trial in British Columbia, despite it being the longest criminal trial in kkkanadian history. Wolverine remains in prison. OJ Pitawanakwat remains in prison. 77 000 rounds of ammunition were fired by trained combatants at 18 indigenous traditionalists and non-native supporters (including children). Jo-Jo Ignace who is developmentally handicapped was taken from his home and family and placed in a facility where he was put on intensive drug "therapy" which may well have long-lasting effects on his well-being. The RCMP successfully petitioned the government for permission to purchase 8 Armoured Personnel Carriers specifically to deal with future incidents of indigenous insurrection. None of this, it seems was worthy of the national news media, let alone anything international. (See Underground #8)

In Peru, president Alberto Fujimori (with the help of training facilities operated by private concerns in the United states and with the aid and training of the US military establishment) brought an end to the non-violent (albeit coercive) occupation and hostage taking at the Japanese embassy by Tupac Amaru Guerillas. While negotiating in bad faith with the guerrillas, Peruvian forces tunnelled under the embassy and in a sudden attack killed all 14 members of the MRTA. Some of the killings were done execution-style on unarmed people and there is some concern that guerrillas were taken off-site and tortured before being killed. The MRTA is a populist guerrilla faction that took the step of occupying the embassy in an attempt to force the Fujimori administration to make concessions in the treatment of MRTA prisoners who are currently held in appalling conditions in special prisons.

From an article put out by Derechos Human Rights:

According to former hostages, MRTA member Tito was captured alive and unarmed. He was handcuffed and taken out of the ambassador's residence through a tunnel. As soon as the end of the tunnel was reached, Tito was taken back to the embassy and never seen again.

MRTA member Cintya was reportedly captured alive and was heard shouting "Don't kill me!" Two young female MRTA members reportedly shouted "We surrender! We surrender!" when Peruvian security forces stormed the building.

One hostage told the Asabi newspaper, 0 to the death of an MRTA member, "I saw a murder ... I realized that the terrorist arrested (earlier) was killed when I heard the news that (all) 14 terrorists had died in the operation."

All MRTA members were reportedly shot in the head after the initial attack. Peruvian television footage showed what appeared to be a body without arms or a head next to the body of MRTA leader Nestor Cerpa Cartolini, who was alsor eportedly executed while unarmed.

