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#7

a voice of revolutionary ecology

ALARM

number seven

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Repression and Violence Against Activists, Bio-technology, North American Free Trade Agreement, Direct Action, Native Forest Network, Regional and International Reports, and Indigenous Issues.

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ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Welcome to issue #7 of the *ALARM*. If you have been following this publication, you will notice that we have changed the *ALARM*'s subtitle on the masthead from *a voice of northeast earth first!* to *a voice of revolutionary ecology*. This change was necessitated by various reasons. One of the foremost reasons is that our group, Biodiversity Liberation Front EF!, was put into a situation where we started feeling uncomfortable being the printed voice for the EF! movement here in the northeast. We felt that the responsibility was too great (especially financially and time-wise) for one group to be accountable for the entire region. In fact we had hoped that after a year others would want to take responsibility for producing the *ALARM*. We will be a voice



within the *growing* northeast EF! movement and continue to cover the on-going shenanigans of EF! and others in our backyard. We will also cover some broader

continental and international events and issues.

Since no one else offered to produce the *ALARM*, we felt another type of responsibility to the movement—one of making connections and reaching out to others in order to help keep the movement moving forward as

fast as possible. Some of those connections, or links, concern a Revolutionary Ecological perspective that we feel can facilitate the recruitment of new activists while forming a broader-based movement without compromising any of our ideals. Hopefully our action of publishing this magazine with its printed content will be a good definition of what our concept of Revolutionary Ecology is philosophically. In fact, if you have ever read the box on the bottom of this page you will know that the *ALARM* has always intended to be a "revolutionary ecological news quarterly." If that is not enough, Orin Langelle has written some thoughts concerning this

ecosophy on page 4. Remember that actions speak louder than words and be aware that different labels can be looked upon as nothing more than different labels.

We should point out how we function as a publishing group and as an editorial collective. Biodiversity Liberation Front will make every effort, as long as we are able, to make sure an *ALARM* is printed and help with the editorial collective. The editorial collective is strictly responsible for editing, layout, design and structure; but individual authors and correspondents are solely responsible for the content of their written words. If you would like to participate in the editorial collective for an issue (3 weeks production work) or more, please contact us.

We hope you enjoy our effort to inform, inspire, and empower. To the barricades!

—the alarmists

EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE

Although the *ALARM* is published by Biodiversity Liberation Front EF!, the following creatures comprised the editorial collective for issue #7: Garth Allen, Andy Buckley, Heidi Chapman, J.R. the terrierist, Orin Langelle, Brian Leeb, Anne Petermann, and an unknown computer hacker.

DEADLINE:

Deadline for the Autumnal Equinox '93 edition of the *ALARM* is September 1st. We will not accept articles after that time. We are front-line 60 plus hour/week activists and putting out the *ALARM*, although quite necessary, is also very stressful. We must have articles in by deadline to reduce our headaches.

Submissions to us occasionally disappear to Feddie-land so you might want to consider sending submissions to us either by registered mail or by faxing them. Faxes must be earmarked to Earth First! and sent to (802) 863-2532.

Artwork, photos and cartoons also welcome!

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graphic by D. Clarke

ABOUT THE COVER...This photo was taken after a day of huntsabbing at the Cambridgeshire Foxhunt in the United Kingdom. As huntsaboteurs were leaving the event, fifteen-year-old Thomas Worby was run over and killed by the driver of the houndsvan. Depicted is a huntsaboteur(right) and a Police Officer. For details see page 20. Photo: Alec Smart

One of Webster's definitions of alarm is "a mechanism that warns of danger, arouses from sleep, etc." With the *ALARM* we hope to arouse the human species from mental hibernation. With awakening, hopefully empowerment will follow to prevent the further desecration of Gaia.

The *ALARM* intends to be a revolutionary ecological news quarterly published by Biodiversity Liberation Front. The *ALARM* is part of the international direct action movement that takes a no compromise stance in defense of Mother Earth. Responsibility in this publication rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoints of this publication, the EF! movement, local EF! groups or individual EF!ers. Although the *ALARM* does not accept the authority of the hierarchal and patriarchal state, nothing herein is intended to run anyone associated with the *ALARM* afoul of any government's police power.

Please send correspondence to: *ALARM* POB 804 Burlington, VT 05402(802)658-2403 @nticopyright @ntiprofit The *ALARM* is printed on recycled paper.

The Action Page

TREE SITTERS NEEDED

NOW!! Vancouver Island - Tree climbers are needed to defend Old Growth Rainforest from chainsaws, explosives and nasty patriarchal corporations! We are awaiting permission from First Nations to be on their land. We plan to hold them off starting in May with 1 - 2 affinity groups going up every two weeks. Be prepared to spend up to 2 - 3 weeks in the trees.

We have a training camp and will provide food and equipment, as funds allow (bring

JUNE 26TH: VERMONT GAY PRIDE DAY

Even though this demo is bound to be tied up with all sorts of reformist, political hogwash, all people (inside and outside of the political boundaries of Vermont) should come out for this. The demo starts at 12 noon at the intersection of Church & Pearl Street at the Unitarian/ Universalist Church. Folks will be marchin' along to a 1:30 rally at Battery Park where Pearl Street meets Battery. Buses are scheduled to come from all corners of the state (Bennington, Brattleboro, St Johnsbury., Newport), so no excuses! Contact VT Pride for more info at PoBox 1752 Burlington, VT 05402 or call (802)655-6312.

a tent and sleeping bag). As well we will provide a base camp, transport, press work, etc.

We prefer already-formed affinity groups of 3 - 5 climbers, 2 - 4 support. Experienced climbers welcome, but we will train new climbers. We are an anti-sexist, anti-racist, anti-homophobic, anti-lesbophobic etc. group, and are strongly in support of the First Nation sovereignty. We hope climbers will support this! Write to: Terra Prima! A-5 1720 Douglas St., Victoria, BC, V8W 2G7

1993 MID ATLANTIC ANARCHIST GATHERING

July 30th- August 2nd in Philadelphia

This four day long gathering is intended to provide the means, time and space for furthering the ideas and actions of anarchism. There will be a wide array of workshops including squatting, communications, organization, labor, history, publications, art, queer issues and women's self-health. Please contact the address below with your ideas for workshops. In addition to the workshops there will be networking, performances, shmoozing and cruising.

The event is free but donations to cover the costs are encouraged.

A Bio-technology Working group is meeting in the Burlington, VT area to strategize ways to combat this beast. To get involved, contact them at (802)660-8890 or write VT BWG 15 Barre St Montpelier, VT 05602.

protest against racism

The town of Bristol will be holding a 4th of July parade that originally had the theme of "Cowboys & Indians". After an outpouring of local opposition to this glorification of the Amerikkkan Holocaust, the Parade Committee changed the theme to the "Wild West.". Right now more research is being done into the content of the parade and a educational campaign is being activated for the Addison County region due to the high visibility of this issue especially at this junction with the status of the Abenaki Nation in their struggle for sovereignty (see page 6). If you are interested in a July 4th protest, helping out with an educational campaign, or just more info call (802)660-8890, and we'll set you up!

The Native Forest Network will be hosting the First Continental Temperate forest Conference at the University of Vermont in Burlington this November 11-14. For further details see page 13.

ALARM Letter Writing Policy

The *ALARM* received a letter that forced us to develop a policy for printing letters written by our readers. Although we want to encourage dialogue within Earth First! and other radical movements, we intend to create a space where racism, sexism, heterosexism, ageism, and all hierarchies and oppression are openly confronted and challenged. We decided that if we received a letter too offensive to print, instead of printing that letter, we would write something about it within the pages of the *ALARM*. By doing this we would be bringing out these issues in the open and confronting them rather than denying these feelings exist within the movement or just printing the letter, providing another space for hatred and oppression within our communities.

The letter we received was a violent and homophobic response to the article "Eco-Bitch Speaks" by Helkat in the last issue. The article wrote about changes needed in the Earth First! movement including valuing the importance of the voices of bisexuals, lesbians, and gay men in EF!. The letter only supports Helkat's contention as the author of the letter tried to justify his heterosexism with his misanthropic ideas about biocentrism and Deep Ecology. This old-guard garbage that misanthropy equals biocen-

trism is driving EF! into the ground while the eco-cide accelerates.

This hateful letter came in response to an affirmation of respect: that the voices of all sexualities should have equal space & respect within EF! The violence in the letter did not only entail threats of turning all of us queers into fertilizer, but as a whole was written to silence our voices. But what the letter-writer tries to do is hide behind his words in saying that EF! is not a human rights organization and "its like Deep Ecology...There are too many people and not enough trees." This retreat to misanthropy is used to silence issues of domination within the EF! movement. The way these words and ideas support domination can be best explained by an example: when wimmin confront sexism within the movement, be it confronting individual behavior or the gender balance of presenters in a conference, I hear of men who fall into the whole line that wimmin are trying to bring "their issues" into the group and that these "outside" issues (feminism, anti-sexism) are watering down the "environmental" movement. In reality it is the sexist actions and issues of the men who raise "these" issues and it is sexist behavior that is "watering down" the environmental movement.

This demonstrates that time not spent on discussing and dealing with human-human domination within the movement comes at the expense of the movement itself. Evolution and diversity mean success in all things living; therefore, it is only obvious that movements will flourish with diversity from within.

So in reality, EF! can only gain from embracing gay liberation. Although it may be difficult for many it is imperative. We will not save the earth unless we end oppression and violence within human culture and the human race. This is a struggle against a human culture that is based on oppression and domination. Because all things are inter-connected, to be successful in our campaigns against any oppression we must be committed in the fight against all oppression.

As Deep Ecologists, we should understand this. It should be second-nature! Evolution within the movement may take time, but we don't have much time left; the violence is accelerating.

...SO MUST THE RESISTANCE!
TOWARD THE EVOLUTION OF THE
PLANET & OUR MOVEMENTS! TOWARD
REVOLUTIONARY ECOLOGY!

...Garth Allen

DEFINING PRACTICE FROM THE FIELD: REVOLUTIONARY ECOLOGY

by Orin Langelle

Revolutionary Ecology is a term used by some front-line earth activists to help define their position, commitment, and guile in dealing with the problems that are besieging the planet and all of its inhabitants. This is by no means a definitive or conclusive piece concerning an ecosophical position of Revolutionary Ecology. Hopefully, this will open up a debate that may help if we are going to effectively continue the evolutionary potential of life on earth. This is not intended to be an academic treatise simply because it was not conjured up in a programmed university setting and written by a professor; this comes from the field. In this case, "field" means the place, be it a wilderness area, corporate board office or the streets, where direct action takes place.

So what is the concept of revolutionary ecology? Simplistically, ecology is the interrelationship of organisms and their environment (or studies thereof) and the term revolutionary means causing a very great change. In essence, Revolutionary Ecology is based on the assumption that all the conditions and circumstances affecting the development of life must be drastically changed if they are not in synchronization with the continuation of life itself.

Revolutionary Ecology is part of an attempt, not only to define that assumption, but to foster an implementation in a direction that furthers the continuation of existence for all species to harmoniously live on earth. As Revolutionary Ecologists we are failures if we try to promote less. To be a Revolutionary Ecologist, one must move beyond theories and put principles into practice.

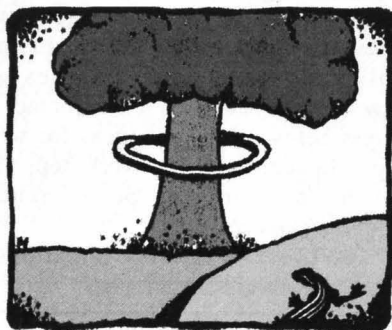
But what are we assuming? In writing this communicative article I am assuming that those who read this are folks disillusioned and angry with the current condition of life on earth: ozone layer depletion, extinction of species, the end of evolutionary potential, utter collapse of life support systems, abhorrent multinationalism, industrialism, and an elite few that control the digestive tracts of the many leading people into desperation, despondency and utter degradation while our planet and all living things suffer.

Deep Ecology leads us to accept that all life is equal (a biocentric or ecocentric point of view). Social Ecology teaches to terminate society's hierarchical structures in order to find ecological sanity between nature and society. Revolutionary Ecology may be the synthesis of the two.* Other points jump up that must be made. Ecofeminism explains the connections between the domination of women and the domination of nature. Revolutionary unionism details class struggle with the analysis that all of us who work for others who profit from our labor are "wage slaves" and that the employing and working classes have nothing in common.

Revolutionary Ecology recognizes that all forms of life are equal and practices of domination (which runs the gamut from homophobia to racism to specieism, etc.) are part of a control pattern that leads to the exploitation of all life forms, which includes our living, breathing planet: Gaia. An injury to one is an injury to all.

We must understand that everything is inter-connected. Multinational corporations that globally set up puppet governments in conjunction with military/industrial states (from the USA to Guatemala and hell and back) have a very direct relationship with the extinction of species and the subjugation of human beings for their profit motives. To the multinationals, we, all species, and the earth are viewed as resources to be gobbled up in their hideous nightmare of profit margins. Ecocide and genocide are quite profitable.

If some of the problems have been identified, how do we then begin to implement solutions to the dilemma? Alexis de Tocqueville



graphic from THESE ARE REVOLUTIONARY TIMES

wrote of the French Revolution that the old regime ended when popular forces coalesced in a "powerful movement of reform." Although coalescence is definitely necessary, what is reform? Is our purpose to reform a hierarchical structure, such as the Forest Service or other governmental agencies, or should we be working for the disbanding of all agencies that "MANage" life? Revolutionary Ecology is a vision for the negation of any type of management. Management leads to domination and the subsequent loss of biological diversity through the manipulation of control and power. This is hard for many liberals and reformists to swallow because it forces them to confront their worldview. If the reform measure itself, however, prevents the extinction of a species or stops an imminent holocaust even temporarily, then we must work with the reformists toward this end.

