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## Mattole Defenders Take to the Woods

BY MANY HATS

Maxxam/Pacific Lumber (PL) is trying to begin clearcutting the second largest intact stand of lowland old-growth Douglas fir in California—Rainbow Ridge in the Mattole River watershed of the Lost Coast. Rainbow is among the 10 largest areas of privately held ancient forests in the entire Pacific Northwest. Logging would fragment 3,000 acres of ancient forests by clearcutting nearly 350 acres in over 30 units spread throughout the North Fork Mattole basin. This is the first of the so-called “sacrifice zones” in which PL is allowed, under the terms of the Headwaters Deal Habitat Conservation Plan, to ignore the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Despite this ESA exemption, the devastation of this old-growth forest is illegal on numerous grounds.

The North Fork Mattole is home to coho salmon and steelhead trout, river otters, Northern goshawks, peregrine falcons, Pacific fishers and a small rural community of humans. It is a pristine, remote, very steep and rugged mix of forest and prairie that receives an average of 100 inches of rainfall annually, much of it in concentrated deluges. It is also one of the

most seismically active regions in the US. Continuing landslides occur from 1985 clearcuts, dumping enormous quantities of sediment into this impaired river system. The Mattole provides habitat for the only Chinook salmon runs still using coastal streams between the Sacramento and Eel rivers. Dozens of other runs have been extirpated over the last 40 years. This makes it even more critical that the Mattole Chinook stocks survive. Without them, the possibility of restoring runs to other streams in California is very unlikely.

This year, seven timber harvest plans (THPs) for logging on and around Rainbow Ridge have been making their way through the state’s bureaucracy. Although several of these plans are contiguous, both Maxxam and the California Department of Forestry (CDF) are dealing with them individually, as if there are no cumulative effects to clearcutting hundreds of acres of ancient forests on steep slopes in earthquake country—surprise, surprise.

Approval of these illegal plans was virtually guaranteed following a January 18 meeting with Susan Kennedy (Governor Gray Davis’ cabinet secretary and deputy chief of staff),



photo courtesy Mattole defenders

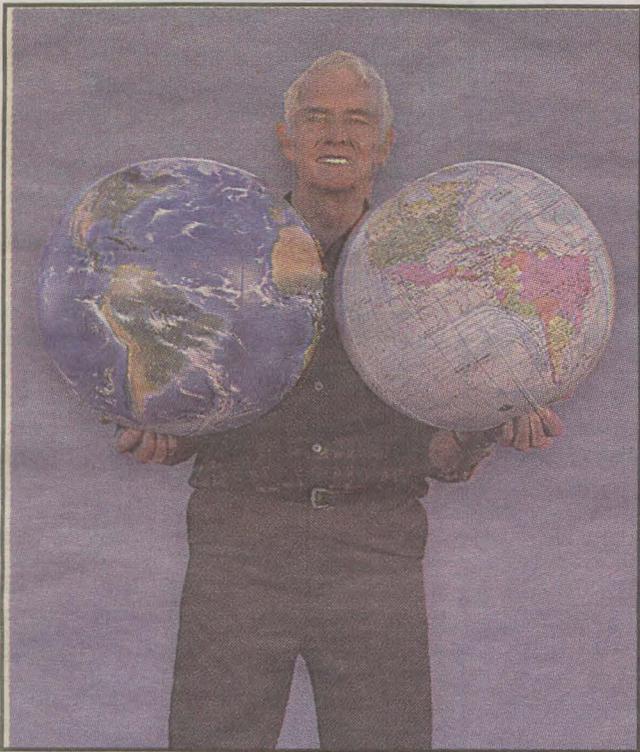
Good morning from the Mattole defenders—gate blocked and logging denied

Maxxam DC lobbyist Tommy Boggs (who netted a \$30-million commission for greasing the skids of the Headwaters Forest Deal), PL Executive Vice President and General Counsel Jared Carter and the directors and key deputies of the CDF and California Department of Fish and Game. At that meeting Kennedy and Maxxam told the agencies to “bend over backwards” to approve these clearcuts and “back off”

attempts to protect fish and wildlife according to the dictates of state law.

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## Brower Returns to the Earth



David Ross Brower, 1912-2000

sands. Through his works he affected millions.

On a recent Sunday afternoon he left this world, but he didn’t leave us. His legacy is as deep and wide as the Grand Canyon. Next time you visit the Grand Canyon, thank David Brower. A guardian of the canyon in life, he’s still out there with his watchful eye as a guardian angel for the Earth.

David Brower was a graduate of the University of the Colorado River, or so he often told us. That institution of higher learning doesn’t issue diplomas, nor do the classrooms have any walls. But there’s no doubt that Mr. Brower,

one of the river’s most distinguished alumni, learned a lot from his many visits. He learned about the river’s cycles and vicissitudes, its ebbs and flows, norms and extremes. He learned important lessons about human na-

ture as well as river-nature. From those experiences he was able to teach the rest of us some incredibly valuable knowledge. In addition to being a good student of the river, David was an extraordinary teacher.

Next time you visit Dinosaur National Monument or float the Yampa or the Green, thank David Brower that he knew his eighth grade arithmetic enough to enable him to demolish the credibility of the boys with the slide rules from the Bureau of Reclamation and save those rivers from Echo Park Dam and Split Mountain Dam. Thanks to David Brower, rivers still run through it all.

What is it about the Colorado that so impressed David Brower?

This desert river has its source in the highest mountain ranges and flows down through the deepest sheer-walled canyons, then out across the starkest desert flats bordering the sea, where its estuary once replenished the vibrant Gulf of California ecosystem.

Once known as the American Nile, the Colorado is no longer recognizable as a river in many reaches.

### The Real Business at Yellowstone: Commercializing Life

BY BETH BURROWS

More than 500 years after Columbus “discovered” a world new to him and declared it to be the property of his funders, people still have problems with explorers. Today, the object of desire is not land but genes—the genes from plants, animals, microorganisms and even human beings. And just as before, the explorers are trying to stake a claim.

Whether you call what they’re doing “exploration” or “invasion,” and whether you call them bioprospectors or biopirates, depends on how you see your relationship with what’s being taken. It matters whether you consider yourself its “owner,” or its “caretaker” or just another critter in a shared ecosystem.

In the summer of 1997, I got a call from a reporter wanting to know about patents.

“Do you have some time?” Suzanne Clark asked.

“Sure, as much as you need,” I said. So, for half an hour I yammered on and on about how patents help legitimize ownership in inventions and, in some cases, discoveries.

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BY DAVID ORR

This is a story about David Ross Brower, a man who made a difference in the world. He was to many of us larger than life, an inspiration to thou-

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# EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

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## On Remembering to Love the Forgotten

*"A part of our planet which has existed for thousands of years ended—and we barely noticed its passing. The end of an important part of an ecosystem and a culture's history should be marked with great heartache. When we casually accept the destruction of such an important part of nature, we demonstrate our callousness toward our own planet."*

—MC GRAZIANO, FOR THE TISZA RIVER

Some places, like some people, just fall through the cracks of our culture's awareness.

Any place underwater, for instance. Or the prairie. Or Indian reservations.

In a culture based on hierarchies of Power, places without status—the "untouchables" of our landscape—are demonized, demoralized, divided, conquered and then worked to death. Seeing parts of the Earth as separate and innately worthless, we dump our garbage, steal our lumber and extract our energy. Denied the basic right to exist, they are sacrificed and forgotten by the masses.

But they are not forgotten by Earth First!

As this issue of the *Journal* illustrates, Earth First! is most actively concerned with out-of-the-way, disrespected places deemed worthless by those with Power. Listen to their voices. Remember them.

*"Those who are destroying our mountains and leaving behind large deposits of dangerous wastes have a distinctive standpoint. They see our mountains as merely a place to exploit, a place that has no worth other than to provide the quickest buck...Yet the mountains are our home, and will always be our home"*

—LYNDA ANN EWEN, IN APPALACHIA

Home. Now there's a word. Something magical about it. Peace. Room to move. Time to think. Thing about those disenfranchised places is they are loved by the critters who live there. *Home* is a love of place far more powerful than aesthetic affection or political sympathy—it is unconditional. Home is where you don't compromise.

Thinking about the place I call home—they could burn our shelter, clearcut the forest, poison the streams and pave the whole damn place under three feet of radioactive concrete and I'd love that land just the same. When

places are forgotten by the rest, only those of us with the powerful love of home are left to remember them—and to defend them.

Earth First! is at home in forgotten places. This is where we belong.

*"The land is necessary for our culture, religion and language to remain in existence... We love all our grandchildren and great grandchildren deeply, and it hurts us to see them lack any interest for our history on these lands or lack the concern that we might lose these lands, someday... The land, the open fresh air and the animals mean nothing to them, and that is why they are bored when they come to visit us."*

—ELDERS' STATEMENT FROM BLACK MESA

Listening to the forgotten places—living honestly in our homes—demands great humility and an appreciation for simplicity. Breathing in clean air, gathering wild food, taking a slow walk through the woods—these are revolutionary actions. By living in contented obscurity, by loving that without status, we are dissolving the power of culture's hierarchies.

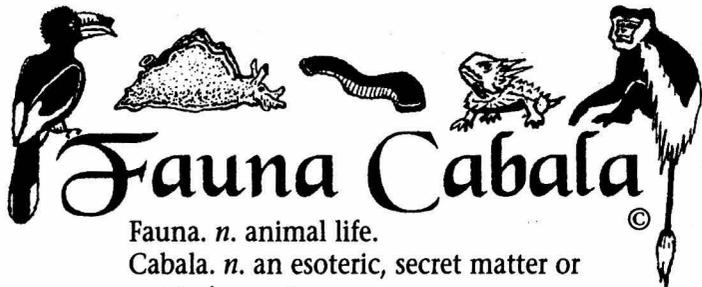
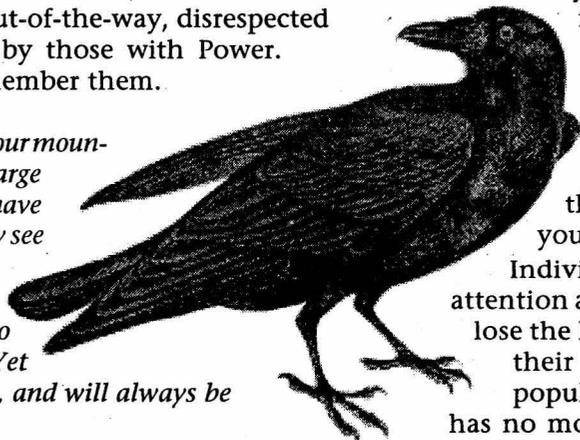
I once heard it said that "the young person wants to die for a noble cause—the old person wants to live for a humble one." As Earth First!'s agenda starts weaseling its way into pop-culture, it runs the serious risk of being co-opted by hopeful young martyrs anxious to prove their nobility.

Individual battles can be won by demanding attention and status from those in power, but we will lose the larger war if saving places is dependent on their winning a popularity contest. And when popular appeal becomes an end in itself activism has no more social significance than cheerleading. What risks getting lost is Earth First!'s core constituency—the forgotten places, the voiceless.

A truly revolutionary approach demands respect for places regardless of their status. In the long run, curing this sick society is not a matter of shifting the balance of power in an advantageous direction—it's about destroying Power to begin with.

What disenfranchised places need is not fame or status within this culture of hierarchies, but to be afforded simple respect—to be allowed, in their obscurity, a life of humble freedom.

—GABE SCOTT



## Fauna Cabala

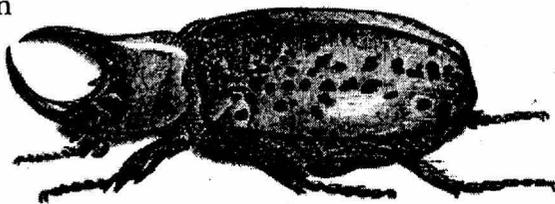
Fauna. *n.* animal life.

Cabala. *n.* an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

For some, beetle abdomens are arenas of conquest and copulation.

The South American pseudoscorpion *Cordylochernes scorpiodes* stows away under the wing covers of the harlequin beetle *Acrocinus longimanus* to find the new decaying trees where they live. The flights on which pseudoscorpion movements are entirely dependent occur only during a short window when the beetles are seeking such trees for mating and egg-laying. Following a maiden flight, a large male pseudoscorpion remains on the beetle's abdomen, defending it as his mating territory. The others alight and are utterly marooned; the next of their kin to see and clamber aboard an incoming beetle will be their great-grandchildren.

While the beetle continues to buzz about seeking mates, its abdomen is rife with sexual competition. When other passengers board, the male pseudoscorpion gripping the beetle's belly battles rival males and endeavors to fertilize females. Some males jump ship, others are cast off, but all find that when it comes to battles on beetle bellies, bigger is better. However, this isn't true during the tree-dwelling period. Large size actually delays sexual maturity, so it is the tiny males who do all the inseminating. These two male morphs (large and small) are genetically determined. Prior to boarding a ship, a female has already mated with tiny males and will likely mate with the large male once on board. Thus, because females can use the sperm of multiple males to fertilize their eggs and because the advantage of being big or small differs on beetles versus trees, the two morphs are maintained in populations.



BY FAITH WALKER

## Earth First! Journal Yule

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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via e-mail. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. (Prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair.) They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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# Voice from the Inside: An Interview with Leonard Peltier

BY JOSH LAUGHLIN

Most of you know the story of Leonard Peltier. A victim of government repression, he has sat behind bars for the past 25 years. Back in 1975, as the second round of Indian Wars was in full throttle on the dusty Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, all hell broke loose. Peltier was a central figure in the American Indian Movement's (AIM) defense of Oglala Sioux communities from what has become known as the government's "reign of terror," where close to 100 Natives on the reservation were disappeared or killed. This was also the location of the armed occupation of Wounded Knee, where AIM and supporters retook the site of the infamous 1890 massacre, demanding answers to unresolved issues they had with the US government.

It was July 26, 1975, when FBI agents screeched onto the Jumping Bull property where Peltier was living, allegedly chasing a local youth accused of stealing a pair of used cowboy boots. Gunfire erupted, not unusual at the time, and two FBI agents were shot and killed. So was 21-year-old AIM warrior Joe Killsright Stuntz. Through fabricated evidence, death threats and straight-up lies, the government was able to convict Peltier. From his prison cell, he continues to assure the world of his innocence. I recently got a reply from Leonard and his defense committee to some questions. (For much more detailed documentation about Leonard, the reign of terror on Pine Ridge and AIM, read Peter Matthiessen's *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse* or Peltier's recently published book, *Prison Writings: My Life is My Sundance*.)

**EF!J:** Explain the escape from Lompoc prison after you were arrested and the tie in with Standing Deer. Why do you think the feds didn't shoot you that night when they had the chance?

**LP:** My friend, Dallas Thundershield was shot and killed. I was able to escape without injury. I escaped after Standing Deer informed me of a government plot on my life. He knew about it because he was one of the people hired to do it. He had seven life sentences relating to a bank robbery and attempted murder of a policeman dropped after he agreed to do it. But then he informed me about it to save my life. For weeks I wondered when I was going to be killed... at what moment. It was very nerve racking. I will always be grateful to Standing Deer for stepping up for me. He risked his life to do it.

**EF!J:** How can we best support you while you are behind bars?

**LP:** You can support me by supporting my freedom effort... by helping us build a wide-ranging coalition of support. Lobby your local Congresspeople and ask them to endorse clemency. Ask local unions, human rights, church and environmental groups to endorse and actively support our efforts. Stay in touch with the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee and keep up on our efforts and goals. Fundraising is also a crucial element. Unfortunately, justice becomes more available when there is money and resources to fund both political and legal efforts. I would also like to encourage everyone to attend the December 10 Walk For Freedom being organized in New York City.

**EF!J:** Does the government need to be reformed or abolished? I've heard recently, "Leonard Peltier for

do not want to pick up the gun, but come to a point where they feel they have no choice. The only choice is to die passively whether it be at the hands of an oppressor, starvation or hopelessness, or to die standing up. If I am released, I certainly do not intend to "pick up the gun." Today is a very different time from back then and we have different resources and ways to improve and to safeguard the lives of our people. But I do not believe that self-defense is a crime.

**EF!J:** What are your thoughts on the direction of the Earth First! movement?

**LP:** I very much respect and support the work of Earth First!. I think Judi Bari was an amazing woman who has passed on a great legacy to those who follow in her footsteps. We need Earth First!. The protection of Mother Earth is essential to our survival.

**EF!J:** How can Earth First! best work with Indigenous movements?

**LP:** Show respect for Native philosophies. For us, people are part of Mother Earth. Don't separate issues of environmental degradation from the oppression of people. Native peoples

president." What would your platform be?

**LP:** Give the government back to the people... real people. Working people. The government, as it is now, solely functions as a service for the rich and this should not be. I myself do not want to hold office. I believe in our traditional ways of self governance where elders, with all of their knowledge, guide us and where decisions are made collectively and where holding a leadership role is a great sacrifice and responsibility rather than a privilege and a source of power and oppression.

**EF!J:** Was there a recognized point in time when AIM picked up the gun? When did you know it was time to or not to?

**LP:** We picked up the gun when Indian people were being killed indiscriminately. We picked up the gun in self-defense. You will find in many struggles, especially Indigenous struggles, that people

are on the verge of extinction. It alienates Native people when environmentalists, especially those who are very privileged, preach about the need to protect the Earth, but not the oppressed people who inhabit it. All of these things, the degradation of Earth, the genocide of Indigenous peoples, slavery and racism are intimately connected. We cannot win one struggle without understanding the others. For example, our reservation lands are used all too often as nuclear and chemical dump sites, mining, test sites, etc. This is no coincidence. It's a hazardous material? Give it to the Indians! That's the mentality and it's unacceptable. You can best work with Indigenous movements by listening to our people and understanding that they have important voices to offer.

**EF!J:** With the Earth and society so out of balance, what do you think is the root of the problem?

**LP:** Greed. Plain and simple.

**EF!J:** With the big picture in mind, what do you think is around the corner for human beings and all species alike?

**LP:** If we don't start looking out for four-legged, winged, sea creatures, Earth and ocean, we cannot expect anything but destruction. Our lives depend on them. There are so many things we must change... the way we live, the way we produce food, the way we think. If we don't, there won't be any hope. Drastic changes are needed.

**EF!J:** Where are you going to put your energy when you get out?

**LP:** I plan to help others dealing with injustices. Others who have been wrongly convicted. I plan to work on present issues facing Native peoples. I want to use the notoriety I have gained to begin a foundation supporting schools on reservations that teach both contemporary skills and traditional Native ways, rehab centers, independent businesses that serve the community and help establish self sufficiency. There is a lot I want to do. I also want to spend some quiet time with my family, painting, riding horses. There is no end to the dreams I have of freedom.

For more information contact the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, POB 583, Lawrence, KS 66044; (785) 842-5774; [www.freepeltier.org](http://www.freepeltier.org). Send mail to Leonard Peltier #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048.

Editor's note: During a recent radio interview, President Clinton said he will rule on clemency for Peltier before he leaves office. The White House has since

reassured the commitment. Call the White House comments line and demand clemency for Leonard Peltier now, (202) 456-1111.

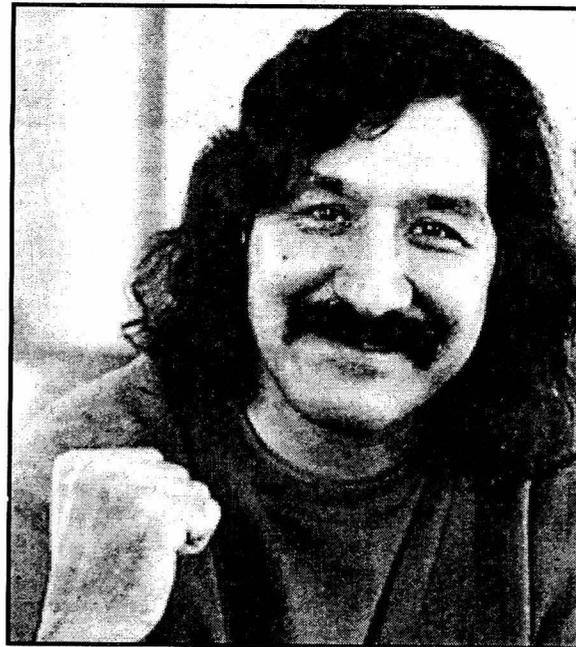


Photo courtesy Vancouver Sun

## Dear @#&! for brains

To Earth First!,

In 1994-95 I was an animal/environmental political prisoner, targeted as a convenient scapegoat by all four levels of government working collaboratively: city, county, state and federal. Now (thanks be to God) the agenda against me has devolved to such an extent that I am acquitted of all charges for which I completed the prison time, and my record has been ordered expunged by Judge Tom Fitzgerald (Chicago—circuit court of Cook County) as of Aug. 1, 2000 (see enclosure). I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to Earth First! for support and publication during my term of trial.