Call for Submissions

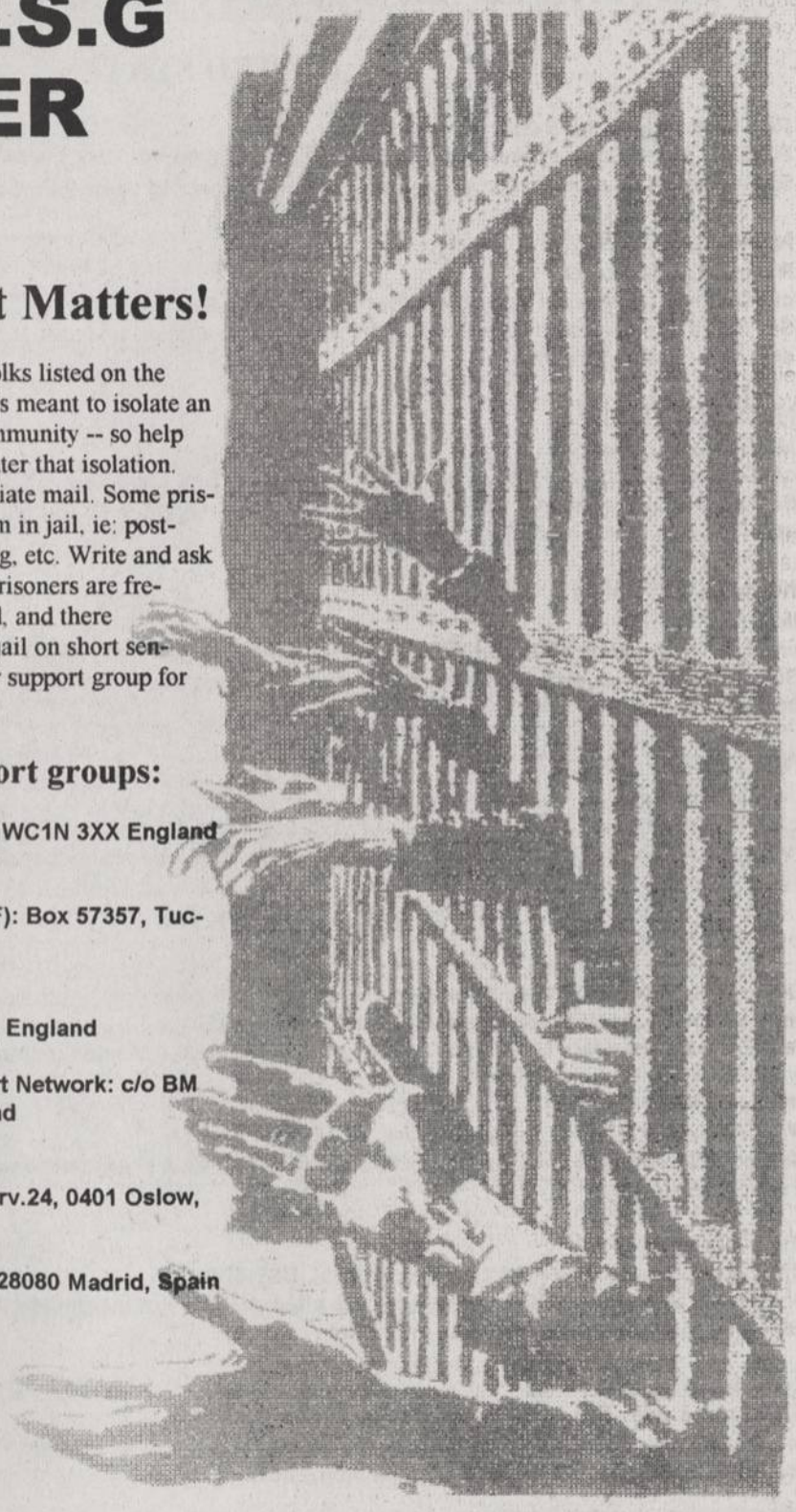
Announcing the HOUSE ON FIRE cop-watch archives! My hope is to maintain an ongoing record of abuses of state power inside and outside the prison system. I'm asking all of you out there to keep an eye on the papers and the news for any reports of violence, brutality or abuse of power / process by police, judges or prison officials. Then send in the information (newspaper clippings are ideal but I'll take what I can get!) will be collected and periodically published in an attempt to provide an overview of the inevitable abuse of a police system. It's rare enough that these things get reported at all, let alone put together into some kind of coherent format, but Ithink it's doable if you're willing to help.

First hand accounts - whether from prisoners or folks on the outside are particularly encouraged, along with any information you happen to be able to dig up on your own (badge numbers, home addresses, phone numbers, anything).

THE HOUSE ON FIRE PRISONER JUSTICE PROJECT IS AN ANARCHIST RESPONSE TO A SOCIAL ORDER BASED ON A HIERARCHY OF OPPRESSION. HOUSE ON FIRE IS DEDICATED TO THE IDEALS OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND SUBSTANTIVE EQUALITY FOR ALL. THIS PROJECT IS DEDICATED TO
OPPOSITION OF ALL TACTICS OF FORCE AND COERCION USED BY STATE OR CORPORATE ENTITIES.THROUGH DIRECT
CORRESPONDENCE WITH PRISONERS, THROUGH LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGNS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL FORUMS HOUSE ON FIRE DEFIES THE STATE WHERE IT IS STRONGEST.

HOUSE ON FIRE - BOX 29056 - 55 WYNDHAM ST. NORTH - GUELPH, ONTARIO - NLH 8J4 - KKKANADA
(NOTE: HOUSE ON FIRE IS ALSO THE REGIONAL CONTACT FOR GREEN ANARCHIST IN THIS BIT OF THE GLOBE.)

NA-A.L.F.S.G PRISONER PAGES



Prisoner Support Matters!

Please take the time to write to the folks listed on the following pages. Remember, prison is meant to isolate an activist from her/his support and community -- so help keep the connections going and counter that isolation. Don't be shy! Prisoners really appreciate mail. Some prisoners can get other items sent to them in jail, ie: postcards, stamps, photos, books, clothing, etc. Write and ask what they can and can't be mailed. Prisoners are frequently moved, occasionally released, and there are often people going in and out of jail on short sentences. It is best to contact a prisoner support group for up-to-date information.

other prisoners support groups:

A.L.F.S.G. UK: BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX England <100302.1616@compuserve.com>

Direct Action Defense Fund (DADF): Box 57357, Tucson, AZ 85732- 7357, USA

Vegan Prisoners Support Group
Box 194, Enfield, Middx, EN1 3HD, England

Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network: c/o BM HEAL, London, WC1N 3XX, England

Norwegian A.L.F.S.G. (DFFSG):
c/o DA SG, PR Torshow, Sandakerv.24, 0401 Oslow, Norway

Spanish A.L.F.S.G.: APDO 50390, 28080 Madrid, Spain

ANIMAL LIBERATION PRISONERS

UNITED STATES

Rod Coronado #03895-000
FCI Unit SW, 8901 S. Wilmot Rd, Tucson, AZ 85706, USA.
Sentenced to 57 months for aiding and abetting arson and destruction of government property in the USA.