So how can we coalesce and implement our assumptions into a powerful movement? We need to make connections and links to others in the various struggles who are consciously battling forms of repression. As earth advocates who realize evolutionary potential, we must explain our ecocentric view to others in the various movements while radicalizing the

liberals and reformers in both the environmental and social change movements. Symbiotically all sides must try and understand the views we are each presenting for a holistic comprehension of how things work on earth. When understanding is achieved, the common enemy, the antithesis of life, will be easier to disassemble because there will more of us working together on a variety of levels.

One way of stopping the enemy is through direct action at the enemy's point of production. That is a major reason why the ruling elite of this world have police and military at their disposal along with covert agencies to subvert any potential rise of resistance. That is also why the elite ruling class controls the flow of information through media. Media in this country, especially television, has been perhaps the most effective tool of the corporations for numbing down the populace. People think they are getting news when in fact they are getting secret sauce put on their McClintons. Those reasons are also why Revolutionary Ecologists believe in building a broader-based movement from the many struggles. There must be more of us working together to counter disinformation and promote real education and regain a sense of community.

So what if a broader-based movement is successful in dismantling the old regimes through new collective strategies and tactics? We must look to the earth for guidance and refuse to allow hierarchical or patriarchal structures to develop. In North America (and elsewhere) we have the opportunity to draw from the traditions developed over thousands of years of existence by indigenous people. Those who have been sucked into believing technology is the solution had better move forward by looking back to an earth wisdom that anthropocentric cultures have never offered. Instead of any move to sustainable growth, we should be looking to no growth, reduction and subsistence living.

This rambling on Revolutionary Ecology may seem too socially oriented for some. Another reason for writing this, though, is to try and call in question any type of environmental elitism and to humble us even further into a self-awareness of who we are and what we are up against. If this seems too serious, it is only because the question is life or death. How many species of life have went extinct during the reading of this article? How many women were raped? How many Rodney King-like attacks have there been?

*authors note: for those of you who refuse any ideology except Deep Ecology, in "The Basic Principles of Deep Ecology," written by George Sessions and Arne Naess printed in the Litha 1984 edition of the *Earth First! Journal*, number 6 of an eight point platform states, "Policies therefore must be changed. These policies affect basic economic, technological, and ideological structures. The resulting state of affairs will be deeply different from the present." Principle #6 seems to justify a social issue evaluation.

SOCIOLOGIST & AUTHOR RIK SCARCE JAILED

by Orin Langelle

Last month, Rik Scarce was found guilty of contempt for refusing to testify before a Federal Grand Jury and sent to jail. Scarce, a researcher who is earning his doctorate in sociology at Washington State University, is the author of *ECOWARRIORS: Understanding the Radical Environmental Movement*. The book delves into the sometimes extra legal activities of such groups as the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, Earth First!, and the Animal Liberation Front. *ECOWARRIORS* is assigned reading in some universities' environmental programs.

In a related case, animal rights activist Jonathan Paul was released from prison on April 9th, after spending five months and five days incarcerated for refusing to testify before the same Grand Jury. While Scarce and Paul are not themselves "targets" of the investigation, the government wanted to gain information from their testimonies about various presumed activities of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). These include raids and vandalism of research laboratories and fur farms in Oregon, Michigan and Washington. The government is especially interested in an

August 1991, ALF raid (dubbed Operation Bite Back) on a Washington State University (W.S.U.) lab. Twenty-three research animals were released, and \$150,000 in damages resulted when hydrochloric acid was spread throughout the labs, trashing research files and computer equipment.

The government also desperately wants to get information on Rod Coronado. Coronado, now an underground wanted fugitive, is a prime suspect in the W.S.U. ALF raid and other raids on fur farms and research labs that use animals in experiments. Coronado is also mentioned in *ECOWARRIORS*.

Scarce's Stand for Academic Research

The jailing of Scarce sets an ominous precedent. As a sociologist who is researching various movements, Scarce has had to promise confidentiality to his sources. Scarce is ethically bound when he conducts interviews to follow the terms set forth in the American Sociological Code of Ethics. Part of that Code states, "Confidential information provided by a research subject must be treated as such by a sociologist. Even though research information is not a privileged communication

under the law, the sociologist must as far as possible protect subjects and informants. Any promises made to such persons must be honored..."

Although Scarce cooperated with the federal Grand Jury regarding all non-confidential aspects of his works and activities, he refused to answer questions whenever an answer required a disclosure of the actual contents of a confidential interview or which called for information that he had only by virtue of a confidential disclosure given him in the course of his research. If Scarce did not take this stance his credibility as a research sociologist would have been destroyed and he would not receive the trust needed from the actual people he was researching. Not only would he personally be discredited, Scarce says other social scientists might find themselves less able to gain the trust of sources. Forcing researchers to break confidentiality also could discourage potential research projects.

W.S.U. Assistant Professor of Women's Studies and Sociology, Dr. Noel Sturgeon states, "Movements are a major form of social behavior and an important

(continued on page 19)

New Evidence Shows FBI Lied In EF! Car-Bomb Frame-Up

source: Wobbly Bureau of Investigation

A stunning series of photographs and police reports have been released to us by the Oakland Police Department (OPD), showing without a doubt that the FBI and OPD lied when they arrested Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney for the 1990 car-bomb assassination attempt on Judi Bari.

Bari and Cherney were driving through Oakland on May 24, 1990, on an organizing tour for Earth First! Redwood Summer, when a bomb exploded under Judi's car seat, nearly killing her and injuring Darryl. Within minutes of the blast, the FBI and OPD moved in and arrested Judi and Darryl, claiming it was their bomb and they were knowingly carrying it. For eight weeks they publicly declared that Judi and Darryl were the only suspects in the bombing. They finally had to admit in court that they did not have evidence to prosecute. But to this day there has been no serious investigation of the bombing, and the bomber remains at large.

Bari and Cherney have filed a lawsuit against the FBI and OPD for their handling of the bombing, charging them with false arrest and other civil rights violations. The photos and police reports were released due to this lawsuit.

The FBI and OPD based their arrest of Judi and Darryl on their claim that the bomb was on the back seat floorboard of the car, therefore they knew they were carrying it, and it was their bomb. In fact the bomb was hidden under Judi's seat, and meant to kill. This is quite clear in the police photos, which show the epicenter of the explosion under the driver's seat and the back seat completely intact. There are also photos of the police holding a mock-up of the bomb in the exploded car in various positions, showing that they knew perfectly well where it was actually placed.

These photos, along with corresponding police reports, were released at a press conference on the west coast and were shown on Kill Your Television in Chittenden County, VT on the 3rd anniversary of the bombing on May 24.



A policeman placing a mock-up bomb in the position the Wobbly Bureau of Investigation has always said where the original bomb was: under the front seat of Judi Bari. Notice the mock-up bomb exactly corresponds to the epicenter of the explosion. photo: Oakland Police Department

First Annual Abenaki Cultural Heritage Festival

by Garth Allen

May 2, 1993 was declared the First Annual Abenaki Cultural Heritage Festival by the State of Vermont. The day of celebration came from discussions and negotiations between the Tribal Council of the Sovereign Abenaki Nation and the State of Vermont, as the Abenaki Nation still continues to assert its sovereignty in the courts. The festival was a neutral ground in the conflict that continues to rage on. Both Chief St Francis of the St Francis-Mississquoi Band and the Chief of Odenak from the Abenaki community north of the Canadian border addressed the crowd along with VT Governor Howard Dean and Lt. Governor Barbara Snelling. State's Attorney Howard Van Benthuyzen also attended the event after getting over his unjustified (and racist) fears that he and his family would not be safe at the festival. Congressmen Leahy and Sanders both sent aides to address the crowd.

Dean spoke of stepping into someone else's shoes and seeing the world through another person's eyes, two things that he, as a powerful white man, could never do, especially as he upholds Vermont law that has its roots in the displacement and the colonial subjugation of Abenaki people and Abenaki culture. Lt. Gov. Snelling spoke about Vermont's history and the importance of remembering and learning



Abenaki Children's Dance Troupe performs at the Abenaki Cultural Heritage Festival. photo: A. Petermann

from the past, speaking as if genocide and the Amerikan holocaust were things of the past (justice denied).

Once the dignitaries were off the stage, dancers and storytellers shared what has survived under white rule. Abenaki dancers young and old, keeping alive steps and movements, returned these to the public eye in a spirit of defiance and celebration. Storytellers shared the oral tradition of the Abenaki Nation sending listeners laughing but also reminding us all that all things are sacred. Drummers came across the border from Canada. Native artisans also came from all around to show and sell their works.

What has come from this event is yet to be seen. Although the state only gave \$26 and some stationary along with their sponsorship, this event will be an annual affair and is part of breaking the silence and the lies that no native people lived in

Vermont. The festival also has had an effect on the court proceedings and seems to be a part of the overall negotiating that is happening between the state and the Tribal Council.

With regard to the court case of Chief St. Francis mentioned in the last *ALARM*, the state is slowly moving along as they gather depositions without a court date in sight. Several other charges against Abenaki people have been dismissed. These include all hunting fishing and license plate charges.

This is being seen as a victory for the Abenaki Nation in that Abenaki vehicles have been running on the roads without harassment for the past month and a half. The decision to dismiss did not admit that Abenaki People have aboriginal title to the land, but that people believed that they had aboriginal title, clearly showing the power the State of Vermont employs to make decisions regardless of anything written down as "Vermont Law." The state has not dropped what they are calling "real crimes" such as DWI and speeding. The Abenaki Nation's position on these crimes is based on the issue of jurisdiction. The Nation agrees that people should not be driving too fast or drunk yet these are issues for the Tribal Council to deal with and not the State of Vermont.

All in all the festival has had a positive impact on the Abenaki Nation struggle for sovereignty!

Forfeiture Abuse...

Under the pending "Crime Control Act of 1993"

by Heidi Chapman

FRIENDS OF "TERRORISTS" BEWARE, BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU...Did you know that you could lose your property and be thrown in jail for befriending a "terrorist"? Hmmm... you may be wondering how to recognize a terrorist. According to the pending "Crime Control Act of 1993" a terrorist is a person who tries to "intimidate or coerce a civilian population," or to "influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion". Of course there are any number of ways in which this could be done, for example: outright physical violence, threatening to destroy (or change) things or people, picketing, blocking public access areas, pamphleteering, speaking out

in public or attending an assembly.

According to "The Crime Control Act of 1993" the people who do these things are bad apples. And even those who merely imagine doing these bad things can be thrown in the slammer. And if you knew someone who allegedly imagined doing something violent and you had them over for tea and they made a few phone calls from your house and one day you came home and your property had been confiscated, you'd know why. Even if in your wildest dreams you never thought your friend was capable of such horrific acts, you should have figured it out and will still be held accountable. You will be guilty until proven innocent (by the way, if a defendant charged with

terrorism or conspiracy seeks to discover the evidence held against her or him, the government attorney may legally object leaving no opportunity for the cross-examination of these secret witnesses). So, don't even think about becoming a terrorist. Don't even think about befriending anyone who might have nasty terrorist thoughts...better yet, don't even think.

Or... GET INVOLVED! This bill has not yet passed. Congressman John Conyers, Chair of the House Committee on Government Operations, oversees the procedures and policies of Federal Asset Forfeiture. He has called for Congressional Hearings to receive public input on the government's abuse of forfeiture against it's citizens. Those seeking further information on forfeiture inequities and loss of individual Due Process Rights, or who would like to attend the Hearings should contact Congressman Conyers office at (202) 225-5051.

PROTESTERS DISRUPT BIO-TECHNOLOGY CEREMONY

On Monday, May 17, a group of approximately 30 Earth First!ers, anarchists, and members of the Vermont Bio-technology Working Group successfully disrupted the opening ceremonies of the University of Vermont's (UVM) new multi-million dollar Stafford Hall bio-technology research center.

When the protesters arrived, they entered Stafford Hall, took an elevator upstairs, and began to make lots of noise, much to the dismay of the assembled dignitaries and government officials. One protestor reported being assaulted by UVM President Thomas Salmon. After the fire alarm was set off by the demonstrators, the building had to be cleared. The protesters then took over the podium where the ribbon cutting ceremony was to be held, took down the American and Vermont flags, and began chanting "Earth First! Profits Last!" and "No Bio-tech!"

University officials called in Burlington police reinforcements as the ribbon cutting ceremonies were moved into a locked auditorium inside another building. The Earth First! and anarchist noise-making mob stood outside the locked doors and continued to blow whistles and shout chants; red paint was also spilled on the floor. When the time came for the government and university officials to leave the locked auditorium where the in-exile ribbon-cutting ceremony took place, police linked arms and the pro-bio-tech bastards were able to leave the ceremony past police lines, but were subjected to a barrage of noise, chants, and insults.

It is important to raise hell at ceremonies such as this one at the University of Vermont. Bio-technology research on university campuses is largely funded by multi-national corporations who spend a large part of their budget on PR materials in an attempt to generate a pro-bio-technology sentiment among the population. As Susan Wallace, the Chair of UVM's molecular genetics department stated, "[We] don't need public fear. There's too much fear." But for good reason, for the ecological risks posed by genetic engineering are real. What's more, bio-technology is just another way by which multinational corporations can enslave the nations of the so-called "Third World" to the "benevolent" and "superior" technolo-



EF!ers and anarchists take over podium outside of the Stafford Bio-technology Center. photo: Langelle

gy of the industrialized nations of the Northern hemisphere.

There are aspects of bio-technology, such as the isolating of 'bad' genes to determine what should not breed, that are reminiscent of the eugenics program that was carried out at UVM in the 1930's. The Director of UVM's Fleming Museum, Dr. Henry Perkins was the chairman of a campaign of eugenics which had the innocuous name Vermont Commission on Country Life. This Commission sought to purify the genetic stock of Vermont by eliminating the "social and economic drag of avoidable, low-grade Vermonters".