—LISE OLSEN

Editor's note: Lise served nearly 15 months in prison and suffered years of court harassment after being convicted of felony attempted arson for hanging home-made lanterns to illuminate her correction of a billboard that originally read "Save the environment, wear fur" (see EF!J July-August 1995; [www.punk.org.uk.abc/target.htm](http://www.punk.org.uk.abc/target.htm)).

EF! Journalistas,

Thanks for the 20th Anniversary Edition. I am trying to read "Advice from The Mainstream, or We Could be Heroes... Someday" on page 92, and thinking, you are my heroes, and who does this so-called journalist think he is anyway? I am so glad he published in

Playboy... Maybe he'd like to call the LA Weekly and order a few treesitters from the personals section to sit on his face?

You are perfect, and the only fault I find is your self-flagellation.

Giving this beer-buying, phrase-catching, Rolling Stone-reading wannabe space on the end of an otherwise fantastic 20th Anniversary edition of the Journal is like putting a moustache on the Mona Lisa.

—ANOTHER MORMON ON DRUGS

Dear friends,

The Samhain 20th anniversary edition was beautiful! The stories made me laugh and made me cry. I just wanted to let you all know that your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. You have my many thanx for sharing the Earth First! message with so

many people. And for keeping those already in tune and connected with Mother Earth united and aware of each others struggles. In light of my present predicament my favorite articles this issue were Rod's tale and "So you've gotten yourself arrested..."

For those of you who are keeping track of the case against Critter and me and are wanting to show your support, the thing I miss most is music. So please sing, play and listen to songs of revolution for me. But most importantly let the music give you strength. Let the words find their way to your heart. Be inspired and take action for Mother Earth and for our animal sisters and brothers.

In the spirit of total resistance No Compromise!

—FREE (JEFF LUERS) #1306729, 101.W 5TH AVE., EUGENE OR 97401

Editor's note: See page 13 for more about Free and Critter's case.

Dear Earth First!,

I and a lot of others look upon your group as regressive who want everyone to live in a primitive state. Get with it and join the real society. You people have entirely too much time on your hands and need to go away. Go live in Bangladesh or Somalia for awhile and you will probably be begging to get back to the "evil" USA and our modern progressive society. If you don't own the land stay off of it and mind your own business. Incidentally, I find it amusing that you communicate by internet and not by relay runners and smoke signals.

—BOBGO57@AOL.COM

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# Czech-Mating The World Bank

BY AL D.

The "S26" Global Day of Action in late September thoroughly shook up the annual World Bank/International Monetary Fund meeting in the Czech Republic. That day, approximately 15,000 people from various movements and countries took to the streets of Prague. Instead of the usual "blockade them from getting in" routine, this time the plan was to keep the financial delegates from getting out. It succeeded for several hours before they finally escaped aboard special underground metro trains that took them to the outskirts of the city. The day saw airborne cobblestones and molotovs, burning barricades, tear gas, water cannons and running street battles all around the Conference Center (CC), but the real victory was disrupting the meetings inside and forcing their early closure. The CC was an abject ghost town the following day. With delegates scared to leave their hotels and choosing to flee town in droves, bank officials canceled the last day of meeting, claiming that the previous days had been so successful there was nothing left to talk about!

Yet another major financial meeting was seriously disrupted by an amazing array of people from around the world. Predictably, the usual wave of problems, conflicts and divisions also arose.

As I reflect on my experience in Prague, I can only compare it to an existential novel. From the moment I arrived, I was constantly aware of the presence of the State. Every neighborhood had uniformed police performing random passport checks on pedestrians, and riding the metro was an experience straight out of Kafka. While I only had my passport checked once (they wrote down my details and sent me on my way), my travel companion was checked five times. Not having one's passport on hand was grounds for deportation, as the Czech State was looking for any technicality to get rid of "outside agitators." Wherever you went, you were being watched.

I have to confess that my romantic illusions of the Czech Republic as a Bohemian stronghold of liberty have vanished. Much has been made of the bloodless "Velvet Revolution" of 1989, where the dissidents managed to break free of the Communist grip and then proceeded to embrace free market capitalism. The secret police apparatus stayed in place, the manipulation through government force and propaganda continued, the names merely changed. A jailed dissident and famous playwright, Vaclav Havel, became president of the new regime. As Kafka wrote, the slime of the old regime coated the new one. Ironically, the World Bank/IMF meetings were held at the former Soviet Palace of Culture. Meet the new boss, same as the old boss!

In the months before S26, the Czech government carried out an incredible campaign of slander and fear-mongering against the upcoming demonstrations, calling the protesters "killers" and "barbarians." Schools were shut down for days and children sent out of Prague. The State recommended that civilians lock up their homes and flee the city—and one-fifth of the population did! Instead of confronting the World Bank and IMF, Havel welcomed these oppressors to his country and wined and dined them at lavish dinners while condemning the protests. When delegates signed into the conference, they received goody bags with odes to globalization written by none other than the president, himself.

Things picked up steam as the days progressed toward the set-piece confrontation. Loads of people began arriving on the weekend and a sense of momentum was clearly in the air. After a reconnaissance of the area around the CC on Sunday and a meeting of the street action groups on Monday

morning, I began to feel optimistic that we could actually blockade the delegates in. That feeling reminded me of Seattle during last year's World Trade Organization meetings, where I didn't think we would succeed in our goal until we were well under way in doing so. The growing numbers of

trees, a giant blue globe that said "Balls to the IMF," a pink tank with a very sexy face painted on her front (reference to an action in 1989 when a monument made from a Soviet tank was painted pink), a few puppets and many flags. The group was divided into four color-coded groups by distributing leaflets, colored whistles and using flags. A fifth group approached autonomously from the south of the CC. We all progressed together for several blocks, and then the blue march peeled off from the main group, heading south along the western side of the CC."

A bit of geography: The CC was designed by the Communists to withstand siege and nuclear disaster, so it is on the edge of a valley, with an unapproachable drop-off. There is one primary access road connecting it to the center of town. There is an incredibly high bridge spanning the valley which leads directly to the CC. So to approach it from Namesti Miru one must either take the bridge (which the cops had been rehearsing on for a week, maneuvering their tanks/armored personnel carriers around on it at 2 a.m.), or go looping around on either side on fairly narrow and winding cobblestone streets. To the west is the Vltava

River, so the blue route went right along the river.

The INB were somewhere in the middle of the blue march. We arrived at one of the access points to the CC and found the police on a hill above us. The front lines immediately began throwing bottles and cobblestones at the police, who responded by attacking with a water cannon. We were far enough back and the angle was wrong for the cannon so we weren't hit for quite awhile. We got our gas masks ready and then played. Many molotovs were thrown. The police began firing massive amounts of concussion grenades, which explode quite loudly and burn if you're too close to them. This battle went on for what seemed like a long time before they began firing tear gas. One of the canisters, which was thrown into a wooded area, started a fire (many types are incendiary) and some of the blue group put it out.

*continued on next page*



*The good guys versus a tank.*

*Photo by Nick Cobbing*

people also helped to lessen the rampant and justified paranoia. There were many fascist attacks during the days before and after S26. More than 30 percent of the police voted for the far-right fascist party in the last election, so it was really no surprise that they let neo-Nazi scum roam the streets (and the jails) beating up people with impunity.

The days before S26 were really exciting for me. So many brilliant memories to carry away from here: 1,000 radicals from different cultures chanting "No Pasaran!" (a rallying cry against the fascists of the Spanish Revolution), the echoes ricocheting off the walls of the Soviet-style industrial space; translations into different languages during the various meetings; the sense of a growing, vibrant international movement and solidarity with millions of people around the world; dressing like a tourist and discretely passing through throngs of police during scout missions; and of course, drinking absinthe in the pubs till the wee hours talking of love and revolution.

On the morning of S26 I met up with the Infernal Noise Brigade (INB), a marching drum orchestra and street performance crew consisting of a majorette, a medic, tactical advisors, a rifle twirling contingent, a flag corps, a noise generating cart and nine percussionists. The INB chose to hang with the blue march, a group composed mostly of anarchists, with large contingents from Spain, Greece, Poland, Czech, Germany and several dozen Norte Americanos. The following is an account of the blue gang's experiences written by Djenniya of the INB:

"S26 started with about 5,000 gathering in Namesti Miru, a square at the center of town, north of the CC, with an enormous cathedral in the middle. There was a mobile sound system, many people in costumes, some banners hung from the



*Czech cops aim low hoping for some comps.*

*Photo by Nick Cobbing*

# WEF Scrum in Melbourne

BY COLIN LLOYD

*Editor's note: More than 20,000 people joined protests against the World Economic Forum, a meeting of world leaders to further the corporate takeover of the world, in Melbourne, Australia from September 11-13. The police responded with some of the worst violence against mass civil action in at least 25 years, with repeated baton charges and use of horses against nonviolent blockaders. In spite of more than 200 serious injuries, the people showed remarkable determination in the face of appalling violence. The following is one person's account of the activities on September 11 (S11).*

The first day of the protest was an unqualified success. More than 10,000 people blockaded the Crown Casino, which is very impressive considering that the official union movement was effectively boycotting S11.

We did not close down the World Economic Forum (WEF), but we did severely disrupt it. The forum started late because delegates could not get in, and when it did start 300-400 delegates (out of around 1,000 said to be attending) were locked out by the blockade. They were unable to get in for the rest of the day.

There were around 100 injuries on our side, causing several hospitalisations, but amazingly only two arrests. Four cops were hospitalised with crush injuries, and one Crown security guard had his jaw broken.

The day started for us in darkness. Arriving at 6:30 a.m., it was raining hard and unseasonably cold but no one was deterred. The bruised sky and torrential rain only added to the drama.

Several thousand had already gathered by 7:00 a.m. Crusty old activists, fresh-faced school students, helmeted environmentalists, masked anarchists, people dressed as nuclear bombs and wild-eyed revolutionaries stood shoulder to shoulder.

The entire perimeter of Crown Casino had been surrounded by an eight foot wall of concrete and webbed steel. The graffiti said it all: "Welcome to Melbourne Zoo, please don't feed the animals."

The only gaps in the wall were the entrances. Here there were hundreds of cops (over 2,000 in total had been mobilised with more in reserve) ready with their batons.

In a way, the wall actually helped us to focus our forces. There were only about six possible entrances, so we concentrated on blockading them all.

Some of the most serious action of the day took place when the cops tried to clear a path to an entrance—with only about 60 protesters, who were screaming out for help, more of us waded in. Within 45 seconds, about 500 people had materialised from seemingly nowhere. The cops breached the blockade, but it simply re-formed around them like a giant human octopus.

They broke through again, but with the same result. They sent in the horses. One guy went completely limp like a rag doll, slumped to the ground and was trampled by the horses. The cops dragged him off. The line held. When the threat had passed we moved on to another entrance.

On the way, we came across a vehicle in an alley, which looked like a cross between a fork lift and a moveable platform. A few of us leapt on it and miraculously got the thing to start. When we got the hang of it we did a 180 degree turn and drove the vehicle at a sedate pace back to the green bloc blockade. Feet astride, chin up and towering about nine feet above the crowd, the comrade in charge



Ozzie cops eye the opposing team.

was greeted as a returning liberator. We still do not know what these machines are called.

At the next blockade point, the cops showed how truly befuddled they were. Cops on horses at the entrance had sandwiched protesters between themselves and another thin line of cops. The cops on horses started pushing forward. Instead of resisting, the protesters simply went with the direction of the push from behind and broke through the police lines in front, swamping the bus full of delegates that was supposedly about to get through.

Here I saw one of the most heroic acts of the day: A masked anarchist did a kamikaze run at the bus, leaping six feet off the ground to end up in a horizontal position clinging to the wire mesh on the bus's windscreen. He looked like a human fly.

His hang-time was about three or four seconds before he was monstered by cops. Happily, dozens of activists leapt to his rescue, skittling a motorbike cop in the act.

At around 10:00 a.m. the first collective mobilisation

of about 400 high school students arrived. They met the main contingent at Flinder's Street. It was a great sight. They were all running in formation along the South Bank of the Yarra River, some waving Workers Power placards with our name and slogan.

Later in the day, one of the more memorable events took place when Western Australian Conservative Premier Richard Court was trapped in his car for one hour by protesters.

A crowd surrounded the car and slashed all four tires. They then doused it in green paint. An Aboriginal protester jumped on the bonnet and started giving Court a history lesson about Aboriginal dispossession through the glass of his windscreen.

The same protester then moved to the roof and started doing an indigenous dance (a victory jig, I think). After one hour the special police waded in like maniacs, indiscriminately flailing their batons. Here some of the worst injuries were sustained. One guy had his nose broken and lost most of his front teeth. Others were taken to the hospital.

After the incident, Richard Court claimed, with stunning insight and a gift for words, that the surrounding of his car had been "un-Australian." Melbourne Mayor Peter Costigan said that it was despicable—the act of a tiny minority making trouble for the vast majority! John Howard said it was shameful. The police chief said it was disgraceful. I thought it was great.

In the afternoon things slowed down a little, with both protesters and police in a holding pattern as far as the blockade was concerned.

Occasionally, word would come through that cops were amassing at one of the entrances. Hundreds of people would rush to reinforce it. This was one of the great things

about the whole day—the communication and flexibility. The age of the mobile phone has made a huge difference in effective demonstrations. There always seemed to be people ready to reinforce any weak spots.

As the afternoon wore on, the weather improved and the whole rally turned into more of a carnival atmosphere. There were bands, reggae and spontaneous rap, and lots of young people dancing in the street, confirmation that for once they were in control of public space.

The last flurry of action occurred in the late afternoon, as some delegates left. This was limited mainly to noisy declarations of victory, in the face of dejected cops and delegates.

S11 was the leading news story on all of the TV channels. Of course they concentrated on the alleged violence of the demonstration, but they could not deny that the WEF had been severely disrupted—a bit of a bummer for the delegates, some of whom were paying \$22,000 per night for the privilege of staying at Crown.

*continued from previous page*

The INB pulled off to a side street, shielded from the water cannon by a tree, where we could continue to play music and be out of the way. I've never seen anything like it. After an hour or so, we decided to pull out, as the intersection was unlikely to be taken from the police, with their superior weapons and their extremely superior position above. We wanted to be somewhere more effective.

The communication system was quite difficult, with mobile phones being the only real means. Fortunately, the mobile system did not crash, which apparently it often does in European actions. The result was that enormous numbers of people were gathering often-conflicting bits of information and giving it to us. Frequently, we would painstakingly reach a decision, and then before implementing it we'd get new information which felt more crucial and we'd end up altering our plan.

We went to another location, leaving much of the blue group, and joined the pink and silver group. Shortly after we arrived they pulled out, so we went up and played between the line of police and seated protesters. The intersection itself wasn't too strate-

gic, other than it was tying up a few water tanks and many riot cops, but it was a good time, there were many Czechs there who were pleased, and the reaction of the cops and the neighbors looking down from their windows was well worth its strategic ineffectiveness. The cops were alternating between fear and smiles. They definitely didn't know what to think of us, and the neighbors were taking photos, smiling and waving.

We stopped playing and then snatch squads arrived, so some of us backed off and worked on a new plan with some of the blue group which had just arrived. It took ages to create, but finally we went around the block to a place where we heard delegates were and ended up coming extremely close to a very poorly defended police line right in front of the CC—cops in shirt sleeves with shields and little else. The front of the march broke through the line and the whole group rushed through, coming so close to the building that had seemed impenetrable, we could see into the windows. I never dreamed we'd get so close! Then from around the corner charged what felt like 100 riot cops, unloading a frightening amount of concussion grenades, chasing us with the water cannon. We ran

and they continued chasing. It was wild. I have been in other crowd situations where people are running and panicking and it's been really scary, but this felt really together. We ran until someone called to stop, and we would stop briefly, see that our respective groups were together, and then run again. Eventually a large group of us (INB and some of the Polish and Czech scouts/tactical folks) dashed down a hill where we doubted the police would follow, certainly not with the water cannon. Running with all of our drums and everything was difficult.

We decided to join with the pink and silver group who were a block or two away. There had been recent fighting there and loads of people who were still a bit scattered. Our tactical group joined with theirs, and we all went together (about one or two thousand altogether) toward downtown. It was fantastic, we took the entire street, not a cop in sight, and we walked for about an hour, playing the whole time. One of our people lit up a fire staff and two fire breathers came over and spit plumes into the air. One of our songs has pretty consistent silent breaks in it, and the crowd was shouting into the silence, 1,000 voices raised as one. It was extraordinary.

# Trailer Trash Blockades Florida Cement Kiln

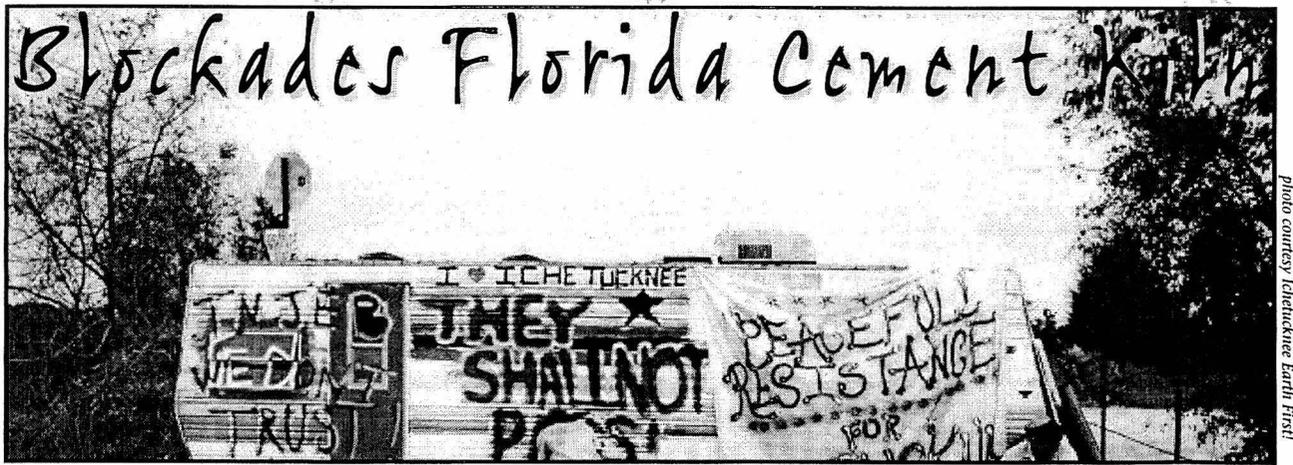
BY RYAN BROUILLARD

In the first attempt to block an access road to the Suwannee American cement kiln being built 3.5 miles from the Ichetucknee River, near Tallahassee, Florida, activists with Ichetucknee Earth First! on October 22 placed an immobilized camping trailer with four people locked down inside on the roadway leading to the construction site. By 10 p.m. all four, including one with his arm through a hole in the floor and locked inside a pipe cemented in the road, were cut out by fire rescue workers and arrested by police. They have pled not guilty and all have requested a trial by jury. The 16-hour road block was received well by the local community, which is largely opposed to the cement kiln because it will pollute the air and drinking/irrigation water, disrupt the river ecosystem and hurt the local economy.

Quiet and beautiful, the Ichetucknee River is a precious gem among the state's natural treasures. Since shortly after the beginning of time, it has jetted from the Florida Aquifer, a perfectly clear flow of water with brilliant accents of white and turquoise. This spring-fed waterway is situated between wetlands of old- and second-growth cypress and live oak. It is a refreshing 72 degrees year round. There are three endangered species—the rare silt snail, the red-eye blind crayfish and the Florida manatee—that live in the Ichetucknee wetland.

The site was originally designated for agriculture, not industry, but Suwannee American Company, a subsidiary of Anderson Columbia (the state's largest road-paving company), was granted a special permit by the Suwannee County Commission early this summer with rumors of back room deals between the state and Suwannee American for the permits. Anderson Columbia has been linked to the bribery of former state officials Bo Johnson and Randy Mackey on previous projects.

Cement kilns are among the dirtiest industrial polluters in the world. They inefficiently burn millions of tons of coal and tires to make portland cement. This process emits dangerous levels of mercury, phosphates, dioxins and fine particulate matter. The cement kiln, which had its groundbreaking ceremony on August 28, will cost \$130 million and have a 280-foot smoke stack spewing an alarming 94 pounds of mercury a year.



Four people are locked down inside this immobilized trailer blockading a cement kiln.

Also, mining of an on-site limestone quarry could disrupt the Florida Aquifer.

Anderson Columbia commissioned the environmental impact modeling research which is not being allowed scientific peer review by the state. The company and its subsidiaries are notorious for noncompliance with environmental laws and have racked up 17 previous violations for dumping in waterways, soil contamination, air pollution, operating without permits, etc.

People who oppose the cement kiln hold Governor Bush responsible, because after he canoed down the river last year, he vowed to save it and not grant permits. A few months later, after Anderson Columbia sued the state, donated \$1 million worth of road paving services to the county and \$175,000 to the Republican Party, Bush reversed his decision and allowed Suwannee County and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to grant permits.