NEW ADDITION
Ryan Z. Durfee BA03
c/o Oxbow Jail, Inmate Mail, 3148 South 1100 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84119
Serving a one year sentence for his part in an arson against a Mcdonald's. Convicted of 2nd degree felony arson or criminal mischief.

NEW ADDITION
Mark S. Klein AA45
c/o Oxbow Jail, Inmate Mail, 3148 South 1100 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84119
Serving a one year sentence for his part in an arson against a Mcdonald's. Convicted of 2nd degree felony arson or criminal mischief.

NEW ADDITION
Jason D. Troff
c/o S.L. County Jail, 450 South 300 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84111-3207
Serving a one year sentence for his part in an arson against a Mcdonald's. Convicted of 2nd degree felony arson or criminal mischief.

NEW ADDITION
Jacob Kenison
c/o S.L. County Jail, 450 South 300 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84111-3207
Accused of burning down the Tandy Leather shop. Jake is waiting for trial.

UNITED KINGDOM

Dave Callender HV3314
HMP Birmingham, Winson Green Rd, Birmingham. B18 4AS
Sentenced to 10 years for conspiracy to commit arson to assorted animal abuse establishments.

Michael Green AV2923
HMP Ashwell, Oakham, Leicestershire. LE15 7LF
Sentenced to 5 years for conspiracy to commit arson on a slaughterhouse and attempted arson to cattle transporters.

Barry Horne VC2141
HMP Bristol, Cambridge Rd, Horfield, Bristol. BS7 8PS
Sentenced to an incredible 18 years for the attempted use of incendiary devices in Bristol and the successful use of incendiary devices on the Isle of Wight.

Keith Mann EE3588
HMP Long Lartin, South Littleton, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5TZ
Sentenced to 11 years for criminal damage to meat vehicles, attempted incitement, possession of explosive materials, attempted arson and escaping from custody

Gillian Peachey RL3415
HMP Holloway, Parkhurst Road, London. N7 0NU
On remand charged with conspiracy to use incendiary devices to cause criminal damage, and arson on a poultry farm.

Geoff Sheppard MD1030
HMP Parkhurst, Newport, Isle of Wight. PO30 5NX
Sentenced to 7 years for possession of a shotgun and possession of items for making incendiary devices.

Barbara Trenholm RL1292
HMP Durham, Old Elvet, Co Durham. DH1 3HU
Sentenced to 10 years for arson with intent to endanger life.

Justin Wright GE3046
HM Young Offenders Institution, Easton, Portland, Dorset. DT5 1DL
Sentenced to 5 years for arson with recklessness.

Dru Benson ME2494
HMP Eastwood Park, Wootton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire, GL12 80B
Sentenced to 3 months on 10th October for Assault on a police officer at the Consort Beagle Kennels demo in May.

NEW ADDITION

Noel Molland
HMP Winchester Romsey Rd. Winchester SO22 5HY
Sentenced to 3 years for incitement as his part in the "Gandalf" trial.

Shoreham Campaigners Walk Free

The four animal rights activists involved in the Shoreham live animal export protests were finally released from jail. Mike Roberts, John Taylor and Geoff Chapman had their convictions for 'conspirarcy to cause criminal damage' quashed by the Court of Appeal who called the case "fatally flawed". A fourth man, Tony Daly had his sentence reduced but still walked free. They had all been jailed in May of this year in a six month 2 million pound trial which even the Judge at the time advised the jury to acquit.

The GANDALF Defendants

The three convicted GANDALF folk are now into their three year prison sentences. While Noel Molland is the only one of the three directly involved in the struggle for animal liberation (address listed above), Green Anarchist is an outstanding magazine and both Saxon and Steve should receive our support.

Saxon Burchnall-Wood CK4322,HMP Winchester, Romsey Rd. Winchester, S022 5Hy England

Steve Booth CK4323, HMP Preston, Ribbleton Lane, Preston Pr1 5AB, England.