This program consisted, in part, of sterilization of select groups of people including Abenaki, so-called gypsies and

French Canadians; groups who they perceived as ruining Vermont. In a letter from Ohio State University Professor Henry Goddard to Dr. Perkins dated 1/27/34, the ties to Nazi Germany are spelled out, "If Hitler succeeds in his wholesale sterilization, it will be a demonstration that will carry eugenics farther than a hundred Eugenics Societies ever could. If he makes a fiasco of it, it will set Eugenics back to where a hundred Eugenics Societies can never resurrect it."

The current bio-technology program is a carrying forward of genetic manipulation to "perfect" the species for human use. Dr. Wallace states, "We do cloning, but we don't clone humans...there won't be any Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles". Hell no! This is Vermont, they've been working on Teenage Mutant Ninja Cows. Already experiments with Bovine Growth Hormone have produced aborted calf fetuses with six or seven legs and abnormally large heads. This is merely a sample of what we can expect from bio-tech in the future.

Against Bio-technology!

(For more information, contact autonome forum (see resource directory), or write to the Vermont Bio-technology Working Group, 15 Barre St, Montpelier VT, 05602. USA)



graphic courtesy Bio-technology Handbook

AGAINST BIO-TECHNOLOGY! (part II)

source: *autonome forum*

(continued from prior *ALARM*)

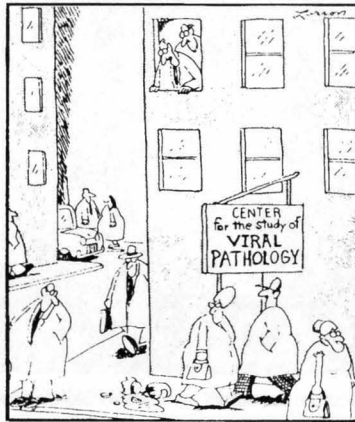
Agricultural Policy

Swimming in a milk lake and sitting on top of a butter mountain and speaking about food shortages is Orwellian. Hunger is not a problem of too little food, rather it is a problem of how the food production and distribution is organized. The traditional self-supporting agriculture in the Third World countries is systematically ruined in favour of a Western-oriented agriculture. Whoever pushes one's way through the dung-quota, export subsidies, angry French farmers and Brabant pigs, discovers an agricultural policy in which money is made out of hunger.

Enormous agricultural areas in the South are brought into production for the Western market, for example, as raw materials for cattle food. "To feed the 120 million animals in Holland, enormous quantities of raw material have to be imported from the South. In this way, 20 farmers in the South have to work for one farmer in the North. The Dutch bio-industry uses 125 million hectares elsewhere." (Regio Taal, 1992/1) The southern countries are often forced to do so by the adaption-programmes which are imposed by the IMF and the World Bank. The production has to be aimed at export to get foreign values, which then have to be given out again to pay off debts to Western banks. In Brazil, for example, more and more land was put to use for the export cultivation of soya beans. Small farmers were expelled from the most fertile land. The production of black beans, the daily food of millions of Brazilians, has, as a result, gone down sharply and has become unprofitable for the poor. This is the way hunger comes into being. And in the GATT treaties it is recorded that the countries of the South may only forbid the export of food if there is an in-land famine.

Calling the southern agriculture into the world-economy happens extremely selectively. Because of the fear of competition, for example, there has always been a discouragement of the production of wheat, vegetables, and fruits from glass-houses. Western agricultural policy is protectionist, and it prevents importing agricultural products from the Third World. In the GATT treaties it is also recorded that there be high tariff barriers for products coming out of the South if these products can also be produced in the North. In the opposite case, there may not be any import restrictions to products from the North that are exported to the South.

But still, all this isn't enough. The West has totally laid hands on their markets also, by dumping grain and meat surpluses with high export subsidies. The cheap export of Western food surpluses to the Third World hinders the coming into existence of an independent agriculture there. On the one hand, the West slows their import, on the other hand, the West dumps on the world market. Every sack of grain which is sent away will sooner or later take away the opportunity of a female farmer in



"Uh-oh."

graphic courtesy *Bio-technology Handbook*

Africa to sell one, although she could keep herself and her children alive from the proceeds of it for about a month. This doesn't mean that it's all peaches and cream for the Western farmer. In fact, they experience the same mechanism of the world-wide agricultural policies: scaling-up, industrialization, and the increased loss of control over their own products. In short: dependency. The introduction of bio-technology also means that they'll continually have less control over what they're growing. Over their heads, too, decisions are made by the big chemical concerns and the financial and political institutions. Like when, for a while, the proposal of the Scientific Council for Governmental Policy (WRR) to reduce European agriculture by 80 percent. What kind of social consequences such a restructuring will have doesn't make a difference. As long as the money keeps rolling in...

Bio-technology

It's against this backdrop of unequal economic and political relations that the introduction of bio-technology has to be seen. And yet again the West waves one of her technologies and proclaims the coming state of fortune and wealth for humanity. It is promoted like some new brand of dish-detergent: the Second Green Revolution, now without disadvantage! There ain't a word of truth to it. Hunger is caused by the strangle-hold from the West on the South. Bio-engineering will only strengthen this grip.

With the introduction of bio-technology, the relations between agriculture and industry will be totally turned upside down. Industry is no longer working up crops that are produced by agriculture but will determine more and more which crop has to be grown on which areas. This has to do with the mutual interchangeability of the crops. With the help of bio-technology, industry is increasingly able to split up agricultural products into components such as carbohydrates, proteins, and fats. Agricultural products are viewed as raw material for industry. The food industry is more and more begin-

ning to look like a compound food industry, but now for people. The direct producers and (female) farmers around the world are becoming pawns which can be played off against each other however the food industry desires. Substitution is another threatening application possibility of bio-engineering. Many crops which grow much better in tropical regions, like coffee, cocoa, sugar-cane and bananas, now threaten to be produced in factories in the North. Not a grain of sugar is used in the soft drink industry anymore. Also, the coca-bean has become almost superfluous thanks to scientific diligence. Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Cameroon, and Equatorial Guinea are dependent on coca for a large part of their national income. This threatens to strike away the vulnerable foundations under the economies of the Third World. Because of the wave of automation and flexible work, the countries of the Third World have partly lost their 'advantage' of low salaries. Since the industries are partly reverting back to the Western countries, the countries of the Third World are extremely dependant on the export of their agricultural products.

And now the introduction of bio-technology threatens to take away that as well. The (female) farmers are also going to become heavily dependant on sowing seed, because the sowing seed industry has become dominant. The research in the agri-industry is focussing on making plants resistant to weed killers. Farmers who buy these seeds are then also forced to buy weed killers, produced by the same company. The plant improvers prefer to grow hybrid breeds that produce useless seeds. In this way the (female) farmers are forced to buy new seeds all the time. Prince Claus remarked: "The sombre prospect seems to become reality that many will be unemployed and many others will become dependant on the ones who have the whole food-chain in their hands, from manipulated seeds to manipulated end-products, by their knowledge of bio-technological processes." (Onze Wereld, August 1987)

Genetic Colonialism

In 1985, Ciba Geigy (a Swiss chemical concern and one of the major investors in agricultural bio-technology) offered the government of Ethiopia a kind of hybrid sorghum, packed in three chemicals. Two were to protect the plant against certain diseases and the third made the seeds immune against the herbicide 'Dual', at the time the most important weed killers produced by Ciba Geigy. The progenitor from which Ciba grew this Bica-Sorghum came from Ethiopia and was stolen from there. The countries of the Third World from which the genetic material is stolen are forced to buy back the "improved" variations at

(continued on page 9)

The Summer Solstice It's All Bullshit Award Goes To...

University of Vermont President Thomas Salmon! This illustrious award is given to Salmon (no relation to the fish who are insulted by the comparison) due to his fascism on a wide variety of levels.

At the recent Stafford Bio-technology Center ribbon-cutting ceremony, Salmon became so agitated by protestors that he allegedly assaulted EF!er Ned Ludd.

In the past, Salmon has exemplified his homophobia by refusing to sign a widely supported Domestic Partners

health plan which would provide coverage for the live-in partners of non-married people at UVM. This program was especially important for the gay community, for whom legal marriage is not an option.

He has also been openly racist in his policies toward Diversity University, the group which formed following the Waterman Administration Building President's wing takeover in 1991. This anti-racist group worked to change policies at UVM to allow for a multicultural

program at the University. One of their tactics was the erection of a shanty town on the University green. After the shanties were burned down by an arsonist, Salmon put his authoritarian foot down amending the rules governing 'symbolic speech' to outlaw the construction of another shanty town.

Thomas Salmon, for being such a perfect symbol of the oppressive, hateful, anti-life society against which we struggle every day, this It's All Bullshit Award is for you!

Swiss Bio-tech Corporation Bombed

Source: *autonome forum*

For the third time in a year, the Swiss company Bio-engineering AG was attacked this February, when an explosion at a plant in the village of Wald caused over \$300,000 damage.

Bio-engineering AG provides products and services to the pharmaceutical industry. Two anonymous calls after the attack indicated a political motive. The attacks were claimed by the "Group of Iranian Martyrs Mustapha Sadeki and Ali Sadeh." (Sadeki and Sadeh were political prisoners in Iran who died after being injected with bacteriological materials

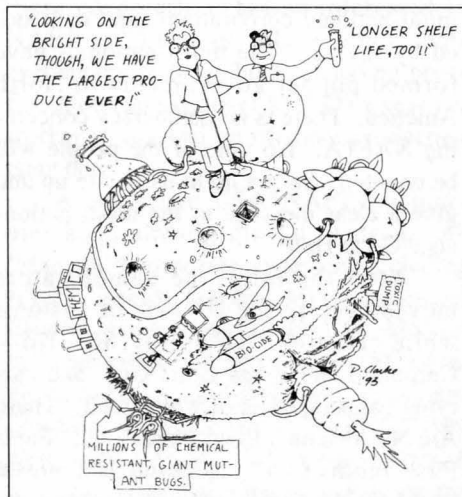
provided by Switzerland.)

In a telephone call, the group charged that Bio-engineering AG provided assistance to Iran for developing biological weapons. The group also charged that the German firm Bayer directed the sales to Iran. According to police, the group affixed explosive devices to several bio-reactors in the AG facility.

BIO-TECH (continued from page 8)

high prices. Precisely this last aspect makes clear just how harrowing the developments are; this is why Third World countries consider bio-engineering as an ordinary form of economical and cultural imperialism and not at all as a solution to hunger in the world. With the help of the (women) farmers, a rich knowledge developed throughout the ages (especially in the Third World) of different sorts of plants and animals. It is this genetic source which provides the world with food and assures its bio-diversity. These kinds of natural genetic structures belong to everyone and are not a money-winner of only a few, whereas that is what's going on at the moment. The changing of the Patents Act, which is at this moment the most important political project of the bio-addicts, will seal this new development. Now that they've destroyed the largest part of the natural inheritance, the rich countries want to dictate that that what is still intact belongs to them as well. About 30 years ago, farmers in Sri Lanka grew about 2000 different types of rice. Now there are only five left. The remaining varieties have been destroyed or are threatened with destruction. The richest plant stock of the world existed in the Andes. The territory has made an important contribution to world food production. In the course of the centuries, the people of the Andes created a wealth of knowledge and techniques, which harmonized to a high degree with their social and climactic circumstances. Now, agriculture for domestic application has disappeared because of the orientation on commercial agriculture through the use of modern technology, and it has become

almost impossible to feed the domestic population. "These varieties haven't disappeared as a consequence of climactic circumstances, but because a dominant minority wanted it to be that way. That minority has imposed a model of development on these people". (Roberto Haudry de Soucy, International Foundation for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in "International Cooperation", July 1988). The



graphic by D. Clarke

more the traditional communities are forced to split up, the more their inheritance, which is preserved as a collective historic memory, disappears. "With each old person who is dying over there, a library burns down" (Galeano, "El tigre azul y otros articulos", 1987). Just as the Western world claimed the right of ownership in former days, whether by planting a royal flag or by decimating the local population, nowadays no less than the right of ownership

on life and nature is demanded. Knowledge and practice are stolen from the treasuries of the Third World. And then a gene is isolated in Western laboratories and here we are! The superior Western science can flaunt another new invention. Pat Nooney, a Canadian agricultural activist: "The argument that intellectual ownership can only be awarded when it's developed by white coats and laboratories is a racist point of view on scientific development". Racist, because of the simplicity of the denial of the importance of this local knowledge. Racist, because of the appropriation of this knowledge, meanwhile, adding shamelessly: "Made in the Western world". Then it is applied at a patent office where the stolen material can be cashed in. This means, for example, that big money is made out of the anti-cancer medicines Vincristine and Vinblastine. The base medicine consists of pink periwinkle, a plant that is found in Madagascar. The knowledge of the medicinal effects of this plant comes from the inhabitants of the island, but they get nothing of the enormous profits that are made on it. Or the Monsanto company (an American chemical concern and one of the major investors in agricultural bio-technology) which wants to apply for a patent on a part of the genetic construction of the Tiki Uba plant that can be used as an anti-coagulation remedy. The Ur-eu-wau-wau tribe, of which there are only 120 members alive since they've been made partners in the blessing of white civilization, discovered the healing effects of the plant. But the intellectual ownership isn't given to them.