Initiating a direct action campaign, five activists with Ichetucknee Earth First! locked down for five hours in the entrance to Governor Jeb Bush's office on August 29 to demand that he revoke the permits. For five hours, connected by the bicycle locks around their necks, the group sat in the doorway to the press room and answered questions from the media (which had shown up for a press conference for Bush's One Florida plan to eliminate affirmative action). After the media interviewed members of the lockdown, they proceeded into the press conference and asked Bush about rumors of scandal, complaints and environmental concerns involved in the cement plant and land-use deal. After two hours, DEP Secretary Struhs came to talk to the group. After he found himself bombarded with questions about scandal and lack of protection by the state in front of about

25 media outlets, he asked them for a private interview away from the Earth First! lockdown.

Meanwhile, outside the capitol building, members of Sierra Club, Florida Green Party, Ichetucknee Mobilization, University of Florida Environmental Action Group and Student Peace Action and many Tallahassee high school students protested on the streets with huge puppets and signs. One protester scaled a telephone pole and dropped a banner that read, "No Permits to Polluters!"

After five hours of being locked together, it was apparent that Bush was not going to appear to talk to the group. They agreed to unlock and attend an open meeting with the DEP to discuss a possible court action or statewide referendum to block the construction. Police made no arrests.

EF! demands that Gov. Bush revoke the building permits on the grounds that the pristine Ichetucknee River is a Florida Outstanding Water Way and deserves full protection. There is evidence that the company has already broken laws and agreements pertaining to the cement plant deal, so the state can revoke the permits, but to date has refused to do so.

There will be a major civil disobedience action at the kiln site on January 15 (MLK's birthday) to bring more attention to the issue. The following week an appeals case by Florida State Attorney Bob Butterworth, which aims to halt construction and get the permits revoked, will be heard in the Florida State Court. The newly formed Ichetucknee River Coalition will be staging a demonstration in support of Butterworth at the hearings.

For more information, contact Ichetucknee EF!, ichmobile@hotmail.com; www.metanet.org/im; www.ichetucknee.org or.

## Wolves and Poodles

A howler of a wolf to three escaped monkeys for hurling bananas and crab apples at several cars on Interstate 95 in Virginia. When the police showed up, the monkeys let fly another volley of fruit before fleeing into nearby woods.

A wolf in robes and a funny hat to the Reverend Massimo Salani, a Roman Catholic priest in Tuscany, who condemned hamburgers, french fries and Coke as "the fruit of a Protestant culture." The priest also urged ecumenical opposition to bioengineered foods. Italian Minister for Agricultural Resources Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio described his call as "very positive" and joined in the attack on US-style fast food. "This type of culture does not belong to us and cannot become our way of eating," he said.

A wolf in green tights and a funny hat to Shiv Kumar, an Indian Robin Hood who has eluded police for decades in the northern forests of Uttar Pradesh, taking on illegal tree-fellers and even gunning down a poacher. He has "...created so much terror both among the forest mafia and conniving forest officials that illicit felling and poaching have virtually come to a halt in this region," a forest official said. Known as *Dadua* or "big brother," Kumar once beat up two forest guards he caught poaching and then wrote to complain about them. Police said the lower-caste outlaw had eluded them because of thick forest cover and strong local support.

A Wolf for Prez in 2004 to Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney (D-GA) for publicly stating the obvious—calling the Seattle/Philadelphia/DC/LA protesters "courageous, intelligent and determined," and slamming corporate globalism and the security measures the federales are taking to protect it. At last, a decent running-mate for LaDuke.

A Cascadian wolf of refinement and taste to the Fish Brewing Company of Olympia, Washington, who paste a different artist's vision of a Northwestern dam being blown up on each year's batch of Detonator Doppelbock with the words "Let the Rivers Run Free" underneath. As it says on the side of the six-pack—"brewed in the Republic of Cascadia."



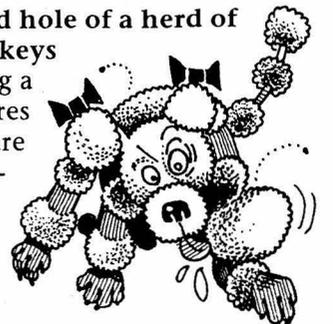
A poodle with five kilos of old gum and cherry pits packed up its orifices to the Professional Lawn Care Association of Ontario, Canada, which plans to mask lawn and garden pesticides with the scent of bubblegum and cherries so they appeal to children.

A poodle that we really, really hope never breeds to Yvonne Shashoua of the National Museum of Denmark. After revealing that some dolls and other toys made in the 1950s with polyvinyl chloride are deteriorating rapidly and forming a sticky film on their plastic surfaces, Shashoua said that young children, when they pick up a sticky doll, tend to poke their fingers into their mouths, transferring the chemical into their bodies. Studies show that the chemical can mimic estrogen and disrupt development in the very young, and have blamed these chemicals in the environment for malformation of male organs. Shashoua then suggested that old dolls could be made safer by wrapping them in kitchen plastic wrap and not touching the bodies directly.

A poodle strapped to the keel of Shackleton's lifeboat to www.celebritycruises.com for offering flights on a 737 over the Antarctic ice at 1,000 feet for viewing seals and penguins at the "low, low rate of only \$1,300 per person." May the spirit of the ozone hole ravage them with cataracts and cancers!

A poodle with a large, corrugated pipe dipped in tritium projecting from the usual place to the Department of Energy at Hanford, which has declared that the contamination seeping toward the Columbia River might be attributed to the fact that radioactive materials were stored in five "bottomless caissons" (large, corrugated metal pipes planted into the ground) and 50 bottomless drums.

A poodle mired to its belly in the favorite mud hole of a herd of hostile razorbacks to Boulder, Colorado, disc jockeys Stephen Meade and Darren McKee for promoting a four-wheeling mudfest that ended up tearing 25 acres of sensitive wetlands that were habitat for a rare toad. "It's churned up so much there's no vegetation left," said geologist Bob Akright. "There's oil floating in the water." The Forest Service cited Meade and McKee for failing to obtain a permit for a gathering of more than 75 people. It fined each a whopping 50 bucks.



# VOICES FROM CACTUS VALLEY, RED WILLOW AND UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN PLATEAU

*Editor's note: The following are excerpts from recent discussions among elders at Black Mesa, Arizona, who are resisting forced relocation to make way for Peabody Coal's mining operations. They are intended to shed light on the feelings and current outlook about the situation on the land.*

For those concerned people who wish to know how we are doing or what we plan to do about the US Attorney Office's intention of evicting us, we'd like for you to know that our plans are still the same—we wish to remain on our ancestral lands and will have no thoughts of moving elsewhere. We wish to carry on with our cultural life as usual, despite the difficulties of old age and with the limitation in physical capabilities. We will continue to walk our sheep and try our very best to stay warm this winter. We can only think positively about what we can manage around our current home sites and land. That will be our plan and strategy, but the rest will be up to the Great Spirits. They will have the ultimate answer about the Earth's destiny. How long can our society be under oppression? It is certainly not indefinite that the oppres-

sor will allow itself to torture our lives. It will come to an end, eventually.

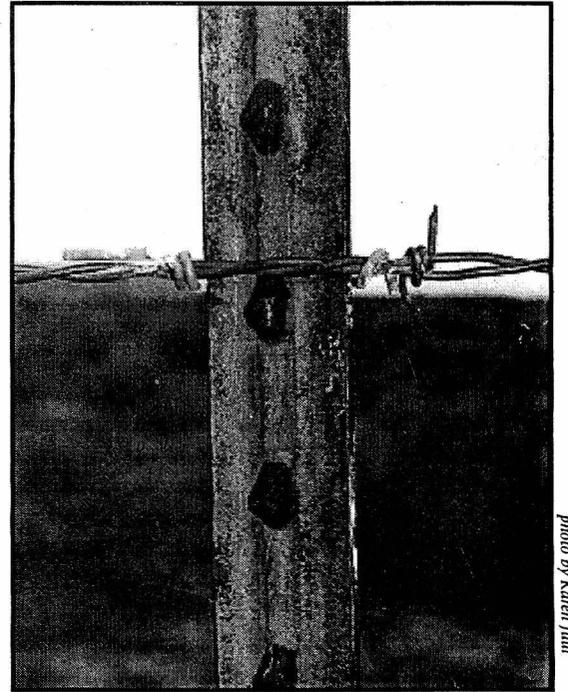
The land is necessary for our culture, religion and language to remain in existence. Without our ancestral lands, we can no longer be the traditional Diné or have an identity which is authentically indigenous. Yes, we all have many grandchildren, but when they all speak nothing but the English language, this makes our future as a Diné culture become hopeless. If we wish to continue the revival of our culture and language, we need the land! As resisters, we like to help the younger generations to appreciate these lands and have them become aware of the traditions. But these new, younger generations lack any interest or curiosity. We love all our grandchildren and great grandchildren deeply, and it hurts us to see them lack any interest for our history on these lands or lack the concern that we might lose these lands, someday. We cannot blame all this on them because we realize that they are the third and fourth generation raised by the American school systems.

Though the struggle here might seem bleak, it is encouraging to see the non-Indian supporters live with us. These

non-Indians, some of them, are interested in herding sheep, chopping wood, learning the language, preparing the corn or the mutton and willing to try all the necessary methods of labor-workaround our home sites. It is encouraging, also, because it used to be mentioned in the old times that the White Nation was created by the same Great Spirits who created the Diné. So, they are kin, and we think this is why the elder women resisters often refer to the non-Indian supporters as their children.

Certain non-Indians have come here to support us, with good intentions, but have unfortunately only brought further confusion and divisions. They have only shown us how ignorant they are when we try to tell them otherwise. They will run and hide elsewhere and continue their misrepresentation. We are hopeful that other Indians now wish to help us. We'd like to see that come to reality—the way it was when we worked with the traditional Hopis and other indigenous nations. Our resistance has much better force when other indigenous nations align with us and we are able to function more effectively at the international level. Thus, if we maintain and present our issues within the international forum, our issues are combined with other indigenous issues of human rights and treaty rights.

It is like the Bureau of Indian Affairs is trying to break us or tame us. They forced us into signing the Accommodation Agreement, and now they send their police to inform us, "You have too many animals again, so please kindly get rid of them by selling them, graze them elsewhere besides Hopi Partition Lands or else we will confiscate them." We have heard this over and over for years now, but (they) will not ever see that we don't care about their grazing policies or any other anti-Diné policies.



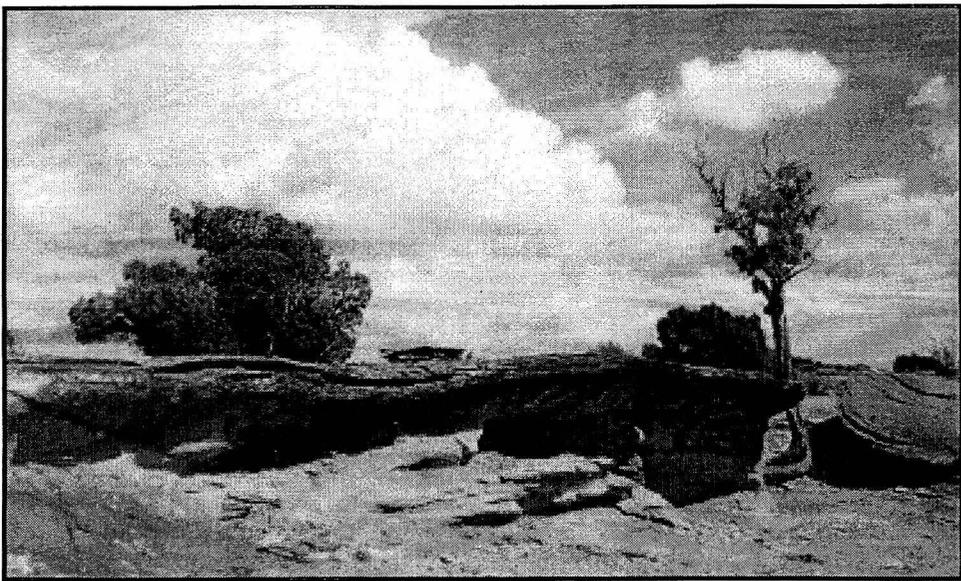
A symbol of the struggle between the Diné and Peabody

We will continue to have the joy of raising the animals, and so that we can use them to weave, to maintain our traditional cultural life and to use them for our food and medicine. The more they try to break us the more we shall refuse to acknowledge that "paper" which states that we have a lease.

Though we lack resources, we commit ourselves to this great endeavor of international representation. We will look to our indigenous relatives and to, also, rebuild a better and stronger working relationship with our non-Indian friends/supporters.

For more information on how to help the Diné as a volunteer or with contributions (very urgently needed are hay and supplies for the Diné, funds for car parts, and to keep the functions of the support office and supply truck running), contact Black Mesa Indigenous Support, POB 23501, Flagstaff, AZ 86002; (520)773-8086; [www.blackmesais.org](http://www.blackmesais.org).

*Editor's note: Resisters are still asking for supporters to spend time on the land. Work parties to the land are also being organized. There is still time to stop the genocide against these courageous communities.*



The majestic Hopi Partioned Lands in northeast Arizona.

This article is reprinted from the Yule 1986 edition of the Earth First! Journal.

East Texas possesses some of the biologically richest land on the continent. Texas EF! refuses to stand by as the Freddie's and others turn it into sterile pine farms. Upon hearing of the Freddie's' atrocious plan for Four Notch, we decided to protest with a magnitude equal to their methods of destruction. Here follows the story of the Battle at Four Notch:

As the press caravan arrived at the site where Godzilla (the crusher) was at work, about 20 EF!ers were anxiously waiting. The roar of the crusher could be heard in the distance. Loud snapping noises penetrated the air as the giant pines and hardwoods went down. The beast could be seen across the field of debris. Big healthy pines fell in its path as the TV cameras began rolling.

Godzilla chomped at full throttle as protesters and press approached. We waited for the machine to complete a few rounds so the media could document the destruction. Once the beast came back around, completing its circular pattern, we began running alongside of it. We held up signs and waved arms, alerting the driver to stop. After about 150 yards, it slowed down enough for us to get in front of it.

Immediately after the beast came to a halt, Bugis was on top of it. Whipping out his kryptonite lock and key, within seconds he was bolted by the neck to the front of Godzilla. Renowned tree climber James Jackson, was already half way up an elm tree



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TWO DOLLARS

## The Battle of Four Notch

next to the crusher. Christi Stevens, Pat Taylor and Chuck Taylor all chained themselves to trees near the crusher. Hollers and howls of the protesters filled the air, drowning out the disgusting noise of the machine's engine, which was left running for over an hour.

Signs were draped across the stilled beast and in the trees reading: "Stop the Tree Nazis, Stop Clearcutting, Earth First!" TV cameras rolled and reporters scrambled to get interviews with the chained and their supporters.

The federal agents and officers from the local Sheriff's department expected to have the protesters handcuffed and hauled away within 30 minutes. No one anticipated that we would hold the crusher hostage for over 24 hours! Within an hour Christi, Pat and Chuck were cut loose and taken away to the Walker County Jail; but they could not free Bugis, despite numerous attempts with boltcutters, locksmiths and sweet talk. As the day wore on, the feds began to grow uptight. Aside from when the Freddie's were abusively jerking his neck and head, trying to split the kryptonite with giant boltcutters, Bugis appeared quite comfortable atop the purring Godzilla. And it is a good thing, because it became his home for the next 24 hours.

While the Freddie's busied themselves with Bugis in his elm pulpit, Pastor Jackson preached about the

wisdom of Mother Nature, quoting from great books such as *Walden*, *Deep Ecology* and the *Bible*. His hammock strung between two young elms, loaded with books, food and drink, Jackson was prepared for a long stay. As it appeared that Bugis and James were going to make the event an all nighter, the press headed home to make their deadlines with the story. The feds did not give up so easily, however. Perhaps their pride was hurt by their incompetence at dealing with the affront. As the crowds thinned, things began to get hairy.

James told the Freddie's that he could not climb down out of the tree without assistance, because he had injured his knee on the way up. Nevertheless, Billy Ball, top federal security agent for the FS in Texas, counted to ten quickly and then began to chop down the tree holding Jackson. The ax was passed around and everybody had their chance at a swing. As the tree began to topple, Jackson leapt through the air at a height of 30 feet to another tree five feet away. The first tree smashed against the side of the tree crusher. The Freddie's wasted no time and soon the second tree came crashing down, this time with Jackson in it! The fall injured his (other) knee (lucky for the FS it was not more serious).

To find out what happens next order the back issue for only \$4. Only \$400 for a nearly full set.

To learn more about the history of Earth First!, order our very special 20-year anniversary, magazine style edition of the Earth First! Journal, *Samhain 2000* for only \$6.95 (the price will increase soon). It showcases some of the best writers and artists the movement has.

## Frontlines

### Protester Injured During Anti-Hunting Protest

On September 1, a hunt saboteur was run over twice by a four-wheel-drive vehicle during a clash between protesters and hunt supporters. He suffered serious injuries, including multiple fractures and broken ribs. Four other people were also injured. The conflict took place during a meet of the Old Surrey and Burstow Fox Hounds at Warren Farm in Horsted Keynes, near Crawley, West Sussex, England.

The driver left the scene when police arrived. Police are probing claims that the protester was deliberately run over.

### Agent Jammy Tart Berries Banker

The Brighton Branch of the BBB (BBBB) jammed up the World Bank as one of its representatives came to Sussex University, England, to deliver a recruitment presentation to likely young professionals on October 18.

The unfortunate bank stooge realized he had bitten off more than he could chew. He arrived to find the presentation room occupied, the talk canceled, and a noisy crowd demanding the release of all Prague prisoners following the anti-World Bank/IMF protests there in September as well as an end to the capitalist system.

Around 30 people occupied the seminar rooms of the Career Development Unit to prevent the recruitment day from taking place. Occupiers barricaded themselves into the rooms, daubing the walls with statements of prisoner solidarity, anti-World Bank, anti-capitalist and anti-state graffiti.

The alarmed official hastily sought refuge in an office, which was then besieged by others who waited, ready to give him his just desserts upon emergence. Sometime (and several fire alarms) later, security guards attempted to move the banker out of hiding, only to find themselves confronted by a roving group who jostled and harangued him across campus.

He was finally bundled into a taxi. The car door was flung wide and BBBB Agent Jammy Tart delivered a particularly gooey custard and jam delight to the face of the World Banker.

Owing to the timely shoving of snatching security guards by pastry supporters, Agent JT made a clean escape (save for the jammy fingers) and roams free, ready to pie again.

### Guarani Reclaim Land

A group of 200 Guarani men, women and children reclaimed ancestral land located in the state of Santa Catarina, Brazil on September 9. Their land was taken over in the 1920s by a real estate company, Colonizadora Sul Brasil.

The state gave away the 49 hectares to the company at a time when the country was trying to settle lands. As a result, the Guarani were violently forced off their land and relocated to an indigenous reserve inhabited by the Kaingang.

After 80 years, and after becoming more aware of their right to traditional territory, the Guarani returned to their land, now "owned" by businessman Carlos Francisco Zimmer.

Zimmer has obtained a court order for the expulsion of the Guarani. They were evicted by the police 45 days later.

The Guarani are the largest group of indigenous people in Brazil with a population of 30,000, living in the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Espírito Santo, Mato Grosso and Maranhão.

# THE GREAT WIRELESS TOWER BIRD MASSACRE

BY CHRISTOPHER BEAVER

Each year as the great autumn and spring migrations of more than five billion birds sweep across North America, more and more of the migrants are being killed in collisions with wireless telecommunication antennas. Included among this artificial forest of metallic towers would be antennas for cellular phones, as well as those for radio and television broadcasting.

Most collisions take place at night as does much of the migration. To avoid the heat and direct sunlight of the day, birds, such as ducks and geese, that generate a great deal of heat in flight, often choose nighttime for their flight. Smaller birds also seek darkness, not to avoid heat, but for purposes of stealth, to hide from predators.

To navigate, these migrating birds appear to track the stars and gauge the shifting magnetic fields of the Earth.

The problem, according to Vernon Kleen, an avian ecologist for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, is that under adverse weather conditions, night-flying birds seem drawn to the antennas' warning lights. Such lights are required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for all antennas taller than 199 feet. In the vicinity of airports and along highways, the lights on towers above 500 feet must have either red blinking or white strobing lights.

When birds encounter these aerial displays, they appear to become disoriented and confused. On radar screens, scientists have observed groups of birds circling antennas in an apparent and often futile attempt to regain their sense of direction.

In January 1998, some 10,000 Lapland longspurs were killed in a single night in western Kansas as they collided with a 420-foot radio station antenna and two nearby antennas, one of them a communications tower for a natural gas pumping station. Many of the birds were found impaled on wheat stubble left from the autumn harvest in surrounding fields. The birds appeared to have flown full force into the ground.

In a letter written in December 1999, to William Kennard, chair of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Gerald Winegrad, vice-president of the American Bird Conservancy, estimated that "the annual killing of migratory birds from communication towers may be four million to an order of magnitude above this." In other words, the number may be as high as 40 million killed annually.

Surveys of the birds killed are difficult to conduct since the number of affected birds varies widely during the migration, while scavengers quickly erase the evidence by carrying away the victims. But, according to Jim Cox of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, the average tower may kill as many as 2,500 birds per year.