Gustafsen Lake prisoner support

We do not have all the details for all the prisoners sentenced as a result of the Gustafsen Lake (B.C.) shoot out (see *Underground #8* for details), we have addresses for 3 people needing letters, books, subscriptions, stamps, etc. If you can, please write:

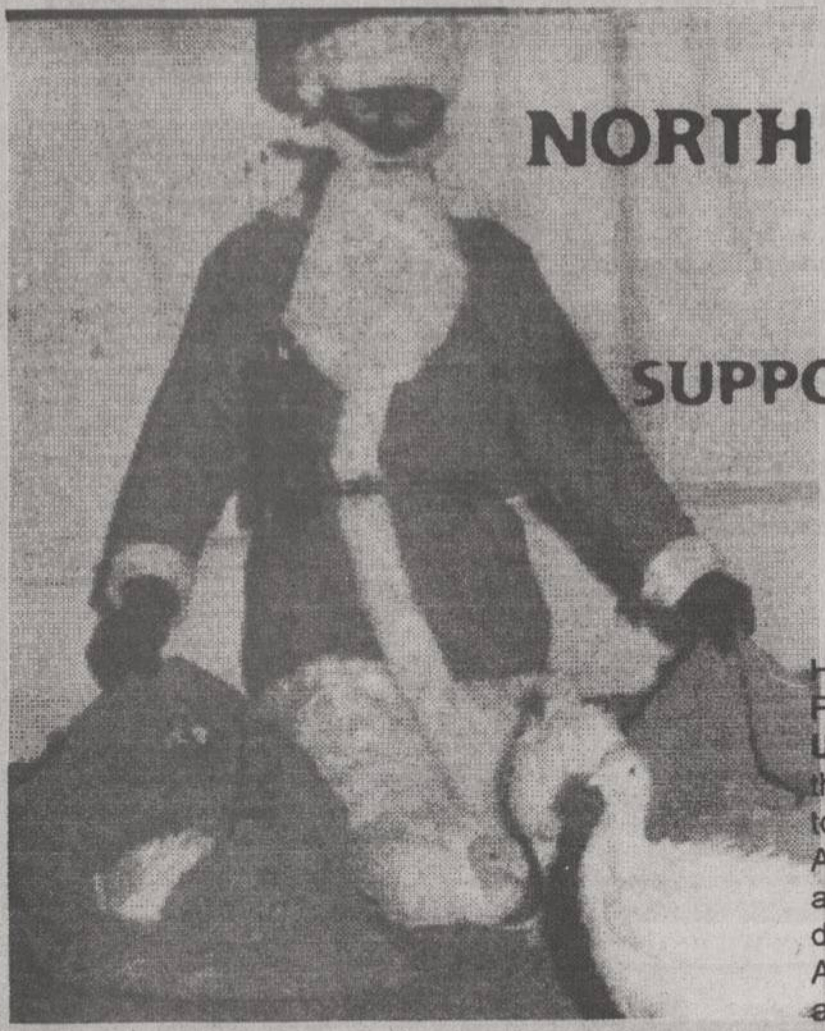
Robert Flemming: Bear Creek Correctional Centre, Box 1761, RR 1 Clearwater, B.C. V0B 1N0, CANADA
Sentenced to seven months.
Suniva Bronson: B.C.C.W., 7900 Fraser Park Drive, Burnaby, B.C. VJ5 5H1, CANADA
Sentenced to three years (she was photographed with a gun).

SEASON'S GREATINGS

FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN

A.L.F.

SUPPORTERS GROUP



Subscribe now, for yourself or as a gift to a friend, to **Underground**, the magazine of the N.A.-A.L.F.S.G.

Help support the Animal Libeation Front by picking up your copy of **Underground.** All money raised by the Supporters Group goes directly towards support of imprisoned A.L.F. activists, educational activites, and the support and defense of the A.L.F. So join the Animal Liberation Front in the battle against animal abuse by supporting their efforts — either by buying a copy of **Underground** - or by becoming a member of the N.A.-A.L.F.S.G.! The North American A.L.F. Supporters Group is for those who wish to support the A.L.F. without breaking the law. We encourage the input and participation of all activists, including those who are unable to, or who do not wish to, take part in direct action.

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

A year's membership is $30 employed - $20 low income or unemployed. Write us today to be on our mailing list. Members receive our quarterly newsletter, Undergound, as well as updates and bulletins. Cheques and money orders should be made out to "NAALFSG."

NA-A.L.F.S.G.: Box69597, 5845 Yonge St., Willowdale, Ont. Canada. M2M 4K3 email <naalfsg@envirolink.org>

Write for merchandise and distribution information or to order our products!