Greetings, Fiery Viruses
(continued next issue)

Activists Block Border to Protest NAFTA

source: IWW

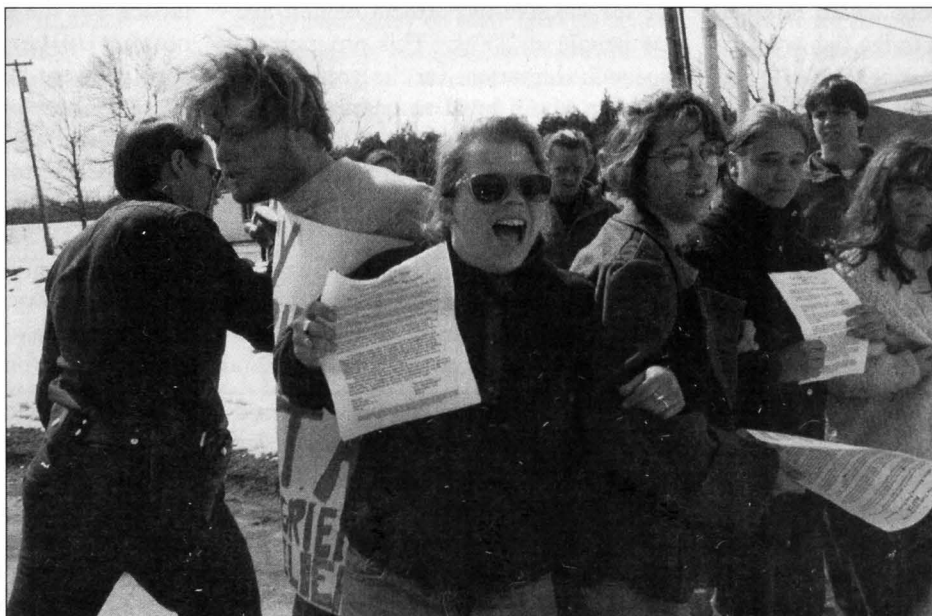
Highgate Springs, VT—The Native Forest Network and BLF Earth First! joined about 50 people protesting the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on Sunday, April 4th, at the US-Canadian border. Vermont State Police and the US Border Patrol moved in after demonstrators blocked Interstate 89 just south of the Highgate Springs Port of Entry. Police managed to open one lane of southern traffic flow

but six women protesters held on to another lane forcing delays and allowing the chance for information to be passed on to truckers and other motorists. There were no arrests but some demonstrators were shoved by Vermont State Police and one person was physically assaulted by a US Border Patrol officer.

Groups participating in the anti-NAFTA action included representatives of the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC); University of Vermont Student Environmental Program (V-STEP); Students for Action, Solidarity, Equality, Environment and Development (A-SEED); Earth First!; the Native Forest Network (NFN); the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW); and farmers from both sides of the border. Students from four different universities, some as far away as New Hampshire, participated. There were solidarity demonstrations at the Arizona-Mexico border and at the Detroit (MI)-Windsor (ON) border.

Prior to the blockade, protesters passed customs and rallied at the border marker. Numerous speakers told of the harmful effects that NAFTA would have on workers, women, and the environment.

Orin Langelle, a representative of the NFN and the IWW said, referring to the NAFTA scheme dreamt up by corporate execs, "NAFTA carries on the tradition of plunder to benefit the few, while exploit-



U.S. Border Patrol cop (left) attempts to move blockaders off the southbound lane of I-89 during anti-NAFTA demo. photo: Langelle

ing the many. NAFTA is quite simply an attempt to legitimize the multi and transnational corporations' ability to suck up the wealth from the rest of the world while simultaneously denegrating environmental regulations".

Langelle went on to decry working conditions in Mexico, the exploitation of the forests of Canada and Mexico by multi-national corporations, and concluded by saying, "The multi-nationals have formed puppet governments in North America. There is no democracy concerning NAFTA. No vote of the people will be counted. So it's up to us to rise up and give a clear message to the multi-nationals, "Go to Hell!" "

After the rally, the demonstrators moved back to the US side of customs while chanting, "Hey, Hey, Ho, Ho—Corporate Greed has Gotta Go!" and carrying banners, some of which read, "There Are No Jobs on a Dead Planet" and "Earth First! Profits Last!" Activists then moved into I-89, locking arms and blocking the interstate.

In December of last year, the Presidents of the US and Mexico and the Prime Minister of Canada signed the NAFTA in order to liberalize trade and deregulate investment among the three countries. Labor organizations, environmentalists, small farmers and consumer groups in all three countries have risen up in opposition to NAFTA due to the devas-

tating effects it will have.

The NAFTA still has to be approved by the US Congress and the Canadian Parliament. However our former President put the NAFTA on what is called the "Fast Track." Many believe that President Clinton will succeed in pushing NAFTA through the predominantly Democratic congress. Congress can make no amendments to the agreement as it is written.

SOME NAFTA FACTS:

*The NAFTA can weaken US and Canadian environmental, health and safety laws if they are interpreted as "barriers to trade."

*The minimum wage in the US is \$4.25 per hour. The minimum wage in the MAQUILADORA (the industrialized region where Mexican workers are exploited by foreign corporations), is \$.51 per hour.

*Canadians are in danger of losing their socialized health care and education systems. These systems have been threatened by the Free Trade Agreement between the US and Canada since its installation in 1989. Expanding Free Trade under the NAFTA will only intensify this situation.

*Small farmers will be in competition with agribusinesses moving to Mexico for fast, cheap and unsustainable food production. This will result in the loss of more small farms in all three countries.

*Competition between Canada and the US has resulted in Canada having one of the lowest corporate tax rates in the industrial world. Thus in the late 80's, Canadian corporations which generated \$25 billion in profit paid no tax at all while the working class had a 44% increase in taxes.

In essence, only multi-national corporations and special interests will benefit from the NAFTA.

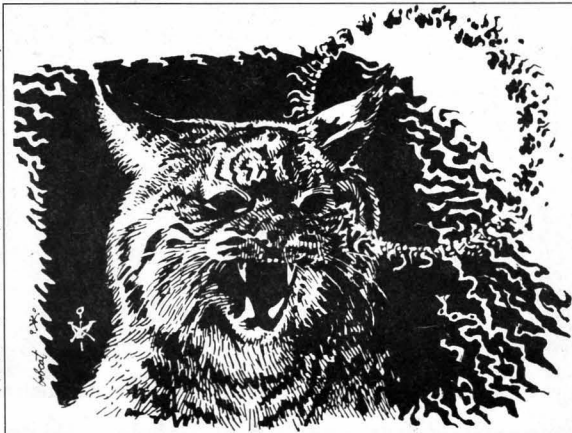
EF! Protests Pro-Hydro-Quebec/ NAFTA Politicians

On the 13th of May, EF! held a protest with Stowe residents against the back room deals going on between Eastern Provincial Premiers of Canada and New England Governors that day at the Top Notch Ski Resort. As the politicians discussed "international energy policy", protesters brought the discussion down to the peoples' perspective: No to Hydro-Quebec! No to the NAFTA!

Ellis Dean, from the town of Prosper, "climbed" the Top Notch sign with a little help from some friends and hung a "Free the Rivers- Earth First!" banner. The State Police, taking orders from Top Notch, pulled down the banner ignoring warnings from protesters of rocks that held the banner in place. A couple of flowers were crushed, but the cops made it out without injury.

News of the protest went as

far as Quebec and Maine, driving the point home that Hydro-Quebec is still a hot item and NAFTA will not go away if we just shake our heads. The networks of anti-HQ activists are still out there, the question is who will flip the switch? Few showed up on a moments notice, but those that did got the word out that Hydro-Quebec is not an alternative to Nuclear Power and that it is time to bring the 500 year old War against the Native People of North Amerika to an end!



bobcat by V. Packard

SELF-DEFENSE

One day I went out walking; I was tired of all the talking
In anger I was stalking iron monsters that rape our land
I had gone but a short distance, when I came upon a new fence
With a sign that shouted in silence: No trespassing - U.S. Forest land

So after a cautious look about, my wirecutters I did take out
I'd come prepared like any good scout, or serious steward of the land
After a few fence improvements, remembering Ecodefense hints
Being sure to leave no prints, I continued to survey our land

I found in the next canyon a scene of great destruction
Trucks, dozers, graders, ad nauseum, ripping the soil that feeds our land
And as I waited for darkness, I thought, "How can they do this?
Are they really so blind, so thoughtless, that they'll destroy our children's land?"

At first light I abandoned my night's work in the canyon
Those machines I'd laid my hands on would cease to rape our land
I was pleased by what I had wrought, but tired and saddened as I thought
Of all the people who can be bought, with paltry wages to kill our land

The politicians wrangling, the bureaucrats entangling
In red tape they are strangling the fight to save our land
Until they come to their senses I'll keep on cutting fences
Committing monkey wrench offenses, in self defense of our land

Rod Smith '92

U.S. CORPORATIONS AND MEXICAN GOVERNMENT LAUNCH MULTIMILLION DOLLAR CAMPAIGN TO PUSH NAFTA THROUGH CONGRESS

source: *Public Citizen*

Strong citizen opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has led NAFTA's corporate proponents and the Mexican Government to embark on one of the most organized and well-funded single-issue campaigns in U.S. history. Led by two major corporations, Eastman Kodak and American Express, the corporate pro-NAFTA coalition, called the USA*NAFTA, has reportedly raised over \$2 million. NAFTA would increase corporate profit by opening the borders for U.S. corporations to move investment to Mexico to take advantage of that country's low wages and weak environmental regulations while providing tariff-free access to the U.S. consumer market.

USA*NAFTA is made up of over 400 corporations, industry, trade and business coalitions and claims to have support from "grassroots citizen's groups". These are front groups, primarily funded and controlled by domestic multinational corporations, established to create the illusion of citizen support for their corporate agenda.

One advertisement from a U.S. busi-

ness magazine spells out very clearly why these corporations are so interested in NAFTA: "Yucatan, where labor costs average under \$1 an hour, including benefits...You can save over \$15,000 a year per worker if you had an offshore production plant here."

A number of USA*NAFTA companies have already moved plants to the 'Maquila' border free-trade zone including AT&T, Zenith, General Motors, General Electric, and Eastman Kodak. In addition to these corporate powers, the Mexican government is also throwing its weight around to insure passage of NAFTA. They have hired numerous US political heavies and have launched what is said to be the most expensive lobbying effort ever waged in the US by a foreign government. They are also spending money on a massive public relations campaign and have hired Burson-Marsteller, the Public Relations Firm that has handled not only Hydro-Quebec, but also Union Carbide in the wake of the Bhopal disaster and have spin-doctored facts worldwide.

NAFTA is not entirely about jobs. It

is also about the ecological health of the planet. Many of the corporations with vested interest in NAFTA are also notorious polluters. Eastman Kodak is a perfect example. By moving companies and industry to Mexico, many of the stringent environmental regulations of the U.S. can be completely bypassed. Mexico becomes a corporate dumping ground and toxic nightmare as is already occurring in areas in Guatemala where US industry is polluting without care. Even in this country, environmental regulations become unfair trade practices and are wiped off of the books with citizens having no recourse to stop environmental travesties occurring in their own communities.

NAFTA is anti-worker, anti-environment, anti-democratic, and anti-woman, man and child. In short it is a corporate dream that will cause a planetary holocaust. NAFTA must be stopped. There must be no NAFTA and no side agreements. If there was ever an issue which screamed out for people of all walks to band together to fight against, it is this. NAFTA violates all of us.

FOREST ACTIVISTS DEFEND TASMANIA'S GREAT WESTERN TIERS

source: *Native Forest Network*

Lower Hudson Estuary Bioregion (Manhattan) — In solidarity with activists in Tasmania working to save the forests of the Great Western Tiers, simultaneous demonstrations occurred at the Australian Consulates in San Francisco and New York City. The Native Forest Network (NFN) called for this demonstration and was joined in NYC by Earth First!, Amanaka's Amazon Network, Wetlands Rainforest Action Group, Federal Land Action Group, Worldview, Ltd., and anarchists from the community. These groups converged on the Australian Consulate on Thursday May 27th to protest the plans of the Forestry Commission there which will allow clearcut logging in the proposed Great Western Tiers National Park.

One day prior to the demonstration, Northern Hemisphere NFN Representative Orin Langelle along with New York EF!er James Hansen met with Tony Miller, Consul (Public Affairs) at the Australian Consulate. NFN and EF! demanded that this 68,666 acre area known as the Great Western Tiers become a National Park. Langelle and Hansen also gave Miller a bag of wood chips symbolizing the wood-chipping of the Tiers for export to Japan. The NFN further promised that this was the beginning of an international campaign to save the Tiers.

The demonstration began peaceably with more than 20 activists converging on Rockefeller Center, the site of the consulate, hanging banners and handing out leaflets to rush-hour passers-by, but was quickly transformed into a confrontation when cops and security forced activists to move off of private property or be arrested. Activists negotiated with New York's Finest (sic) and Center security vowing not to endanger the public safety with their leaflets and were allowed to continue disseminating information. The demo progressed with numerous Australian tourists



The NFN sets up shop on NYC's Fifth Avenue in front of the Australian Consulate. photo: Langelle

stopping to thank the participants for holding the protests and getting the word out about these Tasmanian travesties. The Great Western Tiers was "unofficially" declared an inviable National Park at the First International Temperate Forest Conference last November in Tasmania. This declaration echoes recommendations by the Tasmanian World Heritage Management Committee and the Tasmanian Parks, Wildlife and Heritage Department.

The unique Tiers forests have little or no protection from industry's plans to clearcut, burn and then poison them with 1080 wildlife poison, an extremely lethal toxin that can kill for generations beyond the target species. These acts will permanently damage this critical ecosystem.

No fauna surveys have been done for the threatened area, cut HU11D, despite the fact that the Tasmanian Bettong and the Long-Footed Potoroo, both recognized as endangered species, are known to inhabit the area and have been seen on numerous occasions by local residents.

In addition, 80% of the people who submitted comments on the Draft Management Plan for the Tiers called for logging to cease completely.

With respect to the possible logging of the Tiers, respected British Botanist

David Bellamy stated that "The tears of the world will be shed if these beautiful Tiers are logged. It will be yet another part of the earth that is crying to death."

Recently, the 30 day comment period on the Tiers logging proposal was unexpectedly cut off after less than one week. The Tasmanian Government has refused its citizens the right to have input in the management of the lands on which they live.

For these reasons, activists internationally are demanding that the Governments of Tasmania and Australia:

- Halt all logging of the Great Western Tiers.

- Act in the true interests of the majority of people who called for logging on the Tiers to cease.

- Recognize the wishes of 57% of Deloraine, Tasmania residents who support the National Park proposal.