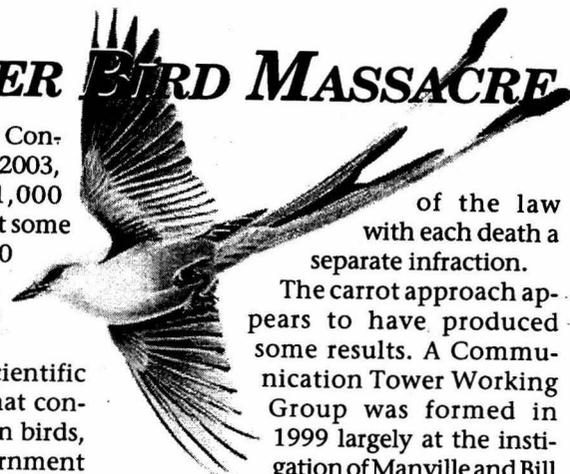
"This is a real problem and we take it very seriously," said Al Manville, a wildlife biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Arlington, Virginia. "Of the 836 bird species entrusted to our care, nearly 200 are already threatened."

Due to the "build out" of cellular antennas as competing phone companies each struggle to provide blanket coverage, as many as 500,000 new cellular antennas may be constructed over the next decade. A separate technology,

digital television, mandated by Congress for full implementation by 2003, may require more than 1,000 "megatowers," with reports that some of them will rise higher than 1,000 feet into the sky. This would make each as tall as the Empire State Building.

Despite more than 100 scientific studies dating back to 1949 that confirm the impact of antennas on birds, Sheldon Moss, director of government relations at the Personal Communications Industry Association (quoted in the *Morning Star* of Wilmington, North Carolina) cautions against rushing to judgement: "We're in the very early stages, and clearly there needs to be more work done to determine if a problem exists and, if a problem does exist, how severe it is."

Several major ornithological organizations disagree. In 1999, the American Bird Conservancy demanded a full Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed cellular antenna in Pennsylvania and quoted a 1976 study by Canadian wildlife biologist R.C. Weir, "Nocturnal bird kills are virtually certain wherever



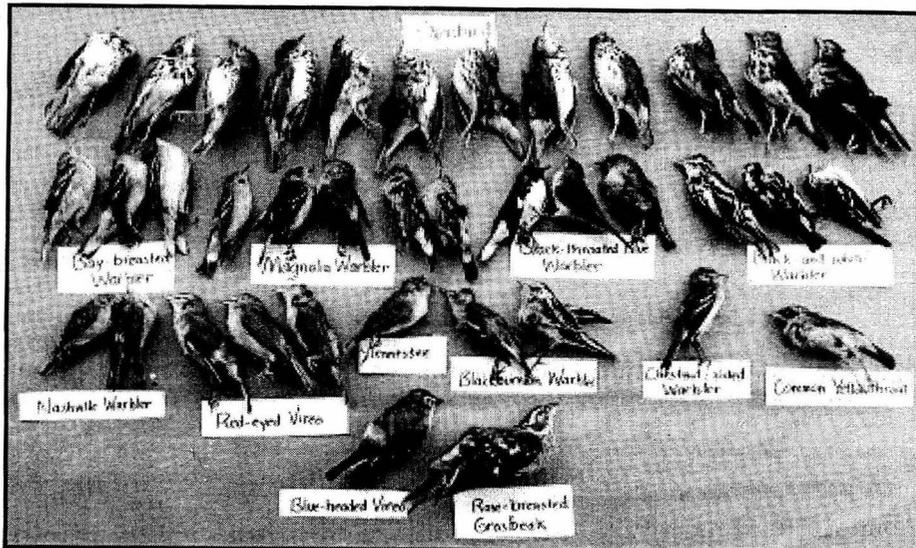
of the law with each death a separate infraction.

The carrot approach appears to have produced some results. A Communication Tower Working Group was formed in 1999 largely at the instigation of Manville and Bill Evans, a research associate at

Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology.

Evans first encountered the problem of bird collisions in October 1998. While using electronic technology to monitor the vocalizations of night-migrating ducks, Evans found himself stunned, "I could hear the collisions, their alarm calls, the sounds of ducks falling to the ground."

With the USFWS as the sponsoring organization driven by the passion of Evans and Manville, the working group, consisting of "stakeholders," or concerned and affected parties including the telecommunication industry, met in November 1999 as a



A single nights kill found at the base of a 85-foot television tower near Elmira, New York.

an obstacle extends into the air space where birds are flying in migration. The time of year, siting, height, lighting, cross-sectional area [the size] of the obstacles and weather conditions will determine the magnitude of the kill."

Libby Kelley, Executive Director of the Council on Wireless Telecommunications Impacts, points out the difficulties local regulators and citizens face: "According to some interpretations of the 1996 federal Telecommunications Act, which was largely written by industry lobbyists, neither municipalities nor federal agencies are permitted to consider any environmental issues or even human public health impacts when determining where towers can be constructed."

For Al Manville, the bottom line may be that industry will have to choose between the "carrot and the stick." The "carrot," in Manville's words: a voluntary partnership among all parties to prevent or limit "tower kills." The "stick:" criminal prosecution under the Migratory Bird Treaty first signed with the United Kingdom in 1916, then made federal law as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, which states that it is illegal to kill a migratory bird "by any means or in any manner," except for "permitted purposes," such as the taking of birds for scientific research and hunting. So-called "incidental taking" of even one bird is considered a violation

first step toward establishing research guidelines for future collision studies.

Manville, who estimates that such studies would cost about five to eight million dollars and take three to five years to complete, also notes that the USFWS does not have the funding or the staff for such an effort. Neither do the FCC nor the FAA.

While Manville agrees that further study is necessary to pinpoint the precise factors that account for most collisions, he also believes that enough is known to begin precautionary steps.

Among these would be the removal of obsolete antennas; the distancing of antennas, from critical habitat; and a 199-foot height limit on new antennas that would free them from FAA guidelines requiring antennas over 199 feet to carry warning lights and be supported by guy wires.

Until such measures are introduced, the question is not whether more birds will be killed. The question is whether we are one step closer to achieving the nightmarish world of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*—with the songs and calls of migrating birds silenced by the twittering of cell phones and the din from hundreds of brand-new, high-resolution, digital television stations.

Reprinted from *The Gull, the newsletter of the Golden Gate Chapter of the Audubon Society.*

# British Activists Investigate Illegal Trade in Tanzanian Baboons

and appalling conditions the baboons were unable to stand at full height and could barely turn around. Many peered nervously out of the small piece of wire at the top of the crate. Others, clearly petrified, cowered and tried to hide as they were approached.

The British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection (BUAV) has undertaken one of its most dangerous investigations to date—into the international trade in wild caught baboons for research. BUAV investigators traveled to Tanzania to infiltrate the primate supply network. We uncovered evidence of wild baboons being kept in shocking conditions prior to their export to laboratories around the world, revealing the appalling treatment inflicted on these highly sensitive and sociable animals. Sold for as little as \$12 each by the trappers, these primates are then dealt to the international research industry for up to \$1,200 per baboon.

Tanzania is East Africa's largest country. It has rich and varied ecosystems and is a country of great natural wealth and spectacular beauty. Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, is among Tanzania's most popular attractions. It is also well known for its extensive flora and fauna and is home to more than 4,000,000 wild animals, including many nonhuman primates, over 60,000 insect species, more than 1,000 bird species and a host of plants.

Baboons are indigenous to Africa and consist of five subspecies: olive baboon (*Papio anubis*), Chacma baboon (*Papio ursinus*), Hamadryas baboon (*Papio hamadryas*), yellow baboon (*Papio cynocephalus*) and Guinea baboon (*Papio papio*). Each species lives in a particular part of Africa. Olive baboons inhabit the semi-desert steppe, scrub, open grasslands, savanna, woodlands and tropical rainforests of sub-Saharan Africa from Mali to northern Tanzania.

Baboons are difficult to breed in commercial captive breeding colonies. The only major supplier of captive bred baboons to date is the South West Foundation for Biomedical Research in Texas. More recently, the Medical Research Council (MRC) in South Africa has been attempting to set up its own colony. Therefore, the majority of baboons used in research are wild caught. Until spring 2000, most wild caught baboons were supplied to the international research industry by a company called Mann & Miller based in Kenya. In the US, baboons from Kenya have been imported by primate dealer Charles River and in the UK by Shamrock (GB) Ltd (subsequently closed in 2000) and controversial contract testing laboratory, Huntingdon Life Sciences, to be used in xenotransplantation research (the introduction of foreign organs) on behalf of the pharmaceutical company Imutran. During 1999, at least two US companies received shipments of baboons from Tanzania:

On March 23, Buckshire Corporation received a total of 30 olive baboons from Zainab Wild Market. The agent involved was an animal dealer from the Netherlands. The baboons were flown by Egyptair.

On December 13, the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in Texas received a total of 40 olive baboons from Paradise Exports. The baboons were flown by Ethiopian Airlines and took three days to reach their final destination.

Prior to the investigation, little was known as to the exact location of the dealers' trapping sites and holding stations in Tanzania. Thus on arrival to the country, the BUAV had to carry out detective work during which they were met with suspicion and on occasions hostility, often finding themselves in potentially dangerous situations. Their perseverance, however, paid off and soon they were able to start unraveling the secret world of the Tanzanian primate dealers.

The BUAV was able to locate and gain access to the premises of two companies in Arusha involved in the export of baboons. Our investigators also met with trappers and were given a demonstration as to how the trapping takes place. Bamboo constructed traps are set using bananas as bait to attract the baboons. A large boulder is tied to the top of the trap. When a baboon

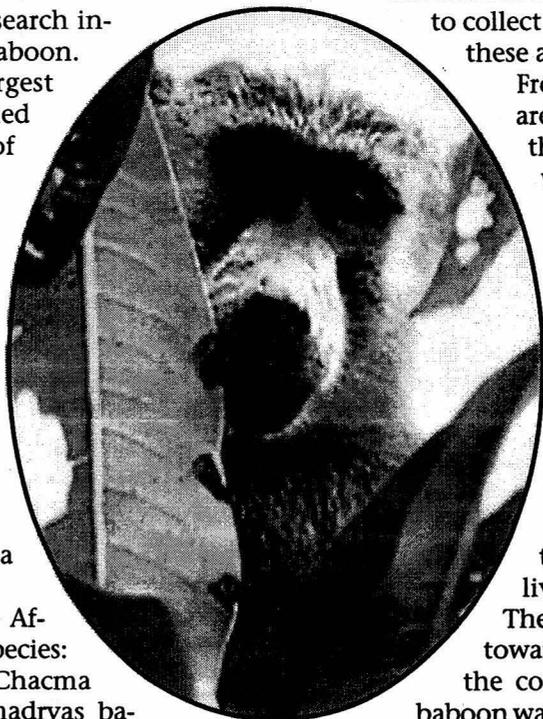
enters the trap to retrieve a banana, he treads on a trip wire which causes the trap to fall. The heavy boulder on top of the trap ensures that there is no escape. A number of these traps are set in particular areas, primarily in cornfields, to wait for baboon troops on the move. Once caught, the wild baboon may then have to wait many traumatic hours before being released. However, once this happens their nightmare has only just begun. One trapper told us how he secures any caught baboons with a piece of rope and ties them to a tree. The dealer then comes along to collect them. We do not know how long these animals may be left in this state.

From the trapping sites, the baboons are moved to holding stations where they may be kept for a number of weeks. The first holding station visited by our investigators was run by the Tanzania Wildlife Corporation (TAWICO) who trades under the name Glitter Gems. The site contained a number of gang cages, many of which were barren and rundown. One cage consisted of an entire baboon family—a large adult male, a female with a suckling infant and a juvenile—all had been trapped in the wild. Olive baboons live in stable hierarchical groups.

The adult males are fiercely protective toward females and offspring. Within the confines of his captivity, the male baboon was seen desperately trying to protect his family. Lost and bewildered, with the infant clinging to her mother's body, the family stayed close together seeking comfort from each other. It was a sickening and pitiful sight.

However, nothing could have prepared our investigators for the sights they saw when they entered the gates of the second holding station for Zainab Wild Market. On a dirty, rundown site, they found baboons kept in the most shocking conditions. In fact, the conditions are the worst ever seen during the years that the BUAV has been investigating the primate trade.

These proud and powerful animals, who live in the wild in large, highly structured groups where social and physical contact is of great importance, were instead incarcerated individually in rows of small, dark wooden dilapidated crates, poorly constructed with bits of wood nailed together and broken wire. Some had wire floors. There was little evidence of any water or food. Some of the baboons were unable to even see each other let alone find comfort in the company of each other. Adult male baboons can weigh between 17-37 kilograms, yet forced to live in these cramped



Olive baboons, shown here in captivity in Tanzania, are highly adaptable and social primates.

EXPOSE!

In other poorly constructed wire gang cages, groups of juvenile baboons were kept in overcrowded conditions. Clearly terrified, they clung to each other for comfort.

Once an order has been confirmed, the baboons are packed into wooden traveling crates and may be either taken to the Kilimanjaro airport or driven the 10-hour journey by road to the capital, Dar es Salaam. Put into the cargo holds of commercial airlines, the animals are then shipped thousands of miles from their native home to primate dealers and laboratories around the world to await their fate. From information provided to our investigators, it would appear that the main customers include the USA, Russia and Yugoslavia.

All nonhuman primates are currently listed as either endangered or potentially endangered species under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Those primates threatened with extinction, such as gorillas and chimpanzees, are listed as Appendix I of CITES. Trade in Appendix I species is only authorized in exceptional circumstances. Appendix II listed species are not necessarily threatened with extinction in the immediate future, but may become so if trade is not strictly regulated. Baboons are listed as Appendix II.

Baboons are currently favored by the research industry for use in xenotransplantation work which means that the demand for them is increasing. During the experiments, the baboons are subjected to major transplant surgery and given pig organs, either sewn into or outside the body, including organs from transgenic pigs containing human genes. In the UK, such experiments have been carried out by Imutran. The use of primates as experimental recipients of xenotransplants has caused immense suffering. Published research has shown that baboons have died or been killed as a result of fatal blood clots, infection, heart attacks and hyperacute rejection of the transplanted organ.

Please write letters asking for an immediate ban on the capture and export of baboons to The High Commissioner, Tanzania High Commission, 43 Hertford Street, London W1, England; The Director of Wildlife, Wildlife Division, POB 1994, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. Also please write asking for a ban on the importation of wild caught primates into South Africa and a halt to the plans to set up a baboon captive breeding colony to Minister of Environmental Affairs (SA), Mr Valli Moosa, Private Bag X884, Pretoria 0001, South Africa.

The BUAV has led the campaign to end the research primate trade. We will be doing all that we can to stop this suffering. Please help us put an end to the international trade in primates for research by contacting BUAV, 16a Crane Grove, London N78NN, England; (020) 7700-4888; info@bauv.org.

—BRITISH UNION FOR THE ABOLITION OF VIVISECTION

## CLAREMONT STUDENTS STORM GE CEREMONY

BY MEGAN THOMPSON

On November 17, Students for the Bernard Field Station (a group at the Claremont Colleges in Los Angeles County) mobilized a large group of supporters composed of students, faculty and other Claremont residents to take direct action against Keck Graduate Institute's plans to develop the Bernard Field Station. Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) is the first graduate school in the world dedicated solely to biotechnology. It became the seventh Claremont College with a \$50-million special gift from the Keck Foundation. The corporate partners of KGI that made such a gift possible are Bayer, DuPont, Genetech and Monsanto. The most appalling aspect of this corrupt corporate involvement is that much of the KGI research will become the private property of these corporations. In addition, none of the professors at KGI are eligible for tenure, meaning that legitimate objections about the nature of the research (ethical concerns, for example) are far too easily silenced.

KGI is currently in operation in downtown Claremont, California, but has plans to make a new home for itself at the Bernard Field Station (BFS) at the base of Mount Baldy. This biological field station consists of 86 acres of endangered coastal sage ecosystem. It is also the sacred site of the pre-Columbian Tonga village, Torojoatngna. It is an invaluable educational resource. Students and faculty at the Claremont Colleges have voted overwhelmingly against the development of BFS, and Claremont residents have also voiced strong objections. Despite this unified stand against KGI's plans, the college administration and the Claremont City Council have succumbed to the powerful influence of these corporations and endorsed the development of BFS.

In addition to Students for the Field Station, the community group Friends of the Field Station (FFS) has also been working to protect BFS. Unfortunately, after repeated frustrations, FFS made an out-of-court settlement with the colleges on November 15 to protect 40 acres of BFS. Students for the Field Station and others who joined in the November 17 protest find this agreement unacceptable. Every acre of this sacred land needs to be protected from the insidious dominance of corporations; compromise is not an option.

November 17 was the scheduled "inaugural celebration" for KGI's development of BFS. More than 150 concerned citizens gathered at Pomona College to rally, march and take action for BFS. After inspiration from the colleges' Activist Cheerleading Team, some street theater and a performance from the LA-based "Billionaires" (an activist musical group), the protesters marched with a three-person, 15-foot puppet of KGI president Hank Riggs, to the current site of KGI, where the inaugural ceremonies were to take place.

The group was met by security, policemen and supporters of KGI who congregated outside the tent. Several students immediately crossed over the police line to block the only entrance to the tent and keep the event from commencing. Behind them the puppet (with six people under it) crossed over the rope and was held back by police. There was a temporary impasse until the impassioned throng of protesters took strength in their numbers and swarmed the police line. With the whole group seated between the KGI folks and their party, the inaugural celebration was successfully interrupted and the KGI faction was led to a building to hold their event privately. Protesters followed and stood chanting outside the building, with the KGI group watching and listening from windows on the second floor. When the protesters sensed that they had made their statement as loudly and clearly as possible, everyone held hands to form a large circle and conclude to be a successful protest with peace and a song.

This action was a powerful first statement by a growing group that refuses to compromise some of Los Angeles' last open space to corporate biotechnology interests. Action will continue throughout the spring when the BFS issue will be on the Claremont city ballot, and onwards from there, until this sacred land is permanently protected.

For more information, contact Abigail at [abagailsinger@hotmail.com](mailto:abagailsinger@hotmail.com).

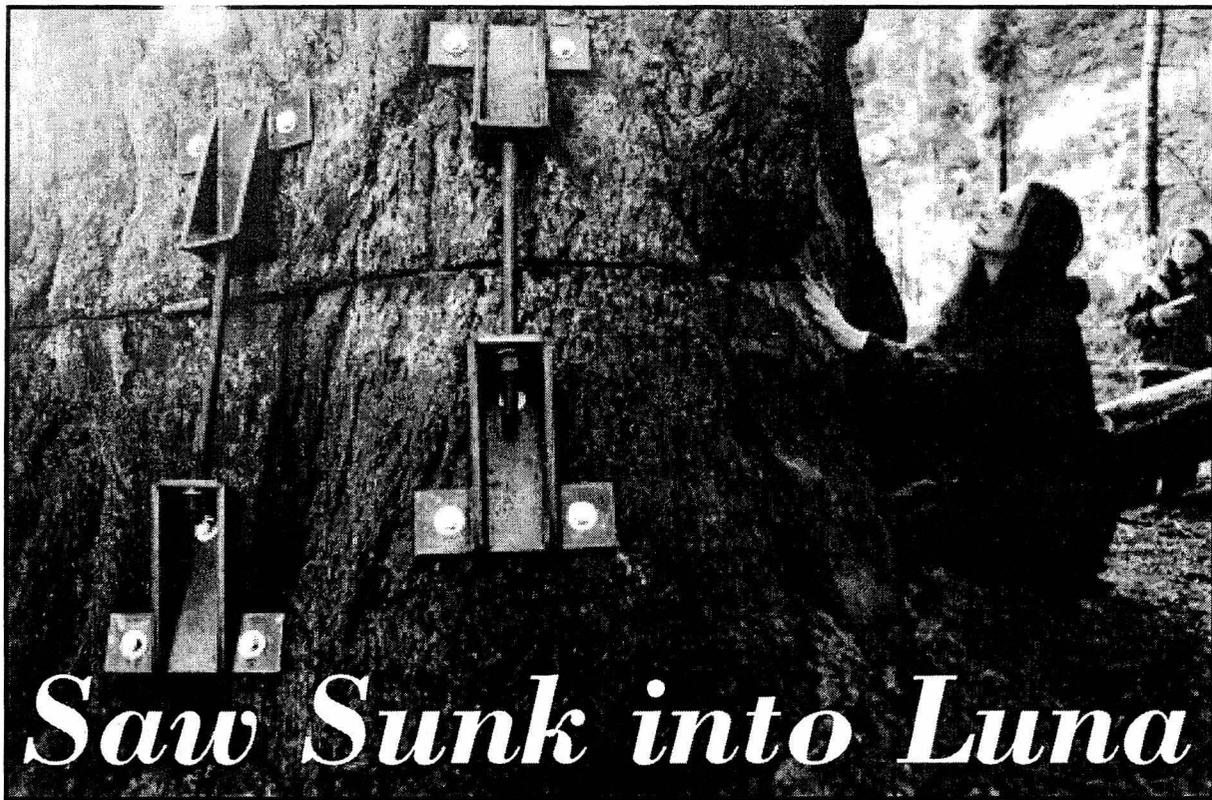


Photo by Shaun Walker/OremMedia

## Saw Sunk into Luna

Julia Butterfly examines Luna's newly placed braces.

A chainsaw took a deep and potentially fatal bite into an ancient redwood tree that has been saved from logging after activist Julia Butterfly Hill lived among its branches for two years. On Thanksgiving weekend it was discovered that a critical cut had been made into Luna by a large chainsaw. The perpetrator made one deep and precise cut that measured 32 inches deep and traveled 19 feet around the base, somewhat less than half the circumference of the tree. Judging from the precision of the cut and the fresh sawdust, the criminal action appears to have been committed by an experienced tree faller. Those responsible, if apprehended, could face felony vandalism charges. On November 29 a team of foresters, engineers and arborists placed braces to stabilize Luna for the coming winter storms.

The giant redwood is located in southern Humboldt County, California. On December 10, 1997 Julia Butterfly Hill climbed into the tree to protect the magnificent redwood and to help make the world aware of the plight of the ancient forests. After 738 days she negotiated a deal to permanently protect Luna and a nearly three-acre buffer zone.

The Circle of Life Foundation is asking that people *not* visit Luna. The soil and hillside are being deeply eroded by too many visitors.

For more information, contact the Circle of Life Foundation, (707) 923-9522, (707) 923-4619.

## LA TIGRESA "BUSTS" LOGGING CREWS

A performance artist and poet who goes by the stage name of La Tigresa (a.k.a. Dona Nieto) is creatively protesting for the forests in Northern California.

Upon discovering the atrocities in the woods she decided to intertwine bare breasts and erotic poetry, Goddess energy nonviolence.

Since the beginning of October, La Tigresa has gone forth into the woods confronting logging crews with her small video affinity group.

At one site she removed her shirt and walked up to a giant machine that was busy grabbing dead trees and piling them in a stack. It backed up and kept working. After a bit it came back, and Tigresa waved and smiled to the driver. He shook his head, turned off the massive dinosaur and climbed down muttering biblical quotes. He walked off the site and sat in his pickup truck shaking his head. La Tigresa followed him and started to recite her poetry, "I am the Earth, I am the Goddess..." He turned up the Christian radio station.

La Tigresa hasn't stopped. She hounded the three other logging crews working in the area for the next three weeks with what she calls "Art Attacks" or "Nude, Buddhist, Guerrilla Poetry," or the now popular "Striptease to Save the Trees."

She moved on to Kaiser Gulch, a pristine watershed presently occupied by treesitters.

On November 28 La Tigresa protested at the California Department of Forestry to a startled but chuckling audience. During a break in the 2nd review meeting regarding a Hawthorne Timber Harvest Plan she unzipped her blouse and began her poem.

"California Department of Forestry, I am here to bust you for not doing your duty... You should be protecting California's natural resources not kissing the timber industry's booty."

So far she has not been busted. Cops have arrived several times, but she has disappeared into the woods without a trace.

For more information, contact Environmentally Sound Promotions, (707) 923-4949; for video/stills contact HAVC (707) 925-0012; [earthfilms.org/strip](http://earthfilms.org/strip).



Photo courtesy HAVC

An appreciated La Tigresa bares all for the forest.

# Salmon can't be endangered, you can find them all over Chenoweth

BY SOCKEYE

As the first spark of the so-called "catastrophic" wildfires ignited in the northern Rockies this summer, elected officials in Montana and Idaho were all too eager to rally around these "disasters." The cries for salvage logging rang out, but many citizens and activists in the area were determined to not let the timber industry and its elected puppets manipulate the situation to meet corporate needs. On September 17, Representative Helen Chenoweth-Hage (R-ID) and Representative Rick Hill (R-MT) held a Congressional Field Hearing on "forest health" at the University of Montana in Missoula. The hearing was not open to public comment or testimony (or so they intended).



Duck Representative Chenoweth—duck!

to endure the usual lies from the usual suspects. Chenoweth began to drone on unaware of what lay in wait, but a few minutes into her testimony Randy Mark, a committed Northern Rockies forest activist, swiftly approached the panel, and his highly noxious pie met its target. The pie, a soupy mix of whipping cream and whipped salmon baked for hours at low heat, was overwhelmingly nauseating. The auditorium fell dead silent until one man called out, "You're the greatest threat to the forest, Helen." Randy was tackled

by various government henchmen and hauled out a back door. The hearing had to be recessed for an hour while Helen removed the particles of salmon from her hair. The incredibly awful smell took hold of the auditorium for the remainder of the day. The pie carried a clear message: The process was fishy, the proposals stunk and she would have to face it.

The authorities in Idaho and Montana did not appreciate Randy's actions as much as we did, and they are making him pay for it greatly. He was in jail in Missoula from September 17 until November 9, held on two federal misdemeanor charges of assault on a public official. He accepted a plea bargain and plead guilty to pieing Helen, and his sentencing is set for February 6. He is currently serving a 40-day sentence in Idaho for violating conditions imposed for blocking a Forest Service road at a controversial timber sale earlier this year.

His legal fees are costly, and we desperately need monetary help. Checks or cash can be mailed to Randall Mark Legal Defense Fund, POB 8452, Moscow, Idaho 83843. It also gets very lonely in jail, and Randy Mark would appreciate any mail sent to him. You can write him at PO 8068, Latah Co. Jail, Inmate, Moscow, Idaho 83843. The Salmon Soufflé Society would also like it to be known that all ingredients included in the pie were liberated from a huge chain food store and that most canned salmon is factory farmed hatchery fish.



Ooh, ooh that smell! Is that dandruff on your shoulder?

## LOGGERS TAKE SHOT AT PROTECTION... AND MISS

BY CRAIG AXFORD

It seems some loggers and several rural Utah counties have finally taken an interest in protecting endangered species. Unfortunately, they forgot to include science in their arguments in favor of protecting vanishing wildlife.

In early August, Utah's Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Severe and Wayne counties joined a Montana forester and the Portland-based Independent Forest Productions Association in filing a 60-day notice of intent to sue, alleging both the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service have failed to cut down enough trees to protect endangered species. The argument goes something like this. Wildfires kill wildlife, including endangered species. If you remove all the trees, there won't be any left to burn in a wildfire. Therefore, logging protects wildlife. It's simple: no forest, no forest fire.

Patrick Connell, the Montana forester that joined in the suit, was quoted in Salt Lake's *Deseret News* explaining his problem with the lack of logging on our national forests this way, "When blow-up fire conditions like we are experiencing this year throughout the West can kill whole herds of elk, there is little chance for survival of other listed threatened or endangered species. The truth is that large wildfires kill wildlife." Wow, whole herds of elk are going up in smoke. And the wise use people accuse environmentalists of being alarmists!

To prove their point, the plaintiffs point to the South Manti Timber Salvage Project recently approved by the Manti-La Sal National Forest. This timber sale will remove between 21 and 27 million board feet of timber, most of it allegedly killed in a recent spruce beetle "epidemic." The problem, according to the plaintiffs, is that 21 to 27 million board feet only amounts to about 10 percent of what should be cut. It seems cutting down 210-270 million board feet would be much better for the herds of elk and other species that live in the forest.

Unfortunately, the plaintiffs forgot one minor detail. It seems none of the six Utah counties or others involved in the planned lawsuit ever saw fit to take the time to express their concern for wildlife, endangered

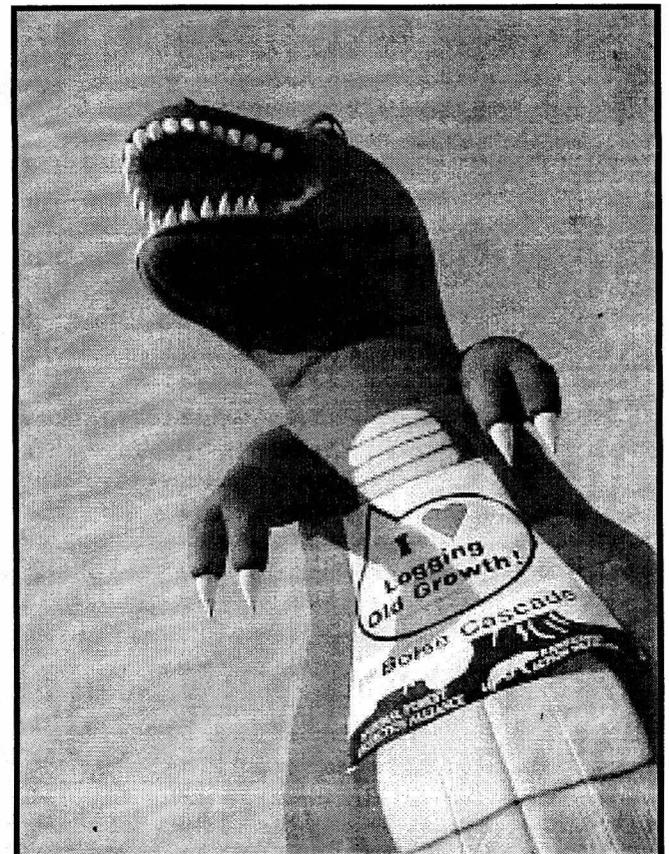
or otherwise, in comments to the Forest Service about the abysmally small amount of timber being removed from the Manti-La Sal National Forest. With all the whining about wildfires, dead wildlife and unemployed loggers, one would think that the plaintiffs could at least find the time to participate in the public commenting process on the timber sale.

The truth, of course, is that logging increases the risk of the very wildfires the plaintiffs claim is taking out herds and threatening the continued existence of some of America's precious endangered wildlife. Take the South Manti Timber Salvage for example. According to the Forest Service, the number one purpose of that project is to "reduce the potential for large and intense wildfires across forested areas." Yet according to the minutes from a meeting held by the team planning the project, the fire specialist for the Forest Service concluded that the weather conditions that could lead to a fire within the project "did not even occur once" historically. The fire specialist went on to point out "that with lop and scatter treatment and heli units [helicopter logging] there will be an actual increase in fuels "post-harvest." In an already high fuel area, this treatment will not meet the purpose and need."

Let's not forget that dead trees have been an integral part of forest environments for millions of years. Logging roads, slash piles and clearcuts have not. Those filing this lawsuit conveniently forget the species that depend upon dead trees for their very survival. Flammulated owls and three-toed woodpeckers, both Forest Service sensitive species, use cavities in dead trees and, in the case of the woodpecker, eat the dreaded spruce beetle so villainized by the Forest Service and logging industry.

If the plaintiffs in this lawsuit were truly concerned about the impact of too little logging on endangered species, they would have taken the time to tell the Forest Service of their concerns prior to filing a lawsuit. Hopefully people will now realize that when it comes to frivolous and wasteful lawsuits, it's the wise use movement and not environmentalists, that take the cake.

Craig Axford is the program director for the Utah Environmental Congress.



## A Bad Rap for Dinos Boise Cascade called the Dinosaur of the Logging Industry

Rainforest Action Network (RAN) and the National Forest Protection Alliance activists floated a 120-foot high inflatable dinosaur at Boise Cascade's headquarters in downtown Boise, Idaho, on October 24. With many of the largest retailers and homebuilders in the US pledging to phase out their use of old-growth forest products, "Boise Cascade is the dinosaur of the logging industry," explained RAN organizer Mike Brune. "However, the age of predatory logging is over. If Boise Cascade does not adapt to the emerging values in the new economy, it will not be able to survive in the modern marketplace."

## Frontlines

### Ramsey Gulch Defended for Five Months

As of November, the treesit village in Ramsey Gulch near Santa Cruz, California, celebrated nearly five months of determined ecosystem protection. Using five platforms located along a network of 30 traverses, the efforts of Earth First! Santa Cruz and the Canopy Action Network have protected two acres of threatened coastal redwood forest.

Santa Cruz treesitters experienced winds of over 50 mph and heavy rains while the courts dismissed Redwood Empire's lawsuit which attempted to get forest defenders to pay lost wages and profits to loggers affected by the treesit.

EF! Santa Cruz, Canopy Action Network and the forest defense community in Santa Cruz continue working to permanently preserve Ramsey Gulch and to hold Redwood Empire and its subcontractors—High Country Timber and Columbia Logging Company—accountable for their illegal logging operation.

### Strange Allies in Maine

Protesting abusive and unsafe working conditions and mistreatment by the Maine Department of Labor, five activists from the Native Forest Network (NFN) and Earth First! barricaded themselves inside the Maine Department of Labor Annex October 2. These activists were supported on the outside by a rally of over 30 people including members of the Carpenters and Joiners Union, the Maine Rural Workers Coalition, the Maine 2nd Militia and the Maine Loggers Association. Loggers from northern Maine sent a message of support.

These disparate groups came together for this unusual protests because the Department of Labor is systematically ignoring workers at the expense of Maine's economy and working people and to the great advantage of the multinational corporations who abuse Maine's natural environment, working people and the migrant and seasonal workers that they recruit to the state.

The office occupation was a continuation of alliances formed last year in Maine's north woods. Recognizing that common enemies are best fought together, in 1999 forest workers approached NFN to join their protest against Irving Paper Company, a primary beneficiary of the bonded labor program and New England's largest private landowner.

The protesters were eventually arrested and charged with misdemeanor trespass and felony burglary, even though nothing was missing from the office.

### Twenty-three Arrested at Vandenberg Demo

Twenty-three people were arrested for trespassing October 7 at Vandenberg Air Force Base, in California, during a protest against the military use of weapons in space. Vandenberg was the target because of its role as a test launch site for the proposed \$60-billion national missile defense system.

About 140 singing and chanting people gathered for several hours near the base's main gate, as about 50 helmeted, baton-carrying military security forces stood shoulder-to-shoulder to prevent any unwanted access onto the base. After about two hours of singing, several dozen participants linked hands and moved toward barricades blocking the base's main entrance. The protesters were quickly arrested.

# Josh Harper: "Increase the Momentum!"

BY JOSH HARPER

Hello again. I am writing this update (November 11) about my case to inform everyone of new developments and to thank all those people who have helped me thus far. This is a very trying time for me, but it is made easier when I think that I am not alone. People from all over the world have written and sent donations. The Animal Liberation Front has shown support for me as well by breaking windows at a McDonald's and a Neiman Marcus in Long Island and Beverly Hills. All of this activity is inspiring, but sadly it doesn't change the facts of this case.

I am being charged with criminal contempt, a federal felony, for failure to appear before a grand jury. Criminal contempt carries no maximum sentence, so any amount of jail time is possible if I am convicted. This case is a first in our movement and will set a precedent that could be very harmful. The government is essentially saying, "Snitch on your friends or go to jail." Failure to cooperate with a grand jury is going to start costing people years of their lives. That is why we must fight this charge to the best of our ability.

I have finally found counsel in this case, but I still need funds to pay for their assistance. We are working on making some support merchandise, but we need help setting up benefits elsewhere. Please contact us if you can

do anything—a vegan bake sale, a show, anything at all. We also need to fight back on another front, and the ALF has certainly taken the lead. The prosecution in this case planned to have this grand jury be an end to the underground direct action movement by knocking out the above-ground support structure. Craig Rosebraugh was targeted and had his home raided because he speaks so eloquently on behalf of those with compassion and respect for the Earth. I have been targeted because of my video productions and speaking tours, as well as my association with militant above-ground action groups. The government fears that people like Craig and I are increasing the level of direct action in this country simply by telling people that it occurs. I don't know how true that is, but I do know that it's difficult to argue with the success of direct action. In one night an Earth raper can be forever put out of business. With a few hundred dollars in equipment, animals can be freed from a lifetime of slavery at the hands of a vivisector. With long-term planning and security, a new movement could emerge to cast off the oppressive state and its industrial masters. If this charge of criminal contempt puts me away for the next few years, I at least hope that the grand jury doesn't reach its goal of crushing direct action.

I see so many people fighting for a

day when the Earth is wild again, and we live peacefully with each other and the animal nations. Right now it seems like such a far away dream, and I am at times frustrated when I think how impossible it all seems. But then I am given hope when I remember our radical history, and all the wonderful things we have already accomplished. It remains to be seen whether or not we will be willing to do what is necessary to bring about the changes that are so desperately needed on this planet, but I see a spark of hope in every broken window, every torched police car and every mink running free as their heart's desire. I cheer every time I hear that our movement has created a safe space for women, fed the hungry, or cast off one more boss. Let us increase the momentum. Thanks for your support.

Please send donations (payable to Josh Harper Support Fund) to Josh Harper Support Fund, POB 45275, Seattle, WA 98145; nevergivein@hotmail.com.

*Editor's note: On December 1 Josh and his attorney entered in a plea of "not guilty" to "criminal contempt" charges. His trial date has been set for January 3.*

## Justin Samuel Sentenced to Two Years After Agreeing to Plea and Testify

BY ROD CORONADO

In autumn of 1999, an animal liberationist accused of releasing thousands of mink from fur farms in Wisconsin and South Dakota was captured in Belgium. Justin Samuel and co-accused Peter Young were indicted by a federal grand jury in Wisconsin in 1998 after being pulled over in October 1997 by a sheriff's deputy near Wisconsin fur farms. Inside their car police found break-in tools, ski masks and a list of fur farms. The car was impounded, but the two were released and went underground where Peter remains today.

That Justin could be found, arrested and extradited from another country for opening cages of doomed wildlife speaks volumes about the US government's resolve to capture and imprison warriors of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). Much pressure was placed on Justin to testify against Peter, and after nearly a year of unpleasant imprisonment in county jails where he was denied a vegan diet, Justin struck a deal.

In August, Justin Samuel signed a plea bargain and agreed to testify at a federal grand jury. At the plea hearing Justin not only incriminated himself, but also testified that Peter was the other ALF volunteer who helped release 6,050 mink from four separate fur farms in 1997. Justin and his lawyers had hoped that such cooperation would win him an instant release, but reviews of his court transcripts reveal no such promise.

Instead, what is said is that the prosecution and defense attorneys

recognize that despite the agreement, the sentencing judge retains the legal right to punish Justin to the full extent of the law. On November 3, a federal judge in the Western District of Wisconsin sentenced Justin to 24 months in federal prison, the maximum sentence allowable under the guidelines.

Justin and his family were shocked by the decision to not show leniency and even the assistant US attorney prosecuting the case was embarrassed enough to apologize to Justin's lawyer. This case highlights many reasons why activists accused of direct action should never testify against one another.

Justin violated the first code of guerrilla opposition to Earth and animal abuse by eco-warriors once captured: *Never cooperate with the enemy.* Equally important is the lesson once again painfully learned: The US government is an immoral and unethical oppressor who historically has broken any and all promises to further its own objectives. As direct action warriors, our credo must remain that when asked to incriminate our comrades, we will never negotiate with government terrorists and hostage takers.

Rather than direct vindictive energy toward Justin, who made his decision under the pressure of imprisonment and physical abuse, we must instead focus our attention on the need to strengthen the resiliency of our warriors so they can endure the intimidation faced once captured.

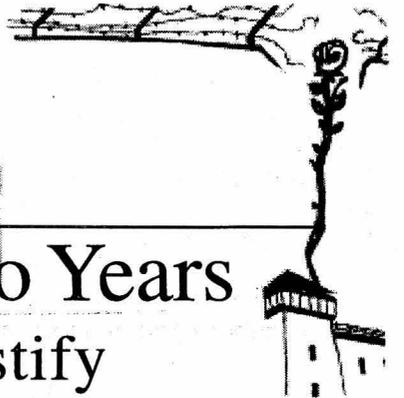
Justin, under the advice of his lawyer, had asked that his name be removed from political prisoner lists and that no mail from activists be sent to

him in the hope that disassociation with political movements would improve his odds at sentencing. Far from doing that, Justin's decision cut him off from realizing the immense international support our movements have for direct action prisoners.

Instead of receiving large amounts of mail that improve one's psychological strength and well-being, Justin faced his opponents alone and was able to be deceived by the US government's false promises. Ironically, even with the maximum sentence, with one year already served in pre-trial imprisonment, a 24-month sentence means Justin will be eligible for halfway house release in just another six months.

Unfortunately with Justin's coerced testimony, the government now has a stronger case against the still free Peter Young. The animal rights and radical environmental movement must now build a solid support network for the inevitable day when Peter and other ALF and ELF warriors are captured rather than waste precious time punishing activists for their weakness and wrong decisions.

It remains the obligation of every warrior in the ALF, ELF and EF! to be prepared to accept the consequences of one's actions and be ready to do time rather than compromise comrades and the larger struggle with the inability to do so. A movement that engages in illegal direct action must ensure that its participants have total support before, during and after their sacrifice for the Earth and her animal nations. Only then will cooperation with our oppressors no longer be an option.