- Declare the entire area a National Park and alter any legislation that may impede it.

Special thanks to Direct Action Fund, the Wetlands Preserve, Umbrella Haus Squat and the Love and Rage network for all their help with this demo.

Contact: Eastern North American NFN, POBox 57 Burlington, VT 05402, (802) 658-2403.

NFN AND EF! KICK OFF SIBERIAN FOREST PROTECTION CAMPAIGN

source: *Native Forest Network*

Federal Way, Washington—The NFN and EF! staged a protest in front of the Weyerhaeuser Corporate Headquarters on May 20, to bring public attention to Weyerhaeuser's plans to log Siberian forests. Demonstrators hung banners criticizing the company and urged the public to boycott their products.

There were no arrests, but company spokesman Mike Walters, said the Bonsai garden had to be closed to the public in order to remove information stickers that

protesters planted in the displays. NFN spokesperson, Jake Jagoff presented the company with petitions that contained 2500 signatures urging Weyerhaeuser to refrain from clearcutting on Russian soil and to stay out of the Botcha Basin.

At stake is the future of over 2.3 million square miles of forested lands in Siberia. This area represents almost one-quarter of the world's remaining forests, and over one-half of that area is ancient forest.

The first battlefield is the roadless

Botcha and Koppi river basins of the Khabarovskii region. According to David Gordon of the Pacific Environmental Resource Center, "These basins mark the transition from northern boreal to temperate forests and are home to reindeer, brown bear, Siberian Tiger, Sable, and salmon."

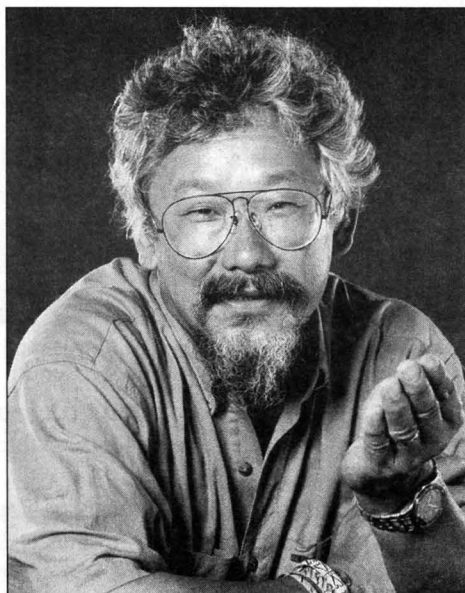
Weyerhaeuser proposes to deforest over one million acres (in 20 years) in Siberia. Weyerhaeuser has wined and dined many Russian scientists and officials to further their corporate interests and disregard the Siberian eco-system.

NFN's First Continental Temperate Forest Conference

Burlington, VT—The Native Forest Network (NFN) announced that eminent Canadian environmentalist, Dr. David Suzuki will be the keynote speaker for the First North American Temperate Forest Conference on the campus of the University of Vermont hosted by the NFN in Burlington, VT. It will convene on Thursday, November 11, with a presentation by Dr. Suzuki, and continue through Sunday afternoon, November 14, 1993. The conference will have other speakers and presentations, bioregional reports, and working discussion circles intended to cohesively define the direction for campaigns and actions for this continent.

The conference intends to bring indigenous people, forest dwellers, forest activists, conservation biologists and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) together for the first time in North America. The present crisis situation that our forests are in will be discussed and hopefully the attendees will resolve to act upon the shared knowledge from the conference. Additionally, environmental musicians, Alice Di Micele and Dana Lyons will provide entertainment.

Last year in Tasmania, Australia, immediately following the First International Temperate Forest Conference, the NFN agreed to hold this continental conference in the eastern part of North America. The NFN feels strongly that there is a wide disparity between national environmental NGOs and local and regional NGOs on forest campaign positions. The NFN believes that the for-



Dr. David Suzuki

est movement needs to create a unified body capable of protecting and restoring native forests while articulating actions and proposals on national and international levels. The conference in Vermont will allow the opportunity to discuss this concept of a global umbrella for the forest movement that would allow forest activists to unite while still remaining autonomous.

NFN organizers of the conference feel this will be the major forest conference of 1993 and prove to be more relevant than the "Forest Summit" held last April in Oregon. Prior to the conference, an educational "Roadshow" promoting the NFN will be touring throughout selected cities in North America starting in September.

For further information concerning the First North American Temperate Forest Conference, please contact: Eastern North American NFN, Orin Langelle, POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402; telephone (802)658-2403 or FAX (802)863-2532.

Telephones

Telephones are not real
They are some man's fantasy
And they will not last.

Our love for each other is real
It is of the earth
And will endure.

Do not insult our sacred connection
By forcing it over and over
Into the shape of the long thin wire
For the man to look at.

The man's fantasy is almost over.
Do not depend on any part of it,
So that we will not fall with it.

Be grounded.
Listen to the earth
And you will hear
The wild ones crying for protection
And freedom.
The war cry of your comrades in battle.
Our approaching steps
Coming to play music with you.

The spider
And the beaver
Weaving it all back together,
The real connection
And the only one
To depend on.

Anonymous

Georgia-Pacific Gets Stumped

by New Jersey/New York Earth First!

On April 26th, NJ/NY Earth First! blockaded the transport of Georgia-Pacific (G-P) rainforest wood with a lumberyard 'Stump-Sit' just outside of Trenton, NJ. This stump-sit blocked the gate of the G-P Yardville lumberyard for nearly two hours. At about 10 am, three activists arrived and immediately blocked the gate with four large tree stumps. Georgia-Pacific's initial response was to send out cameramen and an empty flatbed truck, which risked squeezing by the blockade. The driver dangerously inched by, as the activists were locking into the stumps. G-P's public relations people quickly arrived and asked the activists to conduct their protests next to the gate or risk arrest. Minutes later a parade of support activists chanted and marched up NJ Rt. 130 to the lumberyard. G-P shortly realized that no more profits could squeeze by once three of the support activists sat down in solidarity with the 'Chain Gang'. After a long stalemate, the police moved in.

When the unchained activists refused to leave, they were carted off. Next, the police began work on the chain gang. Police tried lubricating the arm-holes with dishwashing soap, but that didn't get them anywhere. Then they tried to move the logs. Fortunately, they realized the three people were chained and locked into the logs with both arms, so that the blockade couldn't be moved much at all without breaking arms and wrists! They eventually figured out how to get at the chain apparatus with various bolt cutters. The six activists were driven away to the Hamilton Township Courthouse and charged with defiant trespass and disorderly conduct. The three chain gang members were also charged with resisting arrest. They all got out on \$2000 bail each (10% for 5 of the 6) and await their June 15th court appearance.

Georgia-Pacific is the nation's largest known importer of tropical hardwoods straight from the rainforests based on U.S. Dept of Customs records.

From 1977 to 1989 Georgia-Pacific was the second most frequent violator of U.S. Worker Safety laws among the fifty largest U.S. corporations. Between 1977 and 1990 G-P was the third most frequent violator of U.S. air and water pollution



Befuddled police try to figure how to release EF'er Sierra Garrett's wrist from stump lockdown at G-P lumberyard. Confused cop, no donut!
photo: Gordon C. White

laws, beaten only by DuPont and USX and has been named Potentially Responsible Party to 96 Superfund sites.

Following the direct action, the International Hardwood Products Association(IHPA) issued a statement to the NJ State Senate on May 10th. First, they insisted that the boycotts are not advocated by "responsible" environmental groups. Then they said "as far as we know" EF! and the Rainforest Action Network(RAN) are the only groups advocating boycotts. Let's hope the NJ State Senators are not as ignorant as the IHPA and G-P think they are. In reference to this action the IHPA stated, "the protesters arrested at a recent demonstration freely identified themselves as representing Earth First!". They claimed EF! groups "promote such dangerous and violent tactics as tree-spiking and suicide bombing in an effort to shut down the timber industry." SUICIDE BOMBING!?! We can't let the covert, 'unsolved' attempt to kill activists be spin-doctored into a suicide bombing! (see page 5) NJ/NY EF! is preparing a response to the IHPA's misinformation for the NJ State Senators. Everyone should let the IHPA and G-P know what they think of this bullshit.. Since the IHPA's members import about 80% of the U.S.'s rainforest wood, they

must be really nervous about the growing international boycott.

There is currently a NJ state law under consideration that would restrict the sale of rainforest wood. After nearly unanimous passage through the NJ State Assembly, this rainforest wood "ban" is now being considered by the NJ State Senate. New Jersey residents should call or fax their State Senator and the Governor and ask for their active support of NJ Senate No. 1167.

NJ/NY EF! would like to thank the many individuals who contributed time and money: the EF! Direct Action Fund for their timely contribution, and RAN and many others for vital information. If you would like more info on Georgia-Pacific or have information to share, please contact the G-P Info Project, c/o Wetlands 161 Hudson St., NY., NY 10013. Send them stamps and they'll send a G-P rainforest/dioxin package and future alerts. If you want to communicate something to G-P here's how:

A.D. "Pete" Correll, CEO, Georgia-Pacific, 133 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30303 (800)477-2737 x4738 or (404) 521-4000 faxes (404) 521-4581, also 521-4847 or 521-4422

Or to leave a message on their free tree-line call (800) 447-6553 x30215.

Northeastern Sterling Forest Under Siege by Developers

by Bart Semcer

An hour's drive north of New York City is a remnant of what was, and a seed for what could be. At 19,500 acres, Sterling Forest remains largely unspoiled by industrial intrusion, providing a refuge of wooded hills, lakes and wetlands. It serves as a connecting biological corridor between Bear Mountain/Harriman State Park in New York and Waywaywanda State Park in New Jersey, allowing for the connection between the Catskills and New Jersey Highlands Ecosystem which has enabled migratory bird populations to flourish and brown bears to repopulate the area. The Sterling Forest Watershed also provides the state of New Jersey with 25 percent of its drinking water and the area is host to a segment of the Appalachian Trail.

Now however, after more than 200 years of escaping the chainsaw, the forest is threatened with development. Sterling Forest is privately owned by the Swedish Sterling Forest Corporation, a division of an insurance firm which apparently has taken an economic downturn. Currently they plan to develop the forest into 14,200 residential homes and build 8,000,000 feet

of commercial space; unless someone buys the land from them.

The developers are insisting that their plan is environmentally sound because roughly seventy-six percent of the land will remain as "open space" with 40 miles of nature trails and a 1,300 acre buffer along the Appalachian Trail. All aspects of the plan considered though, if undertaken it will literally fragment the forest to death, creating a large amount of edge and leaving no deep forest, thus destroying the value of the area as a corridor.

The fate of Sterling Forest may lie in its value as a watershed. In 1988, New Jersey's Passaic County condemned 2,000 acres of the land in order to protect its water supply. Likewise on the issue, Congress has \$3 million to purchase portions of Sterling Forest, and New Jersey Congressman Bob Torricelli has proposed that \$20 million more be provided for further land purchases.

Earth First! will not let Sterling Forest go the way of the rest of the Middle Atlantic states. Currently a campaign is being developed in order to assure that the trees are not transformed into suburban sprawl.

For more information, or if you would like to be of assistance, contact Bart Semcer at the address listed in the back.

What You Can Do Now

Write New Jersey Governor Jim Florio, New York Governor Mario Cuomo and your Congresspersons and Senators. Let them know that:

1. You believe that to ensure preservation of the Catskills and New Jersey Highland ecosystems as well as to insure the quality of watersheds, the entire area of Sterling Forest must be preserved.
2. You do not want your tax dollars to subsidize massive development (to build infrastructure: roads, sewage treatment plants, etc.) in Sterling Forest.
3. You want to have Land and Water Conservation Funds as necessary state funding made available for the acquisition of Sterling Forest Lands.
4. You value the existing natural character of the forest and feel that it is important to preserve it for future generations.

Addresses:

Governor Jim Florio, State Capitol
Trenton, New Jersey 08650

Governor Cuomo, Executive Chamber,
State Capitol, Albany, NY 12224

Wise Use Takes Root in New Jersey

by Bart Semcer

A group calling itself the Wise Use Coalition, Inc., has taken root in the small town of Ringwood, New Jersey. Headed by a group of local developers, they have launched a campaign of slander and intimidation which has resulted in the resignation of the town's Mayor, Craig Siegel.

Siegel opposed the local construction of a power plant, sought to curtail the quarry operations, and campaigned against high-density condominium development. He resigned following what he called threats against his family's safety and his one-man business. While he had not cited any specific incident which led to his decision to resign, he has said that the combination of events led him to think twice about maintaining a public life.

The former mayor has refused to file a criminal complaint for fear that the harassment would continue.

The Wise Use Coalition, Inc., claims no affiliation with the national Wise Use Movement, although they share the same

name and slogan - "Man and Nature Can Live Together In Productive Harmony."

Besides launching a slander campaign against the town's Mayor for his moderate environmental opinions, they have also begun to attack Skylands C.L.E.A.N., a local moderate environmental group. In letters to the editor, and in the Wise Use

Inc., publications they are referred to as eco-terrorists and signs printed with "Cu Clux CLEAN" have been posted around the town of Ringwood. As of yet, no local activists have been subjected to personal harassment or intimidation, and WUC claims they are not responsible for any harassment towards Mr. Siegel.

**MAYOR
FORCED
OUT**

Earth First!ers Confront Champion International

On Monday, March 29th several activists entered the Champion International headquarters in Stamford, CT to protest industrial discharge into the Pigeon river. They met with the Senior Vice President and a PR person.

Senior VP John Hall, tired of one of the activists ranting at him about being a soulless exploiter of mother earth, quipped, "We are near completion of a \$300 million modernization project at our Canton paper mill to improve the water quality". This project will only lighten the dark coffee-colored water by about 50% (according to Global Accountability). The state standard for water is 50 color units and that the water currently running below

the mill is between 400 to 800 color units. Even with the reduction, Champion's mill would still not even be close to the 50 color unit standard. Champion is also liquidating 850,000 acres in Montana to finance their expansion back east.