# TRYING DEVELOPMENTS FOR ACTIVISTS FREE AND CRITTER

In Springfield, Oregon, in the early morning hours of June 16, Jeffrey "Free" Luers and Craig "Critter" Marshall were stopped by police for a "routine traffic violation" while en route to a local treesit (the car they were driving had a headlight out). When police called in their licenses, the Eugene Police Department (EPD) ordered them held. They were then turned over to the Eugene police and booked on charges of Criminal Mischief and Arson.

The next day, the Eugene police told the media that the two activists were suspected of an arson at a Eugene car dealership, resulting in \$40,000 in damage. They claimed the arson occurred at the time of the arrest and, contradicting the Springfield police, that the EPD had followed the suspects from the scene.

On June 23, Free and Critter were indicted on nine felony counts and one misdemeanor. The charges were placed on them as "defendants acting together with others as yet unnamed," opening the door to a continuous investigation against activists in Eugene. New charges were added, pertaining to an attempted arson at an oil company in the Whiteaker neighborhood—a scenario which would have threatened their own homes and all their closest friends. There are serious suspicions about the motives of the state, the lack of evidence, and the accompanying media campaign to convict them in advance.

It has been a trying and emotional time in Eugene. Both pled "not guilty" to all charges. After a delay, both men's pre-trial arguments and jury selection started November 14. Once the jury was selected, the trial ensued—only to have everything thrown into disarray

on November 20 when Free's defense attorney, Ken Morrow, suffered a fatal heart attack. The confusion following this unprecedented turn of events has led to motions of severance, mistrial and new plea bargains from the deputy district attorney prosecuting the case, Caren Tracy.

Free's parents, in Eugene for the trial, scrambled to the courthouse with members of the Legal Defense Committee to figure out what was in store for the trial, which was a long way from closing. No one

seemed to know quite what to do. There has never been a case of a lawyer dying during a trial in Oregon. Mark Spence, a court-appointed attorney, was assigned temporarily to help Free through the transition. He moved for a mistrial. Brian Barnes, Critter's lawyer, moved to sever the cases allowing Critter's case to continue with the same jury. The judge decided to hear oral arguments on November 21.

How had the trial been going?

The defense attorneys made several motions to suppress evidence from the searches of a warehouse and the car driven by Critter and Free the night they were arrested. Objections were raised about a questionably obtained search warrant and items seized but not named on the warrant. Several cops testified. All the motions to suppress evidence were denied by the judge.

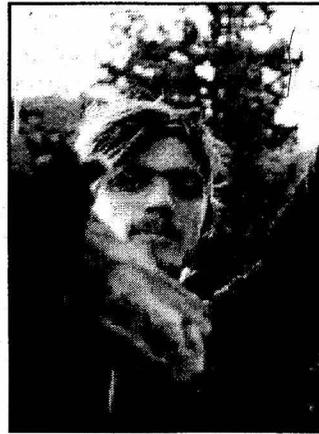
The jury selection was a scary process that included the prosecutor arguing to keep prospective jurors who admitted prejudice against anarchists and protests in general. Throughout the selection, Tracy kept emphasizing the need for people to be able to convict on circumstantial evidence and not just hard facts like eyewitnesses. Oregon State Law gives both forms of evidence the same weight.

On November 17 one juror said she felt intimidated by the defendants and was scared they may have seen her address. Most distressingly, she spoke about this to "five or six" of the other jurors. She was dismissed and replaced with a female alternate. A juror was seen talking with a witness for the prosecution during a break, and reports are that one male juror keeps going on about the politics involved locally and in the case. All of this is very scary.

During the confusion the District Attorney's office offered Free and Critter new plea bargains. Free was offered 156 months in prison and years of probation. In the deal Free would have to plead guilty to "conspiracy to commit arson" and "possession of a destructive device." Felony arson, which carries a mandatory sentence of seven and a half years, as

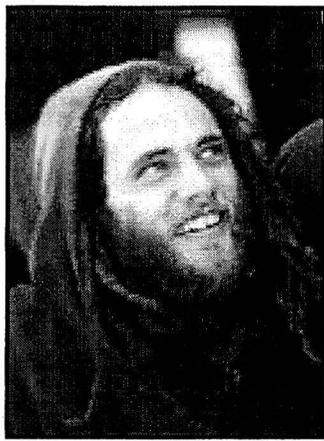
well as the other charges, would be dropped. Free decided against the offer. Because of trial publicity due to his lawyer's death, he decided that a mistrial would be in his best interest. Free has accepted the services of defense attorney Bob McCrea, Morrow's law practice partner of 20 years (additional funds of \$15,000 need to be raised).

After considering advice from his lawyer and friends, and talking with Free, Critter decided to accept his deal. Critter did not admit guilt but acknowledged that it was possible for the prosecutor to convict on the evidence. Critter was sentenced on November 22 to 66 months in prison with three years probation for the "conspiracy" charge as well as six months and two years probation for the "possession" charge. They are to run concurrently. It also appears that Critter will be eligible for a "boot camp" after 11 months. After completing this six-month boot camp program Critter would be eligible for early release. His attorney noted that Measure 11—a state law setting mandatory minimum sentences—forces people to make decisions they don't want to make.



Free in his natural habitat

Photo courtesy Free and Critter Legal Def. Com.



Critter in the wild

Photo courtesy Free and Critter Legal Def. Com.

## A message from the Free and Critter Legal Defense Committee

The friends and family of Free and Critter want to sincerely thank all of you for your interest in their case and for your many supportive actions. We are a community in the midst of a battle many of you have fought before. Many of you understand the loneliness of prison and the uncertainty of political trials. Some of you have experienced the stress, intense emotion and depletion of resources that occur when activists become targets of repression. Below are addresses where you may write to Free and Critter and give them the support they really need right now. Also, if you have the ability to help friends and family offset very expensive legal costs, please send money. If you can't send letters or money, please consider working on a campaign for political prisoners near you. Write to Jeffrey Luers (Free), #1306729, 101 W. 5th Street, Eugene, OR 97401; Craig Marshall (Critter), POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405.

Organize a benefit and/or donate money for their legal defense, stamps and collect calls to OUR Credit Union, c/o Free and Critter Legal Defense Fund, POB 11922, Eugene, OR 97440.

# EARTH NIGHT NEWS EARTH NIGHT NEWS EARTH NIGHT NEWS

## Venezuelan Natives Drop Pylons Again

Indigenous people in Venezuela's remote Amazon region knocked down seven electricity pylons on September 14 in renewed protest against a high-voltage power line to Brazil being built through their ancestral homeland.

Indigenous leaders said construction of the 470-mile link was ruining their livelihood and affecting a fragile ecosystem across tracts of national parks and forests.

It was the first such incident since five electricity towers were knocked down a year ago in a similar protest (see *EF!* December-January 2000). The \$400-million project to supply energy to northeastern Brazil and international gold mining companies in Venezuela was supposed to have been completed in December 1998. The line runs through Canaima National Park, Venezuela's top tourist destination and home to Angel Falls, the world's tallest waterfall. Canaima was declared a World Heritage Site in 1994. About 24,000 indigenous people live in the area.

## Midwest Logging Equipment Attacked

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) inflicted severe damage to logging equipment in Martin County, Indiana, on October 18. This is the fifth major action committed by the ELF in Indiana this year.

The communiqué stated, "Early on the morning of October 18, a small group of dedicated folks walked into the Martin State Forest determined to do whatever it took to stop the cutting of the trees on our public lands. In an effort to be fair and give our opposition time to reconsider their wicked deeds, several warnings had been spray painted earlier. They disregarded these well intentioned cautions and proceeded with the cut. We were forced to retaliate. Three skidders and one loader

were as thoroughly damaged as we could manage without endangering the surrounding forest. Hoses were cut, sand poured into engines and gas tanks, seats and belts were slashed and appropriate messages were spray painted."

The communiqué finished by stating, "Let all those who would profit from the destruction of our last wild places beware. We are everywhere and we are watching. This is a timber war."

## ELF Damages Housing Development

In an effort to preserve fragile wetland habitat of the threatened blue heron, night heron and painted turtle in Long Island, New York, members of the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) smashed windows and spray painted the erected structures on a clear-cut development site. This is the ELF's third and strongest attack on the development and took place the night of November 11. Preceding this attack members of the ELF pulled up survey stakes, destroyed machinery associated with clearcutting and development and shattered windows.

Urban sprawl has altered nearly 90 percent of Long Island's habitats, either by physically removing, paving or polluting them. Wildlife extinction rates are increasing exponentially, and urban sprawl helps to drive species from homes and send them in search of sustenance. The development site was once state-protected land.

## Midwest Animal Abusers Slammed

On September 7, 14,000 mink were set free from Earl Drewelow & Sons Fur Farm in New Hampton, Iowa.

This liberation was the largest of its kind since the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) began releasing mink, fox and other animals in the US. Previously, the largest number of animals released was 10,000 mink from Arritola Mink Farm in Mount Angel, Oregon in

May 1997.

"The war against the fur industry is far from over, as long as animals are kept in cages and killed for vanity luxury items," said ALF spokesperson David Barbarash.

Two days later, the ALF struck again and liberated pigeons from a lab animal breeding facility in Glenwood, Iowa. All 215 pigeons were taken from Double T Farms.

The pigeons were bred for a life of torture in animal experimentation labs. Sixty-three pigeons were loaded into a vehicle and driven to a wilderness area out of state, while the remaining 152 were dispersed immediately one half mile from the farm.

Less than two weeks earlier, on August 28, activists struck Genesis Labs in Wellington, Colorado, rescuing 179 birds. The animals were being used in experiments to test the toxicity of rat poison.

## Animal Testers' Cars Set on Fire

Six workers' cars were set on fire on August 30 in the latest incident at the animal testing company Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS). The cars were extensively damaged at the staff members' homes in Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire, England.

The attack follows an incident in May when cars owned by four HLS workers were set on fire. No one has claimed responsibility for either attack.

HLS has been the target of animal rights activists because of its record of animal abuse. A documentary three years ago exposed technicians punching and screaming at dogs. The Home Office threatened to revoke HLS's license unless it complied with 16 recommendations to improve its operation. Since then the company has reversed its failing fortunes, and the campaign against it has become increasingly sophisticated.

# GOODBYE TO THE TISZA

BY MC GRAZIANO

*Editor's note: On January 30 over 100,000 cubic meters of wastewater contaminated with cyanide and heavy metals such as copper, zinc and lead breached a dam in Baia Mare, a small industrial town in northwestern Romania, and flowed into tributaries of the Tisza River, the second largest river system in the region. The dam was built to contain wastewater from a facility that uses a cyanide-based solution to rinse out small concentrations of gold and other precious metals from mining waste. The company which owns the dam and the processing facility, Aural, is a joint venture between the Romanian government, the Australian-based mining company, Esmeralda Explorations, and a few small private investors.*

Last January, a gold mine in Romania was flooded, releasing deadly amounts of cyanide into the nearby rivers, killing them. We heard about it in small news articles—a tiny blip on the radar of our daily lives. I heard about this tragedy in one of my classes; since I am an environment major, I was one of the lucky few to hear of the passing of these rivers. I asked around, wondering what other people thought. No one I talked to had any opinion because they hadn't heard about the catastrophe. In fact, the only person I talked to who knew of this was a Hungarian who worried that his mother might hear about it and grieve over the passing of a part of her childhood. It seemed that the only people who were truly upset were the people who lived there. They grieved the passing of the river that they called the Tisza, or Blonde River, because of its sandy bottom. Fittingly, they mourned it the way they would a drowning victim, with candles, and the dropping of flower petals in the water.

Whole ecosystems, endangered species and a plan for a protected area died with that river. A fishing culture passed with the poisoning of the

fish, which are thousands of times more sensitive to cyanide than humans. The irony here is that a part of our planet, the river, which has existed for thousands of years ended—and we barely noticed its passing. The end of an important part of an ecosystem and a culture's history should be marked with great heartache. When we casually accept the destruction of such an important part of nature, we demonstrate our callousness toward our own planet. This is the dangerous thinking which has already led us to a world where species become extinct daily, our ozone layer frays, our rainforests disintegrate, our air is fouled and our water is poisoned. A reality where more and more crises threaten our planet every day. Last year, I decided, in my own small way, to mourn the death of the Tisza, and indirectly, the deaths of the other rivers and our Earth. A year has passed and still the river cannot reclaim its life. Many years will pass before the Tisza will be restored to its old glory.

## EULOGY TO A RIVER

She was an angel and a devil; she gave life and took it. She flowed for thousands of years, sharing long moments of sweetness, raging in her power and sighing slowly against her shores, leaving her kisses on the pebbles. Her footsteps echoed timelessly through the hills, as she poured vibrantly, eagerly across valleys and down hills. She gave birth to the big, gentle fish that swam, flashing through her sand-gilded depths. The Blonde River slid past us, singing of history, hers, ours, and those of her children. She breathed life. Sleek otters danced in her waves, overlooked by stiff-necked proud birds, cattails in her marshes waved at the dragonflies sparkling in the air. Small things crept and swam quietly, carefully, all over her swift body, clinging to stones and skipping along her surface, living out their lives in her enduring



*The Tisza River in Romania—A monument, a piece of life, a gift womb. A delicate, dangerous woman, she watched lovers by her shores. She caught small children and grown men and women to her demanding bosom. She fed us. She carried us and killed us. She watched our stories of love, war, death and birth. She witnessed our best and our worst, and made no comment. She told many stories of her own, as she glided, sometimes roared, past her banks. She was terrible in her anger and beautiful in her love. She gave freely of her children, and watched us grow. She was a thing of beauty, a wild and free movement of life that graced the land as she danced past in her glory.*

She was a river. A monument, a piece of life, a gift. Now she sings no more—cyanide courses through her veins. Petals drift slowly down her stiff ripples, candles flicker sadly off of her sullen surface as mourners drop their grief into her glassy depths. Her waves splash in rigor mortis—her very cells dead. Her waters gleam white from the bellies of dead fish, and the last of Hungary's osprey cry with the pain of poisoning. Fisherman gasp hopelessly as they watch their livelihood stretch out dead along the shores, weeping bitter salt tears for the dead golden-haired maiden who can no longer share her stories with them.

For more information, contact the US European Environmental Foundation, 6723 48th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98136; Betsy@USEuroFoundation.org.

## SPINY LOBSTERS, CONSERVATION PROGRAMS AND PISSED-OFF FISHERMEN IN THE GALAPAGOS

BY PAOLA DIAZ

*Editor's Note: The Sea Shepherd patrol vessel Sirenian set sail for the Galapagos Islands off the coast of Ecuador on November 24 in response to the following plea.*

*"To provide the knowledge and support to ensure the conservation of the environment and biodiversity of the archipelago of Galapagos, through scientific research and complementary actions."*

—MISSION STATEMENT OF THE CHARLES DARWIN FOUNDATION

Since 1996 the Charles Darwin Research Station has carried out detailed monitoring of the spiny lobster catch in the Galapagos and has been a member of the Participatory Management Group (PMG)—consisting of representatives from the fishery, tourism and conservation sectors—since its creation in 1997.

For the 2000 fishing season, with minimal data, PMG agreed on a quota of 50 tons of lobster, on the basis that the catch has fluctuated around this level for many years without putting the resource in danger, although on a number of occasions it was considered that lobster were being overexploited. Moreover it was agreed that catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE), calculated as the daily amount of lobster taken by a fisherman, would be reassessed during the fishing season to consider an increase in the quota. On that basis the fishery season was opened on September 1 and closed when it reached the 50 ton quota on October 31.

Thus, whilst in 1999, 500 fishermen (including divers and crew) participated in the fishery and 54 tons of lobster were caught in four months, in 2000 the fishermen caught 54 tons in only two months. However, in San Cristobal the fishery cooperative allowed new fishermen and boats to participate this year (including 486 divers), nearly double the number of fishermen from last year. When the quota was reached well before the determined date, it was obvious that the large increase in the number of fishermen enabled the quota to be reached in a much shorter time.

The PMG met again on November 7. After analyzing the available data of the lobster fishery, they proposed an increase in the lobster quota. This was unacceptable to the fishery sector, which rejected any attempt at negotiation, their sole demand being to continue fishing until December 31, regardless of the amount taken.

Following these events, the situation in the Galapagos be-

came more volatile, with each of the three main inhabited islands experiencing different violent and confrontational incidents, as detailed below:

Isabela: On November 13, the offices of the national park, the Charles Darwin Research Station and of SICGAL on Isabela were occupied by demonstrators, as was the tortoise breeding centre, from which some baby tortoises were removed by the fishermen. In addition, the municipality buildings were occupied.

Since then, the offices of the national park and the station have been vandalized and everything in

them destroyed and the station staff threatened. The municipal library was also destroyed. The head of the national park offices on Isabela, along with two of the staff, was rescued by navy special forces and arrived in Santa Cruz in the early hours of November 17; the others arrived in the afternoon the same day. The house of the head of the park has also been vandalized, his family's belongings have been taken and his house totally wrecked.

San Cristobal: Also on November 13, the offices of the Charles Darwin Research Station in San Cristobal were closed following blockades on the part of fishermen, who also took over the installations of the park as well as the offices of the interpretation centre. The park and station offices remain closed.

On November 14 groups of fishermen attempted to prevent tourists from landing at visitor sites on San Cristobal and Espanola. Due to action by the navy, they were not able to carry out their intentions, but during these confrontations tear gas was used and two fishermen were wounded.

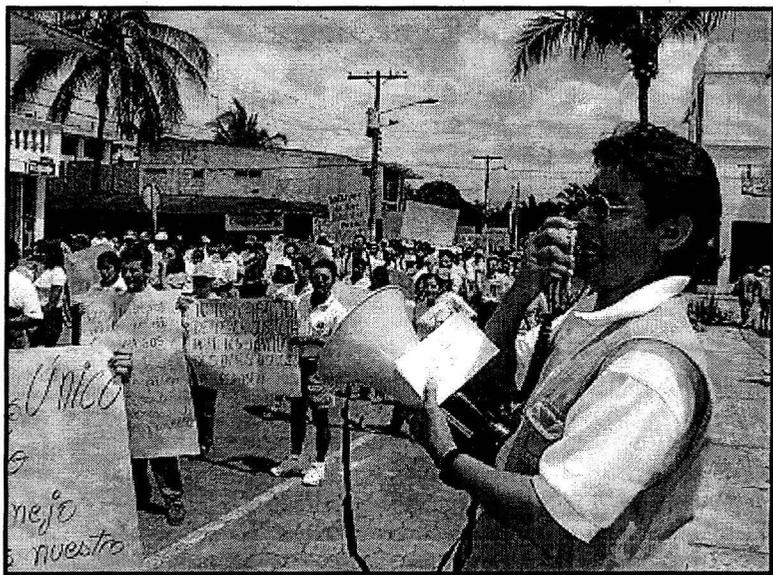
Santa Cruz: On November 13, due to threats, the activities of the Charles Darwin Research Station were disrupted. The national park and Charles Darwin Research Station offices were closed on November 14, with a police guard deployed at the main entrance.

On November 15 the fishermen prevented tourists and local people from using the municipal dock, and fishermen in fast launches chased some tourist boats that left the harbour.

The situation remained thus until November 16, when the offices were reopened following the Santa Cruz fishermen's acceptance of the increased quota and their removal of the blockade.

A peaceful march, organized by the park to reject the vandalism carried out by fishermen on Isabela, was planned for November 17, but was suspended due to threats and a lack of guarantees for the physical security of the participants.

For more information, contact Sea Shepherd International, POB 2616, Friday Harbor, WA 98250; (360)370-5500; www.seashepherd.org; seashepherd@seashepherd.org.



Demonstration against violence in the Galapagos

Photo courtesy Sea Shepherd Conservation Society

# Is Oil Thicker than Blood in Burma?

BY DAVE GILBERT

"We believe that Myanmar will be a better country in the future because of our investment today"

—UNOCAL CORP. WEBSITE, NOVEMBER 2000

On September 7, in a California court room, Judge Ronald Lew cleared Unocal of human rights charges on the Yadana natural gas pipeline, one of America's biggest investments in Burma. Fifteen Burmese villagers had filed the charge after a massive amount of evidence surfaced showing Unocal complicity in forced labor, murder, theft and rape. If anything, this ruling shows who the US legal system is protecting.

Unocal is not alone in owning pipelines in Burma. France's TotalFina, Britain's Premier Oil and Malaysia's Petronas all have major investments in the Yadana and Yetagun projects. They are all working with the military dictatorship and are complicit in the use of force to secure the areas, and build the pipeline and related infrastructure for the pipelines. They are also facing international protests and as a result have spent millions of dollars on public relations to whitewash and greenwash their image.

## What's the problem with investing in Burma?

Burma is ruled by a totalitarian military dictatorship named the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC). The SPDC took power in 1988, massacring an estimated 10,000 people who were peacefully protesting in a mass nationwide democracy uprising that overthrew dictator Ne Win. Elections took place in 1990, around the time that oil multinationals were being attracted to the "undiscovered" oil field in the Andaman Sea. Aung San Suu Kyi's party, the National League for Democracy, won a landslide 82 percent of the vote, but the SPDC refused to honor the result. The SPDC is responsible for mass crimes against the people of Burma and makes much of its money through heroin production. Many ethnic groups and students in the border areas are fighting a guerrilla war to overthrow the dictatorship. In Burma, any student unions and trade unions engaged in political organizing are declared illegal and are subject to harsh prison sentences. The SPDC rule by force. To stay in power it needs a huge military. Foreign investment has provided the SPDC with revenue for arms enabling it to further expand its 500,000 person military.

"Destructive Engagement," a report by Earth Rights, notes that, "since 1988, the oil and gas sector has provided by far the largest amount of foreign direct investment for the military regime." It is also the least accountable sector. Debbie Stothard of the organization Alternative ASEAN Network for Burma notes that forced labor, forced relocation and military terrorism, as well as rape, execution and confiscation of property are typical practices for clearing an area to lay down a pipeline

## The Yadana Pipeline

The Yadana Pipeline is the largest investment in Burma. It is a partnership between Unocal, TotalFina and the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTTO). The pipeline runs 346 kilometers from

the gas field to the coast, then 63 kilometers across Burma to the Thai border. It provides the regime with an estimated \$400 million annually, according to a report by the All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF).

The area where the pipeline passes through Burma belongs to the indigenous Karen, who have been fighting a guerrilla war for a monumental 52 years. To secure the area, there was a rapid militarization and a brutal campaign to wipe out all insurgents. After all, guerrilla war is bad for business. This campaign involved the forced relocation of indigenous villages to isolate the guerrillas from food, intelligence, supplies and recruits.

One of the most widespread abuses

the gas resource development project."

One of the major allegations against Unocal in the California court case was the use of forced labor on the pipeline. People who worked on the pipeline told Earth Rights International that the Englishmen (a name the Karen use for white foreigners) were aware of what was going on. A 15-year-old girl interviewed by Earth Rights said: "I had to clear bushes and other things. While we were working, there were two English guys watching us. On the first two days the English came and gave us 200 kyat (about \$1.50) for a day. On the third day the soldiers came back again and said, 'Your work yesterday was not good enough.' We didn't see any English, and we didn't get paid."

present in Burma whose activities have public recognition. In a more general manner, I believe that everything that serves to associate your group's name with practical activities aimed at bettering the living conditions of the people of Burma, can only be favorable to the permanence of your investments." This letter is significant in highlighting the level of government complicity with the petrochemical industry's involvement in Burma. Perhaps the French foreign minister should be reminded he isn't a PR consultant. It is also important to note the suggestion to support NGOs working inside Burma. The Burmese democracy movement has called on foreign NGOs to stay out of Burma, as there is no freedom to work and NGO activity will only end up colluding and profiting the SPDC.

## The protests

Protests against the Yadana Pipeline and petrochemical investments in Burma have been taking place throughout the world.

Direct action on the site has been extremely difficult due to the huge military presence in the region. The guerrilla group Karen National Union has been working to sabotage the pipeline. In Thailand, local people have protested at the site, which cut through remaining old-growth teak forest.

Around the world, corporate meetings have been disrupted, and shareholders have joined protests accusing executives of human rights violations and environmental destruction. Legal action has also been threatened against Premier Oil in the UK.

Burma's democratic government in exile, Aung San Suu Kyi and numerous organizations within the Burma democracy movement have clearly stated their opposition to any foreign investment and have asked Unocal, TotalFina, Premier and other corporations to leave.

The International Labor Organization is also planning to implement widespread sanctions against Burma for the SPDC's use of forced labor. This will be voted on during their meeting on November 30.

It is sad that as usual, profits are coming before people. Corporations that play a significant role propping up the SPDC aren't listening to the majority of peoples. Once there is democracy in Burma, which is inevitable, the world will be forced to look at the blood on the petrochemical industries hands.

For more information, contact All Burma Students' Democratic Front, POB 42, Hua Mark PO, Bangkok, 10243, Thailand; caroline@ksc15.th.com.



Karen villagers are thought to have migrated to Burma from near the Gobi Desert.

connected to the pipeline is forced labor. Use of forced labor has been documented in connection to the pipeline itself, as well as to a road and railway line, which have been built to provide easy access to the pipeline. One of the forced laborers was interviewed for the ABSDF report. "I was 13 years old when I went to work at the 42-mile labor camp. The village [officials] knew my age, but they did not say anything. Among the 15 laborers from my village, five were my friends and were as young as me."

## Corporate hypocrisy, denial and public relations

Quoted in the ABSDF report "Terror in the South," Unocal President John Imle blamed opponents of the pipeline for the military's transgressions in the region. "Let's be reasonable about this," he told a group of human rights activists. "What I'm saying is that if you threaten the pipeline, there's going to be more military. If forced labor goes hand-in-glove with the military, yes, there will be more forced labor."

To add to Unocal's hypocrisy, the corporation continues to deny the forced relocation of villages to make way for the pipeline. In 1997, Unocal's webpage stated that "no villages in the vicinity of the pipeline route have been relocated for the benefit of this project. Unocal would oppose any such relocations." However, a half page advertisement placed in the *Bangkok Post* on April 17, 1995, by the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand stated that "Myanmar has recently cleared the way by relocating a total of 11 villages that would otherwise obstruct the passage of

There is also evidence that TotalFina and Unocal gave money directly to the SPDC for their own security. Battalions around the pipeline were called "the Total battalions" by villagers because their primary aim was protection of the pipeline from ethnic insurgents.

An interview with a deserter from the pipeline further solidifies evidence of Unocal and TotalFina's involvement in human rights abuses. He is from Battalion No. 410, a Total battalion. "I did everything during my period of service, from press-ganging to guarding the forced laborers on the site, as well as actually guarding the pipeline. We often carried boxes of ammunition and baskets of grenades in Total's helicopters; one simply had to ask and they would send us a chopper." He then enumerated the Burmese Army's standard practices around the pipeline-site, sometimes under the eye of foreign employees: mass arrests, seizure of property, displacement of population and destruction of villages.

In April 2000, TotalFina executives received a letter from the French foreign minister regarding the Yadana Pipeline. This was at a time when Premier Oil was facing criticism from activists as well as the British government, who in an unprecedented move requested that Premier end its investment. The letter read, "In these circumstances, I think that your group should continue to practice a policy of frankness and should intensify yet more [TotalFina's] public relations with regard to its activities in Burma. It would seem to me equally interesting, for example, that initiatives be taken by your group to support non-governmental organizations (NGOs)



# ELAHO FOREST DEFENSE: THE BATTLE CONTINUES

BY MOAT MOUSE

Snow will soon come to the Elaho and the Squamish Valley. Mauled salmon carcasses spot the riverside as the grizzly bears put on winter fat and build dens inside millennial red cedars. So far this year, 31 people have been arrested. Fourteen others, arrested in 1999, were given the longest jail sentences for forest blockade actions in Canadian history. Winter has come, but the movement to defend the land will never cease until the animals are safe and the forests protected.

The Elaho, in British Columbia, Canada, has become the focus of a determined campaign to protect not only frontline grizzly habitat and 1300-year-old Douglas fir giants, but the entire temperate rainforest ecosystem. The fight in BC is not just about fragments of trees, the struggle here is to protect living wilderness—big wilderness.

The Elaho Valley is unceded Squamish and Lil'Wat territory. Ninety-seven percent of BC has never been ceded by the Natives to the government. No treaties have been signed, no bargains have been made. Despite this the government continues to hand Native lands away to multinational logging companies to liquidate and transform into tree farms. The land and the trees are stolen, with no recognition of Native title to these lands.

Each year the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) is roughly 80 million cubic meters. In this hemisphere, the rate of deforestation of old growth in British Columbia is second only to Brazil. The forest industry is lobbying the provincial government to increase the cut to 100 million cubic meters of wood per year (note for Yanks—one cubic meter = 220 board feet; 100 million cubic meters is 22 billion board feet).

Through the abolition of the corporate controlled land tenure system, the restoration of Native sovereignty and the institution of community controlled forestry, different mechanisms of a sustainable economy can be built, without communities being held hostage to a global order controlled by forestry multinationals. The Elaho is a place where people are taking a stand using about every tool in the box. We must defend the wild; an attack on part of the web of life is an attack on all and here there is a web of life still to defend.

Direct action in the Elaho began in 1997. The first arrest for treesitting was in August 1999. Since that time, the struggle has been continuous. The Elaho has been called the most controversial environmental campaign in Canada. Government and company tactics have included a six-week logger blockade of the road into the valley; the declaration of a "green free zone," meaning businesses in the town of Squamish would not serve people perceived as environmentalists; and the declaration of Operation

Defend to protect "all of BC's working communities against the global eco-elite." Other International Forest Products (Interfor) tactics included three separate mob attacks of nonviolent protesters by employees with the covert assistance of management and active police collusion. In each case, intense verbal threats and abuse were enforced with physical attacks. The infamous September 15, 1999 melee (see *EF!* December/January 1999) saw over 80 Interfor employees assault nine nonviolent protesters, hospitalizing three and completely destroying the camp. Public reaction to this attack was so strong that the police were forced to actually lay five charges of assault. Those charges will be heard in Squamish court in December.

This year the resistance began on May 15, as Betty Krawczyk, a 72-year-old great grandmother, and Suzanne Jackson blockaded Interfor's access road to the Elaho. This was Betty's second arrest, after single handedly blockading Interfor last year for three days. She is currently spending one year in jail.



"Big Brown" blockading Lava Creek bridge, July 26. Under the truck is a 30 ft. piece of one-inch metal tubing. Three prussik lines run through the tube then vertically up 150' on both sides of the bridge, loop over branches and suspend two platforms occupied by two people each.

On June 5, Herb climbed into the first tripod in the Elaho Valley. For one day, Herb remained strong in his defense of the land until the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) brought in a big machine, threatening to take him down in a dangerous way. Herb is now being independently prosecuted for criminal contempt of court with Interfor as the prosecutor. The day after the arrest, an injunction making blockading Interfor operations a criminal act was dismissed when the Supreme Court judge declared that Interfor had "dirty hands" because of the attack last year.

After the injunction was thrown out, the Elaho Wildcrafters Cooperative immediately began working in the Upper Elaho Valley. Each morning a small

crew of dedicated wildcrafters and active hikers walked around the cutblocks collecting medicinal and edible plants. Because of their proximity to the Interfor fallers, the loggers couldn't work. After a couple of weeks, the loggers stopped showing up for work.

On July 25, Interfor was awarded a new injunction by the court. That same morning four individuals climbed into two trees in the Upper Elaho. Their two trees were connected together by three prussik lines going down to a truck blockading the Lava Creek Bridge below. For nine days they remained up the tree, even after the RCMP almost killed them by cutting the support lines holding the platforms.

The four sitters, known as Artemis, now face five criminal charges each. Bud Mercer, the RCMP inspector who cut the support lines, was charged with four counts of aggravated assault after an independent criminal case was brought against him by one of the sitters.

Captain Jaybird took to his perch August 26, 40 feet up a tripod. The blockade lasted the day—with the RCMP driving an excavator into the tripod to shake up the Captain. A police sweep of the area caught 17 people. Charges for 15 of the people were thrown out and they are now suing for false arrest. One individual was sent to jail until his trial for breaking a release form he had signed last fall.

Tripod Todd was arrested October 23. Kudos to a hard-core crew who did not back down. Interfor has 24-hour security patrolling the roads in

the valley. Unfortunately a security crew was able to dismantle road blockades and surprise the action while the tripod was still on the ground. Although the majority of the plan was abandoned, fiery, hooded wood elves came out of the dark and chased the bad security men into their truck and kept on the action. The elves whipped tarps over the windows of the truck, and with some banging and shaking, hooting and hollering, kept the rent-a-cops, nonviolently, in their place.

Outside the scope of public civil disobedience organized by the Friends of the Elaho, there are several other groups working above and underground. It is claimed that several hundred trees in the Upper Elaho were spiked in May by the Lorax. There have also been many unclaimed incidents of bridge spiking and serious machine damage. On November 30, The Monkey Wrench Gang claimed responsibility for crippling a huge generator with abrasives. Over the last year, monkeywrenching has cost Interfor over \$1.5 million in equipment, security and legal costs.

In the Elaho, there is continuing resistance to the capitalist model of industrial forestry that seeks to exploit forests, animals and people to make short term profits for corporate shareholders. The camp has been taken down this year, but next spring when the snow melts in the rainforest, people will be back and standing up for some of the last remaining wilderness. Over the winter, city actions will be happening in Vancouver and other communities in BC. The network of resistance is growing, as people and communities work to defend wilderness and native lands.

For more information, contact Friends of the Elaho, 1895 Commercial Drive, #17, Vancouver, BC V5N 4A6; (604)255-4145; elaho@tao.ca, or Elaho EF! at earth\_first@ziplip.com.



The upper Elaho Valley

photo courtesy of Friends of the Elaho

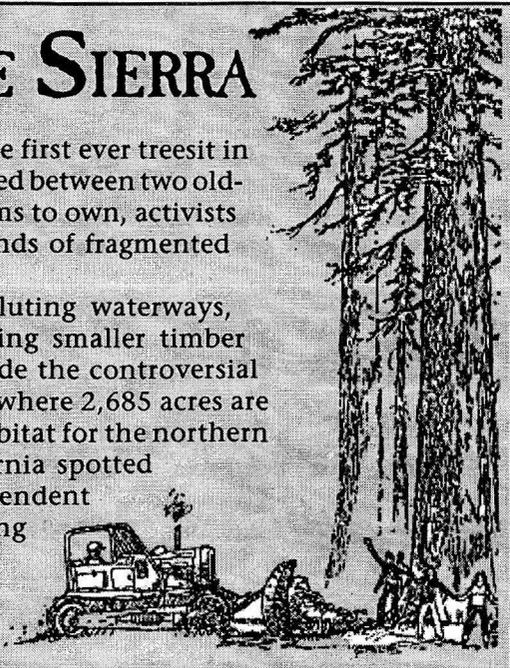
photo courtesy of Friends of the Elaho

## TREESIT PREMIER IN THE SIERRA

In the early hours of September 26 Yuba Nation erected the first ever treesit in California's High Sierra at 6,500 feet. For seven days, suspended between two old-growth sugar pines on property Sierra Pacific Industries claims to own, activists perched atop the canopy of one of the few remaining islands of fragmented habitat left on the heavily impacted timber harvest plan.

Citing the corporation with timber theft, bribery, polluting waterways, numerous Forest Practice Rules violations and endangering smaller timber operations and mill owners, Yuba Nation took action inside the controversial Marsh Mill THP. Located north of Graniteville, California, where 2,685 acres are slated to be aggressively cut, the threatened area is prime habitat for the northern goshawk, Pacific fisher, California red-legged frog, California spotted owl and American marten. Virtually all old-growth dependent mammals, raptors and amphibians are known to be suffering population declines.

On day seven, local sheriffs were able to dismantle the sit. Allegedly, logging of the unit has been nullified until spring.





# Fire In The Eyes



## revolution & chemical weapons

### The Toxic Effects of Capitalism

Living in a disconnected world of asphalt and money brings on a suffocating feeling in the chest. A burning chemical taste at the back of the throat. The ceaseless grind of the wheels of "progress" is a shot of pepper spray to the face. In the blindness, a fire in our eyes, we see quite clearly what has to crumble and change.

In the following articles and pages, you'll find discussion and information about resistance to pepper spray, tear gas, and other chemical agents. The main focus is how law enforcement uses chemical weapons to stifle rebellion and crush dissent and what we can do about it. We try to cradle this particular issue in the larger picture of police-state repression on the whole and money as its driving force. We also have tried to put social struggle in direct connection with fighting to protect the land. It goes hand in hand, in our eyes and hearts.

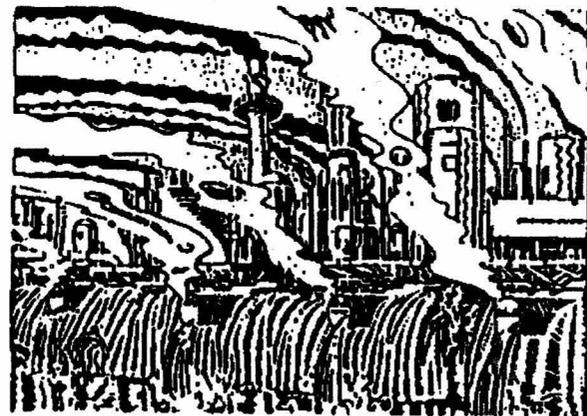
Take a look at a law enforcement catalogue sometime, if you can get your hands on one. Hilarious, and quite frightening, the insidious toys you'll find in those pages. Restraint chairs, rubber bullets and bean-bags, paint-sprayers to later catch the painted people, all sorts of chemical pain-inflictors, telescoping ball-bearing batons, guns. Incidentally, you'll also find interesting things like the spring-loaded "window breaker" tool, the handy seat belt cutter, and a chemical antidote to pepper spray.

It makes sense and is to be expected that they've got all this, and more. And that they will use it, more and more. It will be a bit of an indication of how far we go in our struggle, the more we face in the streets and in the woods. With a range of tactics and tools available to us, from self-defense to civil suits, it's important to be versatile and open-minded. It's also important to step out of our comfort zones, remembering that in the US, people generally face little compared to many other less-televised frontlines in unspoken countries.

Along Louisiana's industrial corridor between Baton Rouge and New Orleans, forty-one thousand residents are exposed to 3.5 million tons of toxic landfill. Every person in the US, roughly 250 million, is exposed to 2.6 billion pounds of pesticides each year. Americanism spreads over indigenous culture more each day. The rare wolves of northern Greece are disappearing. Fish have started getting sunburns. Planes fly low over the woods and cover the forest landscape with herbicides. The unseen, slow, media-ated murder is done by the three-piece suit, the profit-margin, the Dow Jones.

We went one day and sat down, stood up, braved it and took it without flinching, ran, fought back, sang out, set up camp. We got fed up, we acted on the instinctual, and we got gassed and pepper-sprayed. Just like with the land, the plane flew over us and dropped its fine cancer mist. What they didn't bargain for is that we laughed at the sky and got even angrier.

### IN A WORLD INCREASINGLY TOXIC



### WE ARE ALL IMMUNE DEFICIENT

### A Short and Sordid History of Pepper Spray

Dating back at least to ancient China, we can find the fiery lil' red chili pepper's stinging bite used not only as a zesty spice to a meal, but also as a weapon. The Chinese put ground cayenne in rice paper and flung it in the face of their opponents, and Japanese ninjas used ground pepper to disable opponents as well. During Japan's Tokugawa Empire, police used the "metsubishi," a box used to blow pepper into the eyes, as an instrument of political torture against the dispossessed.

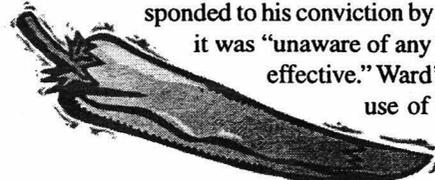
Chloroacetophenone (CN) gas, or tear gas, was first created in 1870 in Germany. Ironically, during World War 1, CN gas was used against the Germans. CS came out in the 1950s and was named for the two scientists that created it, Corson and Stoughton. Orthochlorobenzamalonitrile is the actual compound name. Like CN, CS is a white crystalline powder that is heated and exploded as gas. The end of 1999 saw a modernized CN used by the Seattle Police during the epic WTO (World Trade Organization) protests.

Today in the United States, chilis are processed, mixed with du Pont™ emulsifier, and sprayed at people of all sorts, but particularly folks that usually get the brunt of America's police state: youth, people of color, those lacking capital, mental institution patients, elderly people in "homes," and political dissidents. Basically, anyone who gets in the way of business as usual.

Pain as a corporate/governmental tool of repression is obviously not a new thing, but the chemical concoctions we find launched, sprayed, and swabbed on us today are dangerous not only for the painful pepper, but also for the distilling solutions, toxic additives, and propellants used. Little, if any, real research has been done on the long-term effects of chemical agents, and there is essentially no regulation. Like genetically engineered foods, toxic waste, and other abominable corporate state schemes, chemical weapons are an unknown and we, and the Earth, are the experiment.

Pepper spray in particular stands out as the newest and least-researched of the bunch. Also known as oleoresin of capsicum (OC) spray, pepper spray was originally introduced in the US in the 1980s by the Postal Service as a dog repellent. It was also used on bears and other animals. The FBI endorsed it as an "official chemical agent" in 1987 but it wasn't until 1991 that more than 3,000 local law enforcement agencies added it to their arsenals. This surge of interest hinged on a widely circulated and influential study by FBI special agent Thomas Ward. As the FBI's chief expert on OC, Ward peddled the painful stuff like he was in a state of police-state-hallelujah.