What you can do:

Write Champion directly and tell them what you think of them destroying forests and poisoning rivers.

Champion International, One
Champion Plaza, Stamford, Conn 06921

For More Info Write or Call: Global
Sustainability Clean Water Project

PoBox 1101 Knoxville, TN 37901
Phone: (615) 524-4771

WAL-MART TO DESECRATE 9,000 YEAR OLD INDIGENOUS DWELLING SITE

source: *Mid CT River Valley EF!*

Mid-CT River Valley EF! has, over the recent past, given new meaning to the term "laid back." Actions just happen. No one knows who or how. I like that.

The latest action concerns the mega-shopping church people at Wal-Mart who, just to prove they have no soul, have proposed building one of their temples of consumption on top of a nine thousand year-old indigenous dwelling site.

Peskeomskut was a seasonal camp site of the Algonquin speaking nation of the Pocumtuck until some colonial types got it into their heads to go in there and wipe-out 300 of them while they slept.

Now, the progeny of the colonists and associated corporate riff-raff want to go in with the final insult: erecting an edifice to materialism atop the grounds of a spiritual-based culture. In the process they'll tear up some of the little remaining woodland in the area and perhaps even fuck with an endangered wetlands herb. As an added bonus Wal-Mart will proba-

bly turn downtown Greenfield into a graveyard of dead stores unable to compete with those low, low prices.

Because this will screw up the local economy, one might think area merchants would band together and make a fuss, right? Well, Greenfield, MA, White Bread, Mainstream USA is all about sitting on one's ass and not fighting city hall.

It was with that apathy in mind that a handful of Mother's night riders went out and posted death certificates on the doors of the businesses in town that would most likely go under if Wal-Mart were allowed to build. The next morning the merchants and burghers were aghast that anyone could do such a tasteless, childish thing.

We're trying to find out if the above mentioned endangered herb is actually on site. Also, there is a very big hemlock right by Route 2 that would make a most excellent long-term tree sit on the site, but we need a serious climber to set the ropes (anyone interested?). There are some other ideas in the hopper, but no one's

turned the handle yet.

Up on the western fringe of our bio-region sits Mt. Greylock where some clever developer wants to install, you guessed it, CONDOS! Said developer has scaled back plans some due to irate citizens so now's the time for even more pressure! Also out that way at the Mohawk Trail State Forest, there was a recent discovery of old-growth forest. There's talk of some steps being taken to further protect the small stands, but, at the moment no danger is imminent.

Interested people should call (413) 367-9352 or (413) 625-9529.

Mass Earth First! Tables at the Walk for Walden Woods

by Andy Cantsin

Despite being discouraged from attending, EF! did show up at the Walk for Walden Woods in Concord, Massachusetts on Sunday, May 23rd to hand out free information.

In a phone conversation several weeks before the walk, a representative from the the Walden Woods Project nervously questioned an EF!er asking, "Who do you represent?" When the EF!er told her that we only represented the Earth, she obviously didn't believe us. She then went on to try and discourage us from handing out information at the walk. EF!ers weren't the only ones to have problems with the Walden Woods Project. A group of local musicians who got together and put out a compilation called "Rock for Wood", the proceeds of which went towards saving Walden Woods, also got the cold shoulder.

As the spectacle began, we tried hard not to laugh too loud when Don Henley was introduced as "one of the greatest environmentalists alive today." Although Mass EF!ers would like to see every square of forest preserved, we recognize the fact that Walden Pond and the area that surrounds it, are essentially nothing more than a historical park in memory of Henry David Thoreau. But hopefully this walk and the works of Thoreau will inspire more people to get involved in environmental issues.

Many people stopped to choose from the variety of free literature we had laid out. Before long almost all the handouts were gone and many people had stopped to ask questions. All in all, it was a good day.

USFS ALLOWS SKI AREA TO EXPAND ON NATIONAL FOREST

by Andy Cantsin

In the west/central area of the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF), lies the Loon Mountain Ski Area. With 785 acres, this is the largest ski complex in New Hampshire. In November of 1986, the Loon Mountain Recreation Corporation (LMRC) submitted a request for a permit to expand the ski area onto more of the WMNF to meet perceived increases in skier demands. However since 1987, ski area business has declined by 20% in NH.

Questions have arisen over the procedure of how the Forest Service handled the request by Loon Mountain. The Feb 1989 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) set out 5 alternatives in which the public could comment on.

In June 1992, the FS suprised both local citizens and environmentalists by selecting a new alternative as the preferred alternative. Not until Aug 1992, when the Final EIS was released, were all the details of Alt 6 revealed.

The actions of the FS denied citizens involvement in the process. According to the FS, Alternative 6 was written after a "lengthy review" of the public's comments on Alternatives 1-5 plus suggestions from the Joint Review Committee and the LMRC.

In an article published in the *North Woods Vision* (the enviro group RESTORE's Newsletter) it was reported that Alt 6 was developed in quite a different way. In a letter obtained by RESTORE, Forest Service Staff Officer Richard Pierce stated that Alt 6 was "developed through

discussions between us (FS) and the LMRC".

By not allowing the public to comment on the new alternative, WMNF Supervisor Rick D. Cables demonstrated that he had already made his decision on what he was going to do with the forest. As a result of being excluded from the process, PAW, RESTORE, The Lincoln Coalition of Concerned Citizens, The Nat'l Audobon Society, The Wilderness Outlook Legal Foundation and The Wilderness Society joined together to formally request that WMNF supervisor Rick Cables issue a supplement to the Revised DEIS to allow the public a chance to review and respond to the new Alt 6. The Sierra Club did likewise in a separate letter. Mr Cables denied both requests. All the above organizations then wrote to the Regional Forester for Region 9, Floyd Marita, who also denied their requests.

As if to somehow explain their plan to allow further fragmentation of the forest, part of chapter 2 of the Final EIS reads as follows: "The environmentally preferred alternative would be the No Action Alternative. *Substantial impacts would still occur under this alternative*, primarily due to continued growth in the Lincoln-Woodstock area (emphasis added)."

To the dismay of local residents and environmentalists, the decision to go ahead with Alternative 6 was finalized as documented in the Forest Service's Record of Decision. At the time of this writing (late May), representatives from PAW and RESTORE are said to be working on appeals.

EF!ers Disrupt VT Governor Dean at Earth Day Event

In an absurd attempt to be politically savvy, the University of Vermont Environmental Studies Department invited Vermont Governor Howard Dean to be the keynote speaker for a series of Earth Day lectures dealing with the topic of Environmental Justice.

Environmental Justice is something about which Dean just doesn't have a clue. A proponent of the massively destructive hydro-electric James Bay project, he has called this genocidal and ecocidal project "a remarkable feat of engineering" and has emphasized that mercury poisoning, a side effect of the dams, dissipates with time (a long, long time). In Vermont, he has upheld the VT Supreme Court decision of 1992 that states that the Abenaki Nation has no title to their own land because of the "increasing weight of history".

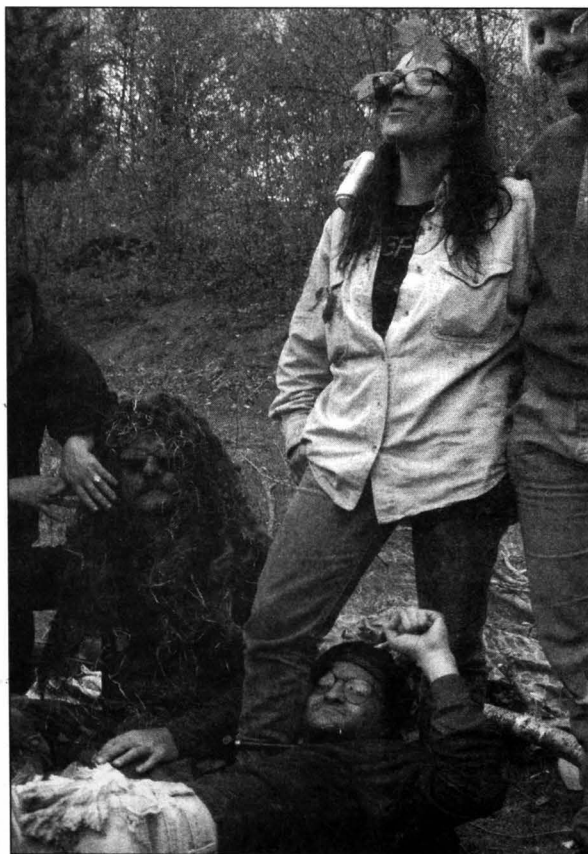
He has supported an air toxins amendment that will allow for the construction of a dioxin producing incinerator near a working class section of Rutland, VT, and pushed for a "compromise" to the Sugarbush Ski debate that will allow for Sugarbush to suck the life out of a Mad River tributary to provide additional skiing for Yuppies.

For these reasons, a group of EF!ers came out to protest this typically thoughtless and disgusting attempt at an Earth Day event. They met Dean as he entered the foyer with signs, banners, chants and whistles. When Dean entered, the protesters followed, some of them lining the walls with the signs and banners and others sitting directly opposite Dean in the front row.

Dean was heckled throughout his

speech, during which he blamed overpopulation on third world women, and praised Ben & Jerry's for their attempts to convert indigenous rainforest tribes into capitalists. When Dean attempted to once again sing the merits of the Hydro-Quebec James Bay project, two of the Earth First!ers in the front row leapt up, whistles blowing, charging Dean with being a liar who supports the genocide of Cree, Inuit and Innu people as well as the devastation of a vast region of wilderness. When EF!er George Foreman demanded to know what Dean's problem was, Dean spat back "You are the problem!"

The protest was highly successful in agitating Dean and his supporters and in disrupting yet another of Dean's moments of glory.



PAW's Buck Young (lying down with lettuce over crotch) krypto locks onto Cove/Mallard bound Billi Barker to save her from her EF! evil ways. Camouflaged Orin Langelle (to the left, as usual) from the NFN looks on during the Northeast Activist Rendezvous held by Duck Pond in Vermont's Willoughby State Forest, May 13-16.

Activists from Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Quebec, and Vermont attended this four day event. Although federal authorities were absent, it is believed the "hunting party" that passed through our camp, armed with sawed off riot guns and revolvers, were none other than Wise Users stalking another type of wild game.

photo: A. Petermann

Possible Endangered Species Found in GMNF

Scientists have discovered a new rare species of bat on the Green Mountain National Forest. Characterized as having a human face and appendages, the bat findings were first reported in the *Weekly World News*.

Quick to respond to the needs of this potentially endangered species dubbed *Myotis Humanfacedeus*, Buck Young of Preserve Appalachian Wilderness sent a letter to Green Mountain National Forest Supervisor Terry Hoffman stating "We have a potential endemic G1 species on the GMNF with no legal protection. It is imperative that an

inventory be done for the species and status reviews prepared...I suggest that (Middlebury District Ranger) Paul Lundberg coordinate an ID team to locate potential threats to *M. Humanfacedeus* immediately.

I would also like to formally request that the GMNF staff take the role of lead agency in petitioning for an emergency listing of the *M. Humanfacedeus* under the Endangered Species Act.

None of us wants this to turn into another spotted owl crisis."

PAW is still awaiting a formal response from the GMNF Service.

ACID RAIN DAMAGE IN MASSACHUSETTS

According to a May 5th, front page article in the *Boston Globe*, acid rain damage in Massachusetts is the worst that it has been in the past ten years. This new information was released by the state's Acid Rain Monitoring Project in early May. The pH scale, which is used to measure acidity levels, runs from 0-14, with 0 being highly acidic, 7 being neutral and 14 being highly alkaline. The latest figures for the average weighted pH in Massachusetts lakes is

slightly below 6.2. It should be noted that aquatic life begins to deteriorate below 6.5 pH. These new figures come as somewhat of a shock since figures for lakes had been improving slowly since 1989, with 1992 figures leveling off somewhat.

As if this were not bad enough, due to budget constraints, the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife funding for the Acid Rain Monitoring Project is expected to run out in June.

MT. BLUE STATE PARK UPDATE

MT. BLUE STATE PARK was received by the state of Maine in the mid-1940's. The state then gave the management of the park to the nearby town of Weld. It then bought the park back from the town for \$4000. In the 1960's, the state wanted to acquire beach front property on Webb Lake. The state got seventeen acres of lake front wetlands, and in a questionable exchange, Timberlands got 1150 acres of stumpage rights over a thirty year period in Mt. Blue State Park! This gave Timberlands the right to cut in over 20% of the Park. It was a shady deal back in 1966, it's a shady deal in 1993.

The lease mandated light and periodic cutting over a thirty-year period, generally considered a relatively healthy method of timber management. Instead, Timberlands cut intensively up to 1972, then ignored the lease for a couple of decades. In 1991 with two more years to "fulfill" the lease, a Timber Harvest Plan was drawn up calling for the cutting of 17,000 cords of wood. Timberlands has already made three quarters of a million dollars off the state.

Enter the Mt. Blue Coalition. What started in February 1993 as a dozen concerned folks has mushroomed into a coalition of a hundred citizens representing all sorts of backgrounds from all over the state of Maine. As many tactics as possible have been pursued. Civil disobedience leading to 35 arrests awakened the public not only to disastrous forest management on public lands but also to major human rights violations of people detained in jail for 48 hours (see *ALARM* #6). The Mt. Blue issue was in

all major state papers numerous times, in *USA TODAY* and *The Boston Globe*, as well as nearly every major TV and radio station in the region. Numerous meetings were held with John Stowell, Vice President in charge of forest operations at Timberlands, Inc; Herb Heartman, Director of the Bureau of Parks And Recreation; Ed Meadows, Commissioner of the Department of Conservation, and Carpenter, the State's Attorney General. The issue was also taken to a relatively sympathetic legislature.

Due to melting snow and thickening mud, Timberlands pulled out of the Park in mid-March. They left behind a disastrous, unsightly, destroyed landscape. Their verbal promises and the timber harvest plan have both been clearly violated as the park has been stripped of all diversity and health. If the Mt. Blue Coalition is successful in proving that Timberlands has blatantly violated the contract, perhaps the Mountain will experience the next two winters under a quiet, unscathed, unskidded blanket of snow.

A Vision: Gulf of Maine Recovery

Mt. Blue is a State Park, rare and valued in the state of Maine. Less than one percent of the total land base in Maine is protected as parks. Over fifty percent of the state, is owned by huge, multinational timber companies or timber barons.

Most of the Northeast, most of Maine and all of Mount Blue has been cut over once, twice, even three times. The result is a forest stripped of it's ecological diversity. The decades old practice of highgrading, taking only the best tree species, has changed the composition of Maine's forest

from a mixed transition forest to a paper plantation.

The citizens of Maine and the United States own less than ten percent of the state's land, one of the nation's smallest percentages, and even this land is not held sacred by the timber corporations. Currently, nearly every State Park, Public Preserve, and the state's only National Forest (a small portion of the White Mountain National Forest) is managed, in the interest of the corporations, for timber. As the State Legislature considers several land purchase proposals, it becomes even more crucial and precedent setting to protect Mt. Blue State Park.

When looking at it in the long term, Mt. Blue is at the core of wildlands recovery in the East. The regions' high level of humidity makes the land here more resilient than nearly anywhere else in the country. Mt. Blue lies within the Western Mountains of Maine, a North/East corridor linking the Mahoosucs, Bigelow, Moosehead Lake, the Katahdin Iron Works land (currently up for sale) and Baxter State Park. The Appalachian Trail twists and turns within or near these forests. This corridor will form the crux of wildlands recovery for the Gulf of Maine Bioregion.

The struggle to release the Mt. Blue ecosystem from a shady 30 year-old political deal is only the beginning of a longterm vision. Widescale wildlands recovery is at the root of healthy human and non-human communities in the Gulf of Maine Bioregion.

For more information, contact Natalie or John at POBox 241 Manset, ME 04656.

MAINE RIVERS DIOXIN UPDATE

source: Solon EF!

In Nov '92, Maine's Board of Environmental Protection held hearings on a proposal to raise allowable dioxin discharge levels in Maine rivers by 38 times. The plan came right from the paper industry through the Governor with the support of the Commissioner of Environmental Destruction. BEP, is a citizen board appointed by the Governor whose brother is a paper industry lobbyist in Washington.

In spite of the importance of these hearings, the pros and cons would have had a fairly private argument if not for the presence of EF! In March the BEP decision was due. Public opinion had mounted against this scam, so the sleaze were in

need of a different angle. The recommendation - wait until the federal EPA decides to set levels. It was meant to appear that strict interim standards would prevail. Again EF! vigilance smelled something foul. We forced more public hearings.

At still another hearing the arguments were again politely made, except for a strong band of non-compromising whistleblowing EF!ers.

In the end, we were able to convince all but one board member that life in the rivers couldn't wait for federal bureaucrats to act on it's behalf. So Maine has accepted the federal standards which the corporations have challenged in court. That allows the status quo of dumping 100+

organochlorines, including dioxin, into the rivers and eventually coastal waters by multinational scum to continue. The state's chief toxicologist resigned shortly after this policy was adopted. His efforts to get the state to force dioxin out of the river had failed.

The up side is that the dialogue over chlorine-free pulping has been uttered even by those sworn to protect the paper industry. Even the local paper agreed with EF!'s position. We spoke for all those that don't go to hearings, to testify that our species must honor the others through respect and harmony. And that jobs, health risk assessments and profits are meaningless to us wild ones. **EARTH FIRST!**

The James Gang Rides Again

By Steve Taylor of Big River EF! (in exile) Terra-Prima Guild

MISSOURI-Chaining off the billboards' precarious entrance, armed with provisions and a cellular phone, two members of the Times Beach Action Group (T-BAG) unfurled a 650 square foot banner calling for resistance to construction of the Times beach dioxin incinerator. As the duo conducted press interviews from the billboard via telephone, they were situated only a couple of miles off interstate 44, from the ghost town of Times Beach. The banner hangers occupied the billboard for hours, eventually to escape in hope of hanging again.

T-BAG members vow to continue and accelerate physical resistance to the proposed land-fill in the sky. As stated one T-BAGer, "contributing in whatever



photo: Cindy Taykowski

way you can, according to your conscience and your abilities, is a way to turn your outrage into action, and your pain into hope."

For more info write: T-BAG, 50 Clarkson Center, Suite 493, Chesterfield Missouri, 63017

Protest Against Mitsubishi



Demonstrator at St. Louis International Auto Show responds to question of why he is being led away by security, "Because Mitsubishi destroys Rainforests!" photo:Langelle

by Steve Taylor

"Mitsubishi destroys rainforest. The word is getting around!", rang out across the demo floor as a throng of protesters disrupted business-as-usual at the St. Louis (MO) Auto Show on March 18, 1993. Members of the St. Louis Rainforest Alliance, Earth First!, and the Native Forest Network infiltrated the auto show, planning to lock onto steering

wheels of Mitsubishi cars. This was the tenth such auto show disruption as part of a national boycott of the company organized by the Rainforest Action Network.

Mitsubishi Corporation is one of the largest destroyers of rainforests around the world. It also builds roads for its logging, mining, and paper milling concessions in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Siberia, Canada and Brazil. These activities

Scarce

(continued from page 5)

part of political processes...scholars must be free to study all movements in order to add to our knowledge of politics and society. If academics must fear being asked to testify by Grand Juries when they have the barest knowledge of illegal activities, a chilling effect will be produced by scholars of those particular movements....There will be no incentive to put in years of grueling fieldwork if it can all be destroyed by one Grand Jury investigation. Our knowledge of human society will be incomplete. Such limits on intellectual,

academic freedom belong to totalitarian societies..."

This March, the sociology faculty at W.S.U. voted to support Scarce and graduate and undergraduate student associations passed resolutions of support. The American Civil Liberty Union and the American Sociological Association both introduced *Amicus* briefs in Scarce's appeal. Scarce's attorney, Jeffrey Finer of the National Lawyers Guild, has said he will take this case to the Supreme Court if necessary.

Money and letters of support should be sent care of: Rik Scarce Defense Fund PO Box 2463-CS, Pullman, WA 99165

permanently destroy forest ecosystems and create severe human hardship and suffering.

In collaboration with Hyundai of South Korea, Mitsubishi Corporation is moving into Siberia, a region which contains the largest boreal forest in the world and is the refuge of the endangered Siberian Tiger.

In the end, all protesters were released without booking.

Huntsaboteur Killed at Fox Hunt in United Kingdom

source: Alec Smart / Black & White and Green

Fifteen year-old Huntsaboteur Thomas Worby was killed after participating in a successful day of sabbing at the last meet of the Cambridgeshire foxhunt. As thirty huntsabs walked down the road leading away from the meet area, forcing the traffic behind them to follow at their pace, the driver of the houndsvan, Tony Ball, began revving the engine and nudging forward to force the protesters out of his way. Tom Worby's jacket got caught on the left side view mirror of the truck and he was dragged by the truck, banging on the window for the driver to stop until he slipped off and fell under the truck to have his head be crushed beneath the seven-ton truck's rear wheels.

The truck sped away while Tom's friends attempted to revive him. Three hunt riders were implored to ride back to call an ambulance but refused. Other hunt supporters taunted the sabs apparently amused by the death. The driver was released on bail and is now "in hiding".

The media, in reporting the story, has come out strongly in support of the hunt by spreading a callous misinformation campaign about Tom Worby implicating him through wild stretches of the truth as a neo-nazi. Another paper smeared Tom as a "problem child living in Council care after

being in trouble with police over drugs".

A memorial rally was held for Tom and 450 people attended. When the attendees were asked for a show of hands by anyone who'd ever been attacked by hunt personnel, only a few hands stayed down.

Nick Herbert, from the British Fieldsport Society announced on September 27, 1992, "From now on we are going to start hunting the huntsaboteurs". Three brownshirts of David Dunn, Coordinator of Countrywatch, a militant security firm that "protects" hunts, have recently been dismissed for carrying weapons while pursuing saboteurs. In a letter to clients, Estate Management Services (EMS) stated, "We are constantly updating our files on the huntsaboteurs' association. We have identified and profiled their leadership. We have names and addresses of the committee members and prime movers of the group. We know their vehicles and their methods of operation..." Huntsabs have been accused of receiving K.G.B. funds and recently it was rumoured that huntsabs were bribed to come out to protests with 30 Pounds/ day and a free vege-burger.

Overzealousness of police officers has resulted in 85 lawsuits against police, 81 of which have resulted in damage claims for huntsabs to the tune of 80,150 Pounds. Police legal fees have cost the authorities over 250,000 Pounds. These awards were

for recompensation mainly for wrongful arrest and imprisonment.

Other incidents of violence at hunts have included:

-An attack on two huntsabs by a hunt-follower armed with a scythe. Both huntsabs received headwounds requiring stitches.

-A man required stitches after a blow from a horsewhip.

-A woman was pinned down and had sheep shit stuffed in her mouth.

-One week before Tom Worby's death, a huntsab was rammed by a Landrover, slammed up onto the hood and flung off at a curve some distance ahead. He suffered a broken wrist.

-Shortly after this incident, huntsabs were isolated in their van by a roadblock, had all of the windows smashed, the driver's jaw was broken by a stave and all occupants were dragged out of the van and clubbed. Six of them required hospitalization with multiple cuts and fractures.

-Huntsabs have been ambushed, and while attempting to defend themselves, been videoed. The media have gobbled up these videos to further smear huntsabs as violent which in turn leads to more acceptable violence against huntsabs.

The campaign against huntsabs is growing increasingly sophisticated, well-organized and well-funded.

EARTH FIRST! AT TWYFORD DOWN

On Saturday, March 6, over 150 people gathered in the various work areas of the controversial M3 Motorway in Twyford Down and halted construction progress for the day. One Tarmac employee hurled a woman down a three-meter embankment before turning a high-pressure water hose onto other activists delaying work at the construction site.

Protesters have continued their presence in the Twyford Down area since March 6, and in spite of their non-violent civil disobedience tactics, have been met with mounting fury and violence by the Tarmac employees. In one incident in April, workers allegedly pushed a young man off the roof of an earthmoving lorry, breaking his ribs.

An attempt to rebuild the destroyed Twyford Down was made on Sunday, March 7th. Between 400 and 500 people formed a human chain and passed lumps of chalk along it. For nearly an hour the

demonstrators chanted "Put it back!" and "Build Twyford up!" as they erected chalk barricades to block construction vehicles and deposited chalk back onto the scarred landscape.

Twyford Down information:

SouthDowns E-F! Prior House, Tilbury place, Brigh-ton, BN2 2GY U. K.



Protesters get down in Twyford Down blockade.

photo: Alec Smart/ Black&White and Green

ph: 0273 683205 (infamous Dongas Tribe)

Revolutionary 1.May Confrontations -Berlin

by Jan Kraker

This year's Revolutionary 1.May demonstration in Berlin was smaller than in the past. This was partly due to the fact that during preparation meetings for the action, arguments between Autonomie groups and Marxist-Leninist organizations frustrated many people and led to many not taking part in the demo. In the end, the ML groups, mostly various fractions of the Turkish Communist Party (TKP-ML), with only a few hundred followers at most, marched at the head of the demo, followed by an autonomous bloc of some 5000+ people.

As expected, a fight broke out almost immediately between Autonomie and the sectarian Maoists of RIM (Revolutionary Internationalist Movement), but this was soon put to rest when the RIM's soundcar was confiscated by the police. As the demo made its way into East Berlin, the Autonomie soundcar blasted hip-hop music and broadcast speeches by various wimmin's groups and other autonomous organizations.

The motto of the demo was: "Toward a non-hierarchical and classless society - Organize the Resistance!" The fact that many posters announcing the 1.May demo proudly displayed a large photo of the bombed out remains of the Weierstadt prison and an RAF insignia no doubt contributed to the hostility of the police toward the demonstration. Again, since many organized autonomist groups and collectives stayed away from this year's demo, the proportion of generally unorganized and inexperienced marchers was higher than usual. For example, the Autonomie usually see to it that no one drinks alcohol during demonstrations, but this year, several groups of punks brought bottles of beer along for the march. Consequently, when these (and rocks and

molotovs) were hurled at police, many people were not disciplined in their resistance to subsequent police attacks against the demonstration. Therefore, riot police often beat their way to within one line of people away from the sound-car, and the use of tear gas and water cannon blasts very nearly split up the autonomous bloc on several occasions. In total, 67 people were arrested and only a few of the 3000+ cops were injured.

At the same time as the 1.May demo, approximately 20 anti-fascists were arrested while attempting to confront 100 members of the neo-nazi FAP party who held a rally in East Berlin. A heavy police presence prevented Autonomie from attacking the nazis (as they had done with great success in 1992), and most of the arrests occurred simply as anti-fascists attempted to reach the area where the FAP rally was being held.

During the night of May 1st, rioting took place in two Berlin neighborhoods. In Prenzlauer Berg, a squatters' street-festival ended in confrontations with police. And in Kreuzberg, riot cops began harassing people on the streets as early as 9pm, and running battles between youths (Turkish kids, Autonomie, and drunken revellers) and armor plated riot cops continued until about 4am. Water cannons constantly patrolled the streets, putting an end to all attempts at erecting burning barricades. During the nighttime confrontations, another 100 people were arrested, making the total of arrests 149, with only 19 cops injured, none of them seriously.

Although the numbers of arrests versus injured cops and the lower-than-usual number of people taking part in the Revolutionary 1.May demo were a little disappointing by Berlin standards, at least the day's activities and confrontations possessed the revolutionary spirit which May Day is supposed to embody.

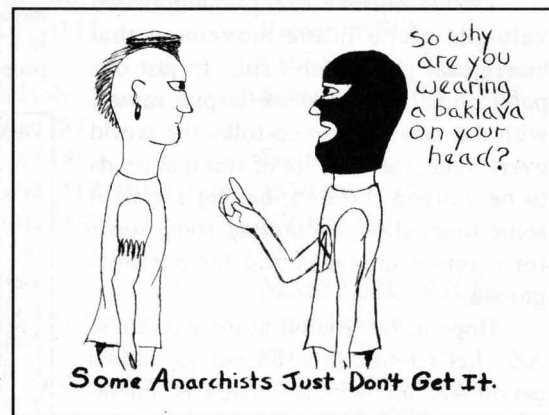
Resistance is possible!

Anarcho Blues

by Garth Allen

Burlington's (VT) MayDay 1993 was not a show of strength for anarchists, labor or the Maypole. As 5000 marched in Montreal and folks in Berkley's People's Park were (supposed to be) havin' a humyn mud-pit, 7 anarchists and a dog marched, rode bikes, threw dried gourds, and waved black flags in the streets here. At the food co-op natural health food store, "comrades" drove by "off to somewhere else", shaking their heads at yet another demo.

At the Last Elm Cafe, the basement was raided for more costumes while home-schoolers looked on bewildered. Scores of gourds were handed out during our romp through the town, much to the consternation of Yuppie parents who tried to tell "their" children that we were scary and the gourds worthless. The post-demo picnic brought out people for a feast of joy & revelry.



The Burlington Scene? graphic AEP

Burlington's anarchist community has a lot to do to become cohesive in order to take on projects and demos. Right now a lot of factionalism exists within the community which is being addressed thru social dinners and a lot of discussion. Hopefully the Burlington community will unite to become a major ulcer in the belly of the beast!!

Let's Go Chopping

source: Alec Smart

South Downs Earth First! in the United Kingdom began their campaign for a public boycott of Scott Paper products with a demonstration in a Waitrose store in Brighton. Handing out leaflets to customers, they sauntered up to the section of the supermarket with Scott toilet rolls, carrying a menacing 3 meter long fluorescent yellow chainsaw.

As for the Scott paper products boycott...

*50 percent of the world's remaining

temperate forests are in North America.

*Half of that temperate forest (25% of world's remaining temperate forests) is in British Columbia, Canada.

*Canada is the world's largest exporter of forest timber (presently cutting at the rate of 1 acre every 5 seconds).

*Scott paper owns 3.2 million acres of land in the U.S.A. and Canada (under the name of the firm "Branscan", which also has invested interests in Canada's largest forest clearing company, "MacMillan Bloedel").

*85 percent of Scott U.K.'s production is from virgin pulp from Scandinavia,

and, you-guessed-it, North America.

*The trees in these forests are being clear-cut (a method which removes every tree from the designated clearfell area, exposing the soil to erosion from weather, and depriving the wildlife of the forest's protective canopy, and in some cases, destroys the land so that nothing will ever grow back).

Contact Scott paper for an explanation:

Scott Ltd., Scott House
East Grinstead
West Sussex, RH19 1ZA
United Kingdom

letters to the editorial collective

Dear *ALARMISTS*/BLF/EF!,

Thanks for sending us a copy of the *ALARM*. Looks great and I enjoyed the articles. They were informative and for the most part creatively written (but please be careful to not substitute hackneyed slogans and worn-out aphorisms for passionate writing). Also, I like the layout of the mag.

However, I do have a couple of concerns. One, I get the feeling that this is a competition for you all: To produce your own journal is *fantastic*; to do it with a "fuck you" attitude toward the *Journal* is immature and unnecessarily divisive. Just do your thang; no need to make it a pissing match with others who are trying to do a good thing too. (We're all doing our best.)

Two, I believe the *Journal* fills a valuable niche in the movement that bioregional papers can't fill. In just one publication, I can educate/inspire myself with the news from eco-folks the world over. True, there's a *lot* of shit that needs to be worked through, but let's give it some time, allow each other some room for original mistakes and for personal growth.

Hope to see you all at the Rendez in AZ. Let's figure this shit out so we can get on with the work and magic of shielding the planet from the antibiotics.

Yours in the Great Basin, Sue.

alarmist response: one of the reasons we started the *ALARM* was due to the fact that the *Journal* paid little attention to what copy we sent from the northeast (a national sacrifice zone?). As far as a "fuck you" attitude, we along with Austin EF! (and others) felt that now disposed editor Mike Roselle's failure to live by the consensus established at the Shawnee activist conference was a "fuck you"

Dear *ALARM*,

I just finished reading the *Alarm* (#5). Great job you're doing! I noticed in the last EF! *Journal* (Brigid) that there seems to be a growing movement to distance themselves from "violent" actions, including the practice of censoring any references to or descriptions of them. As a convicted "mad bomber", I think that the issue of whether or not to use concentrated forms of power (explosives, fire, firearms, etc.) is one that needs to be aired and debated. People need to know about the methods available to them, as well as the consequences, both

alarmist response: Points well made. Since the earth and the natural world have streaks of violence, for humans to put non-violence as the only speakable ethical solution would elevate humans above the natural world; a totally anthropocentric view. Violence, however, can not be promoted for obvious reasons. Although we are not in a position to speak for the *Journal* or other people, our interpretation of the *Journal* state-

real and potential, of their use. As the battles heat up, the other side will use them, especially guns and fire. In fact, as I'm sure you're aware, they're already using them. I think it's likely that the majority of activists will reject the use of energetic measures against people, and quite a few will reject them altogether, but it's an issue that needs to be argued so that people will make a conscious choice in the matter. So far, The *ALARM* doesn't seem to be squeamish about the dirtier sides of the fight. Keep up the good work.

Siempr, Rod Smith

ment was a reaction to an almost published piece that encouraged violence and was racist, misogynist and homophobic to boot. A lot of us in the movement feel that unless there is a responsible trusted *Journal* staff who have the knowledge of movement history and a sound ability for analysis, a discussion of violence would open up the flood gates to adventurists, at best, and *agent provocateurs* at worst.

Dear *ALARM*,

Hello and greetings from Vancouver. We have received your issue #6 and enjoyed it very much. Your sense of humor is very sharp and warmly appreciated. It's also good to see that you are trying to build more connections with Native People's in your area—or at least that is the impression I myself get from your paper. As for the articles on Hydro-Quebec, you may be interested in a new book by Ward Churchill, "Struggle For

the Land," and the article "The Water Plot." It details water diversion schemes all across Canada down into the US, and how they form part of a new energy policy closely connected to the NAFTA.

In any case, please continue to send the *Alarm*. Issue 3 of our paper is in the works, though lacking in funds right now. We'll be sure to send you a copy.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,
Gord Hill, Editor
OH-TOH-KIN

to the entire EF! movement. If that makes us immature, thank you, we don't want to grow up. As far as "original mistakes and personal growth" goes, we think the *Journal* should be an accountable journalistic publication, not an est-like outlet for front line wannabees to decide the direction of our collective movement. Some of us have been trying for years to help "figure this shit out," and we're pass-

ing the *Journal* discussion at the RRR for others to have a crack at it.

It must be noted that we are not in competition with the *Journal* and the current edition of the *J*, should be testimony to that. We should have some shit from our region in it. We feel the past two collectives have been responsive to the EF! movement and hope this trend continues.

Dear *ALARMISTS* and readers,

I'd like to make an update to a letter I wrote in *Alarm* #6. I urged everyone to avoid genetically engineered food products and a tomato engineered (read: fucked with) by Monsanto. I've since learned that there are several tomatoes being "developed" by different bio-tech companies. The Campbells Soup Company is planning to introduce Calgene's Flav'r Savr tomato into their products sometime this year. Originally Campbell's was planning to use

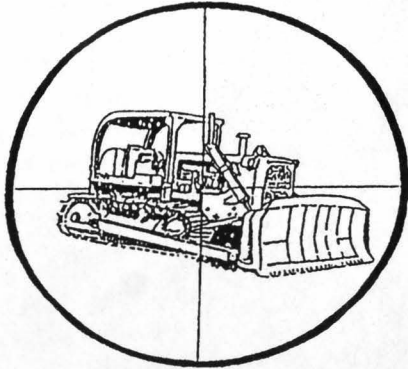
Calgene's tomato in their products much sooner, but they have since delayed these plans because of... (drum roll please)... **ACTIVISTS!** Jeremy Rifkin and his Pure Food Campaign has launched a boycott of all Campbell's soup products due to Campbell's dealings with Calgene and their altered tomato. You can help convince Campbell's Soup to delay the introduction of Calgene's tomato permanently by writing to them at: Campbells Soup Company, Campbell Place, Camden, NJ 08103-1701.

We cannot ignore the issue and hope that it will somehow magically go away by itself. While the risks of bio-technology aren't as blatantly obvious as the sight of a clear-cut or a leaking oil tanker, they none-the-less are still there. The same group of multinational scum that brought us pesticides, styrofoam, Agent Orange and the hole in the ozone layer are now pouring millions into bio-tech research. Need I say more?

Think wild thoughts, Andy,
P.O. Box 708, Littleton, MA 01460-2708

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NY, NY 10013

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Andy Buckley
PO Box 708
Littleton, MA 01460
(508) 256-5704

DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

Here it comes again, the pitch. First, thank you to everyone who subscribed or made donations over the past three months. Thanks also to the Green Mountain Fund for their generous support. Next, to everyone else, please send us dough! Our fundraising efforts have produced few results, and we are now selling t-shirts to try to raise some much needed cash.

Smashing the state is more expensive than you might think. But if you consider that the government and multinationals spend many, many millions of dollars trying to repress us, the few thousand that we spend make us look quite frugal.

We do not get paid for the many hours that we put in, so every cent that you send gets put directly to work trying to preserve life on earth. We are currently having a cash crunch because

of equipment that we need to purchase. That dreaded computer equipment that we use to put out this newsmagazine, even used, is expensive. You'd be hard pressed to spend your dollars more

meaningfully or efficiently. So send it to us. We'll love you forever.

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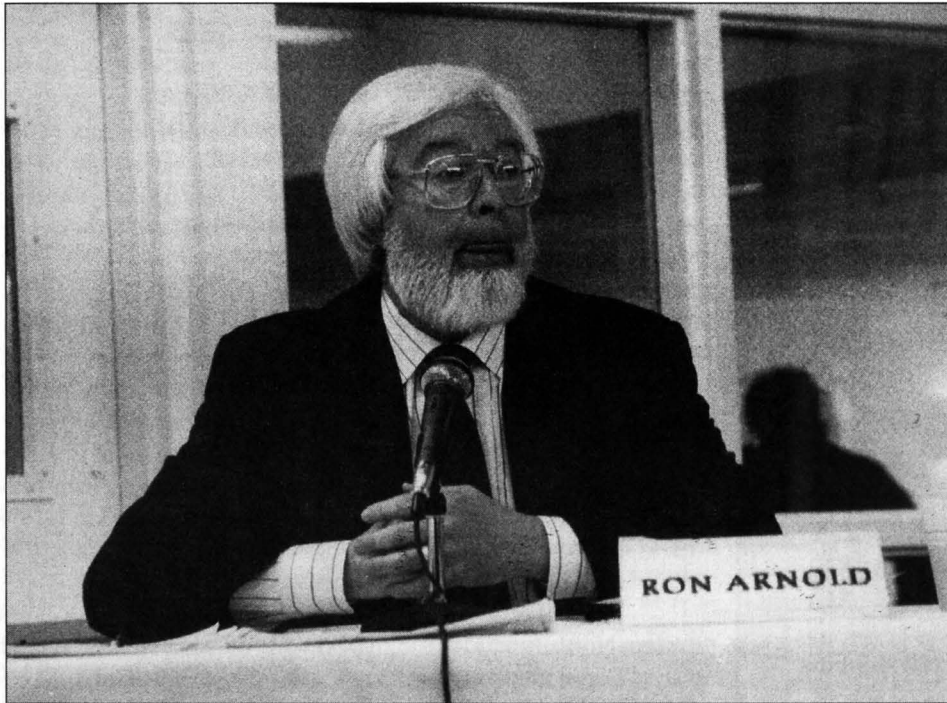
Earth First! Meets Wise Use Guru

by Anne Petermann

Ron Arnold, co-founder of the ever-dreaded and eternally loathed Wise Use Movement (WUM) came to Vermont one chilly, wet, spring day to debate David Brower, founder of the original Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth and Earth Island Institute.

Arnold's rhetoric was typical Wise Use talking about how environmental extremists are the real threat which people must rally to expunge. He argued environmental lunacy and talked long while saying little. Brower countered his WUM-babble effectively with much humor.

When question time finally arrived, Arnold had the floor to himself. Orin Langelle, from the Native Forest Network demanded to know his ties to multinational corporations while explaining, for the benefit of the audience, that the Wise Use Movement gets its funding from these corporate giants. Arnold retorted that their funding comes from "Mom & Pop" grassroots groups



The quick tongue of Wise Use head honcho, Ron Arnold, tries to escape. photo: Langelle

and from speaking engagements.

This despite piles of research into this movement which has revealed hundreds of corporate sponsors. He did, however, admit that they have ties with groups overseas. This could explain WUM tactics being unleashed in countries such as Australia.

In a shocking attempt to be Politically Correct, Arnold insisted that the WUM is completely non-violent. They will even go so far, he exclaimed, as to investigate

violence that happens at protests to find the culprits. An EF!er countered his lies by asking if he was investigating the bombing and assassination attempt on EF! activist Judi Bari in May of 1990. He assured the audience that they were, and that they had even been in touch with Judi herself who, he said, believed that it was the FBI who was responsible. When contacted and told about Arnold's claims, Judi Bari explained that, in fact she had been contacted by a member of the

WUM, but that he had wanted an interview with her which she flatly refused. She explained further that she believes that the Wise Use Movement directed the set-up for the bombing with the FBI helping to cover it up.

In short, the day was very enlightening. We learned a lot about Ron and Wise Use jargon.

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