On February 12, 1996, we find Thomas Ward pleading guilty to a single count felony for accepting a \$57,500 "kickback" from the manufacturers of Cap-Stun brand pepper spray. The second-largest company in the growing pepper spray industry, Cap-Stun also happened to be owned by Ward's very own wife, and, coincidentally, was the exact brand recommended by Ward as far back as the mid-'80s. Initially facing a \$250,000 fine and five years in prison, Ward got off with two months in prison and three years probation. The FBI responded to his conviction by proclaiming it would continue using Cap-Stun since it was "unaware of any basis for finding that pepper spray is not... safe and effective." Ward's corrupt study is still cited today as justification for use of OC. Yet in Ottawa, Ontario; Berkeley, California; and Tucson, Arizona; police departments have chosen



continued inside

### PEACE SIGNS AND MOLOTOVS From Humboldt County to Prague

Discussions on pepper spray have thoroughly covered the chemical's use on nonviolent activists. However all facets of the pepper spray issue, and the broader issue of politically motivated state violence, need to be reflected on. The inspiring and violently combative protests in Prague at the World Bank/International Monetary Fund meeting gave me much to think about.

I found my way into activism through nonviolent civil disobedience and direct action with Earth First!. This was the most thought-provoking, rapidly-evolving time of my young teenage years. The ancient redwoods of my Northern California bioregion demanded my all in their defense. I answered by trespass-hiking like crazy, tree-sitting and lock-down blockading, pick-axing up the logging roads, and learning guitar and all the eco-folk songs I could get my hands on. At this time I also helped out on several Oregon public lands campaigns and gained a lot from the differences between California's larger mass-organizing and the Do-It-Yourself, small-'n'-rowdy affinity group structure of Oregon.

Our EF! group in California had a "nonviolence code," along with a no-property-sabotage commitment. People who traveled to our area to help on the campaign were asked to respect local strategy and follow the nonviolence code.

On a personal-choice level, I felt during this time both strategical and ethical about being nonviolent, because it was tangibly different and disarming to all the violence I saw around me in our world. I thought it was important to feel and acknowledge anger, but I explored expressing it in, for the most part, nonviolent ways.

Let me say now that I don't feel there is any way to be completely nonviolent or violent. Both are in us. We're animals in a complex world, when it comes down to it.

Back then I didn't think property destruction was violent, but I felt it was threatening to a possible alliance with the workers and mainstream local people, and I was passionate about trying for that unity, especially because it seemed surprisingly attainable.

With a couple friends, I started a regular practice of visiting the lumber company town nearby. On the same day each week, one of us often wearing an EF! shirt, we set up a table in front of the mill and the post office and we started listening. Seven months later I knew a lot more about the highly questionable nature of relating to everyone as a condescending career activist who exudes "I'm an expert in protest." I found out there was actually sabotage going on in Humboldt County—not by EF!ers, but carried out by the millworkers themselves. A few workers quit their jobs during our time tabling there, and a couple spoke out for the salmon and the forest in a truly beautiful effort.

Before I started tabling in this company town, I had been swabbed in my eyes with a Q-tip dipped in liquid pepper spray during a peaceful lock-down protest. That day of the action, I held rigid and tried to keep them from wrenching my head back, but I didn't really try very

continued inside



# History of Pepper Spray, cont....

sen to stop using pepper spray due to the controversy (and costly lawsuits) it brings with it.

Pepper spray use continues to be debated, and the skepticism about this unpredictable weapon is growing. As we enter into the 21st century, chemical weapons are used more and more by the police, as yet another tool to protect corporate profit and the status quo. There have been an increasing number of pepper spray incidents at protests, often with nonviolent demonstrators being doused in the caustic chemical. In countless, outrageous circumstances, OC spray is often used in a discriminatory way on low-income people of color.

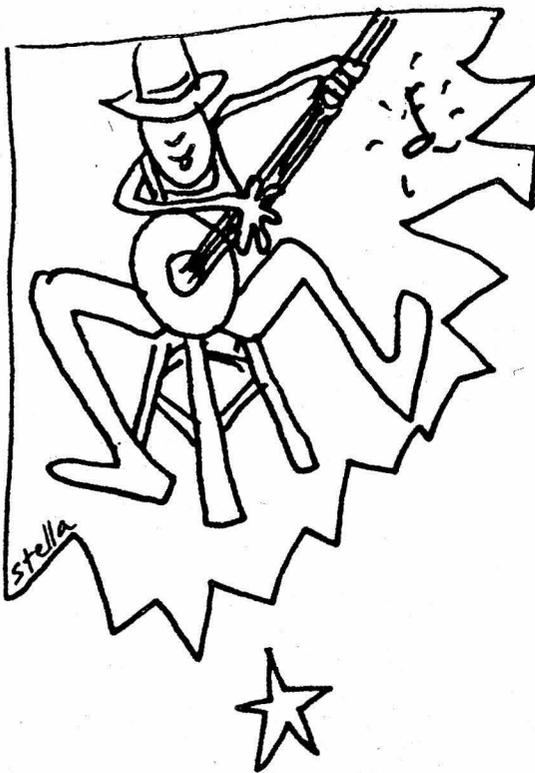
Since the early '90s, 100 people have died nationwide after being pepper-sprayed by police officers. Especially when restrained, people have suffocated or their hearts have stopped beating. In regard to long-term risk, the US Army has reported in internal documents that pepper gases and sprays are carcinogenic and mutagenic. Pepper spray incidents have also shown it to be fairly ineffective at subduing combative people, instead making the recipients more angry.

On top of all this, OC falls through the cracks of FDA (Food and Drug Administration) regulation by not being a "food" or a "drug." The US Consumer Product Safety Commission, which oversees household products like toys and toasters, requires pepper spray to carry the same kind of warning label used for all possibly hazardous products, but that's the extent of its regulation. This required warning label ironically reads: "Warning: irritant, avoid contact with eyes." For those who want to know what's in these chemical agents, "material safety data sheets" can sometimes be obtained (this is where you'll find things listed like Dupont emulsifier).

However, OC is finally starting to be looked at with a critical eye and many groups are working to have it banned. Convicted FBI agent Ward's promise was that it is "100% effective." A recent Berkeley Police Review Commission study found OC to not only be a "serious" health risk, but also ineffective at stopping an attack 53%-63% of the time. This study led to Berkeley banning it.

In May of this year, a pivotal Appeals Court Decision was won by activists sprayed and Q-tip-swabbed with pepper liquid while protesting the logging of ancient redwood trees. The win gets the activists another jury trial (the first was split 4-4) and holds the top officers personally liable.

Additionally, and this is more important than any study or verdict, people are hanging together and staying strong despite ever-increasing police brutality. With civil rights suits, demonstrations, sneaky antics and sass, and through the act of community itself, we are nurturing self-survival and a healthy distrust of the cops.



*"Many people say it is insane to resist the system, but actually, it is insane not to."*

—MUMIA  
ABU-JAMAL



*A protestor being doused with pepper spray during an action in Eugene, Oregon, on June 1, 1997, to stop some illegal tree cutting. This man held up a "peace sign" and was rewarded with 7 cans of spray directly in his face and on his hands. The civil suits of a few of the protestors from June 1st will finally be in court in the early part of 2001.*

*A video image, seen 'round the world, from the Headwaters Forest Q-tip pepper-swabbings. Activists' recent court victory sends them back to jury trial soon.*



# Private Property

(Dm)Out in the forest, there's (C)no place left to (Dm)hide  
From road-building and clearcuts, Na(C)palm & herbi(Dm)cides  
Our watersheds are poisoned, and (C)still they broker (Dm)trees  
All in the name of (C)Private Property(Dm)  
Water (C)is not proper(Dm)ty-(Em)ee-eee  
(Am)And so we enter  
(Em)Pray in a circle and a (Am)stump is in the center  
(Em)We're here to stop the (Am)destruction in the forest  
(Em)We understand that we face (Am)violent (C)conse(Dm)quences(C-Dm, Dm-C-Dm)

*Out in the forest and in the city streets  
People behind badges have guns to keep the peace  
Servers, protectors, is what they're supposed to be  
But the violence that they serve protects Private Property  
And those who have the money-ee-eee  
And proud they stand  
Their weapons given them by those who own the land  
Landlords, their masters, and when we cross the line  
Police no longer serve us if we do not move in time*

*Some say the government is the place to make your claim (YUCK!)  
Sworn to represent us in Democracy's name  
But what happens when they're bought out by those they oversee  
Bought out by the profits made on private property  
Jam: (Dm--C-Dm-Em)  
And so we enter  
Lock in a circle and a stump is in the center  
We're here to stop the destruction in the forest  
Nonviolent warriors face violent consequences*

*Police said, "Release, and you have ten seconds,  
And if you don't then you're gonna learn a lesson."  
The officer held her head between his knees  
And pepper-sprayed her in the name of peace  
On Private Property-ee-eee  
And she is strong  
She tells him calmly, 'you know that this is wrong'  
He offers some water for her eyes  
She cannot trust him when his badge is just a lie*

*And so we honor the brave who came before  
Those who brought the forest's voice to the corporate door  
(Dm)And we remember that po(C)lice brutali(Dm)ty  
Is (Dm)just another consequence of (C)Private (Dm)Property  
(Dm)Po(C)lice brutali(Dm)ty  
Is (Dm)just another consequence of (C)Private (Dm)Property  
(Dm)All of (C)this brutali(Dm)ty  
Is (Dm)just another consequence of (C)Private (Dm)Property  
(Dm)Po(C)lice brutali(Dm)ty —  
(Dm)Sworn to pro(C)tect Private Proper(Dm)ty(Dm w/index finger lifted)*

—Toru

# TIME LINE SOME RECENT POLICE USE OF

## TIME LINE

(AS IF TIME WAS LINEAR)

July 1995: Fortuna, CA—Earth First! action against the California Department of Forestry (CDF) to protest clearcutting of redwoods. People get sprayed for blocking Fortuna police vehicles filled with arrestees.

? Late 1996?: New England—An office sit-in protest of the plutonium-powered space shuttle "Cassini" results in police overreacting and using OC.

Sept.-Oct. 1997: Humboldt County, CA—The first known use of "Q-tip" cotton swabs to swab pepper spray directly into the eyes. The nonviolent activists were locked-down (immobilized with metal locking devices) to halt the logging of Headwaters forest.

Nov. 25, 1997: Plymouth, MA—Anti-Thanksgiving march of Native Americans, including elders, pepper-sprayed by local police.

May 16, 1998: International day to Reclaim the Streets; at least 27 actions in 20 countries. Chemical weapons were deployed in many cities including Belfeld, Germany, and Geneva, Switzerland.

Oct. 10, 1998: Humboldt County, CA—Humboldt county sheriffs start pepper spraying again in two incidents at a blockade to the site of the recent murder of an activist named David Gypsy Chain.

Sept. 1996: Humboldt County, CA—A sheriff on top of logging equipment beats and sprays an activist sitting high in a tripod structure blocking a logging road.

June 1, 1997: Eugene, OR—Protesters brutalized and soaked in pepper spray while defending downtown trees to be cut for a parking garage. Tear gas canisters were thrown at rioters and spectators.

Nov. 19-25, 1997: Vancouver, BC, Canada—Protest against the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation tear gassed and doused much pepper spray. Dozens beaten, arrested and strip-searched.

Feb. 16, 1998: Burlington, VT—At a protest against the looming war in Iraq, an activist crawled under a police car filled with arrested demonstrators and was maced at close range.

Sept. 11, 1998: Decatur, IL—Day care center students and parents picking their kids up from school get sprayed by local police. One officer said a parent looked like a robbery suspect.

Dec. 20, 1998: Minneapolis, MN—An urban land occupation by Earth First! and the American Indian Movement to stop the building of a road through a native sacred site gets evicted by over 600 officers. Huge amounts of pepper spray and tear gas are deployed.

## PEACE SIGNS AND MOLOTOVS, cont...

hard to stop them, and so they seared my vision with OC. They put a substance in my eyes that I later learned, and intuitively felt that day, to be severely painful and damaging, carcinogenic, and mutagenic. I have much healing to do still.

We were told to leave or be sprayed, but there was no way in hell I would just get up and walk out. At the moment of the swabbing, the action became something more because we had pushed them to this ludicrous act, showing what they were capable of. But did we want to subject ourselves to what they were capable of? Yes, I thought, for the slightly naive but nonetheless passionate idea that I would protect people in the future by trying to showing the cops that this wouldn't work on people. That's important. I also felt for my own personal process of deepening commitment to revolution, I needed to feel pain and not run from it; to know if I could handle it outside my "comfort zone." I thought it would be a good way to get through the fear.

The media spectacle spun us dizzy. People were incredibly outraged. I feared the video of us getting pepper-sprayed became an advertisement for the police, scaring people out of taking action themselves.

Some of my questions were answered when I traveled to the Czech Republic and participated in the international protest there.

As most know, European protest has a much different feel than that of the States. Different fields of struggle shape peoples' tactics. Being flexible to your environment has got to be a good thing and at the same time can be a bad thing, limiting our chances of real uprising and revolution.

On September 26, in Prague's Bohemian streets that were once the site of the "Velvet Revolution," I had the distinct feeling that the day was decidedly not velvet, rather a course practical cloth, strengthened by rips and repairs, and cloth that hopefully wouldn't soak up too much pepper spray.

The thick, raucous protest, clashing directly and intensely with cops and World Bank delegates, was good balance after my passive-resistance to the pepper-swabbing in Humboldt. I was pushing through police lines with a group of folks right off the bat, something we don't often attempt and aren't easily able to do in the US. Not long into the day, the black bloc was not only smashing windows as in Seattle, but wielding sticks as offensive and defensive tools to get at police, break through their lines, and also to guard against the heavy strikes of the police truncheons. It was amazing to see people feral and raging, and even love-filled, depending on how you look at things.

Greek anarchists, along with an eccentric and varied mix of folk from many different cultures, made an especially vibrant show with more flaming molotov cocktails than this girl's ever seen. They scared and scorched the police. That was incredibly violent and wrong, said the media and government, but the police violence is state-sanctioned, so it's okay. So much so that here in the States we have it in our heads that it's an easier thing to accept cops hurting people than deal with each other's differ-

ences on tactics! It could be like, though this will be a stretch for people who feel humans are more feeling than plants, picking an apple off a tree and eating it for survival.

I felt much different in the riotous streets of Prague than I did that day I was sprayed in Humboldt. I also felt if I had not had the experience of sitting there while they sprayed me, I might not be as strong as I am now. Lots of folks ran like chickens with their heads cut off that day, including me, but I knew from my base of work, as I'm sure many did, that I could deal with getting grabbed and hauled away to who knows where for who knows how long.



In fact, I did end up getting grabbed the night of the first day. I was tackled and arrested but I managed to calmly walk away from the arrest. I headed into the shadowed mazes of Prague's streets and met up with my affinity group soon after.

So, when we're talking about resistance to chemical weapons and police brutality, we have to talk about not only medical remedies and emotional preparation, but maybe the possibility that you, unlike me, will choose to avoid getting sprayed. People can learn self-defense or martial arts. If I'm walking down a dark street I want to defend myself if I need to.

People can throw tear gas canisters back at the cops, or at least away from the crowd. Remember to wear gloves—they're burning hot! Getting on the upwind side of the situation is a good idea.

Groups can form a tight pack and rush police lines (with or without sticks, helmets, padded suits, shin guards) to split their forces and intimidate them, and especially to get somewhere you need to go, like a conference center.

Militant, strategic nonviolent action, humor, and "tactical frivolity" all have a powerful place in our tactical toolbox, so does our instinct for self-defense. We need to win. We had better try harder, get along, and not play too many "more militant than thou" games.

The sign of a healthy movement, and a healthy mind, is the ability to be open and to change, and like nearly everyone, I've done my share of changing over the years. I'm nostalgic for my memories and what I've been through. But there are some actions I wouldn't do again, and I blush at old recordings of my raw, wobbly singing. I need to have those tapes played back to me once in awhile. My past is a sometimes awkward but incredibly insightful friend that I can't shake. My time working in defense of the land makes me who I am.

## Take the Cops to Court

When I decided to do civil disobedience, the last thing on my mind was a civil lawsuit. While I am happy that the action was quite righteous and empowering, I wish I had put some thought into the potential for a lawsuit. Now, don't get me wrong, I have no delusion that lawsuits will "save the planet" or "smash the state." Nor do I think that actions should be undertaken just for lawsuits. But large settlements might make the police think twice before they spray/beat you (or someone else) next time.

I believe in revolution AND reform. While we are out in the streets protesting/rioting for our lives, I think it is important to think about what the result of the days actions will be and how we can "continue the action" by dragging the cops and their bosses through expensive legal battles. I am inspired by the story of a man beaten by the police in East St. Louis, Illinois. When he sued the city and won, he bankrupted them and was awarded city hall! Now that kind of ruling will bring about some radical reform.

So, next time you are preparing for a day in the streets, keep in mind a few things:

- Do not wear porous clothing such as wool, cotton, or synthetic fleece. Instead, wear disposable clothing, preferably raingear. If you need to wear heavy clothing for protection, wear a poncho or plastic bag on top.
- Do not tell the police that you think they are "just doing their jobs" and that you have nothing against them personally. Instead, attempt to convince the police that if they spray you, you WILL sue them, personally, and that they have alternatives to torturing you, such as talking to you, quitting their jobs, letting you stay until. Ask them if they enjoy torturing people. Clearly tell the officers that you do not wish to be sprayed, and if they spray you, you will not move/unlock anyway, so they should just save their chemical weapons for some other time.
- Unfortunately getting sprayed with chemicals does not LOOK painful. Photographs of people being sprayed look like they are being misted with houseplant sprayers. So, scream bloody murder every time you get sprayed or they hurt you in any way. Not only does it feel good to scream, but it looks better for the cameras and will help in any potential civil suit that follows.
- Arrange to have lots of videographers and photographers on hand. Get audio too if possible. Make sure to get contact information for all of them, including the bystanders who record the event on their own. Collect the photos/videos and recordings as soon as possible after the action.
- Get someone to keep the time and notes on what is happening when. Count the spray canisters used by which officer and attempt to retrieve one of the spent canisters (along with rubber and wooden bullets, etc.) for evidence later.
- Get descriptions of all the officers and their badge numbers. Keep notes on their behavior along with the time.
- Keep a good list of witnesses and their phone numbers. Get witnesses to write down their entire experience as soon as possible after the action/event.



## CHEMICAL WEAPONS ON ACTIVISTS

May 17, 1999: Victoria, BC, Canada—Peaceful activists are pepper-sprayed outside at their home after a Reclaim the Streets party.

Oct. 22, 1999: Minneapolis, MN—Police pepper spray activists in a march for the national day of action against police brutality.

April 16-17, 2000: Washington, DC—International Monetary Fund (IMF)/World Bank meeting gets disrupted by demonstrators, some are pepper sprayed.

June 18, 2000: Eugene, OR—Protesters brutalized and pepper-sprayed during historic re-enactment of police brutality on June 18, 1999.

July 31-Aug. 3, 2000: Philadelphia, PA—Tear gas and pepper spray are used on people protesting at the Republican National Convention.

Sept. 26, 2000: Prague, Czech Republic: People from all over the world go to Prague for a riotous protest of The World Bank/IMF meeting. Police use tear gas, pepper spray, water cannons and concussion bombs.

Sadly, there have been too many events where chemicals weapons are used on activists to fit on this timeline, plus countless more incidents unseen and unheard. Not only is this a growing list, but the list of pepper spray use during routine police activities is enormous. As of this writing, no deaths have been caused by chemical weapons at protest actions, yet...

June 18, 1999: International day of protest against the globalization of capital; 130 events in 41 countries. Large amounts of chemical weapons were deployed in many cities including Gujarat, Pakistan; Eugene, OR; and London.

Nov. 30, 1999: Seattle, WA—The World Trade Organization meets and their talks crumble as nearly 50,000 people take the streets. Huge use of chemical agents and concussion grenades on everyone in the city, activists and residents alike.

June 4-6, 2000: Windsor, Ontario, Canada—During an Organization of American States meeting, the city council passed a temporary ordinance against wearing masks and hoods. People are pepper-sprayed after hanging a banner on a fence.

July 22-26, 2000: Minneapolis, MN—Hundreds gather for a rowdy show of resistance to the International Society of Animal Genetics conference. Tear gas and pepper spray were used on the crowd and 80 people were arrested.

Aug. 14-17, 2000: Los Angeles, CA—Rubber bullets and pepper spray are used at a protest concert during the Democratic National Convention.

Soon, 2001: Anytown, Any Country—Mace, Agent Orange, nerve gas, herbicides, pesticides, and pepper spray are used on your family at home around the dinner table.



# Medicinal Antidotes from Dr. Chili

## How to Protect Yourself Against the Effects of Chemical Weapons

The first thing to remember about exposure to these chemical weapons is that it is not the worst thing that can happen to you. The police use them not so much as weapons of pain, but more as tools of distraction.

Pepper spray, oleocapsicum (OC), is applied to crowds via spray or pump bottles, and may be directly applied to the eyes and other sensitive membranes of locked-down activists. It is sold in various sizes from small, hand-held dispensers (like mace) to fire extinguisher-sized tanks. Since pepper spray is often sprayed at close distance, the police may try to physically remove your goggles/breathing protection, or spray between your face and your goggles/mask (which if your hands are locked down, makes a trap for chemicals). Pepper spray is hazardous to your health, sometimes fatal.

Chemical weapons are skin and mucous membrane irritants and have their most powerful effect on the eyes, nose, mouth and breathing passages. Your eyes will tear, causing your vision to blur. Your eyelids may even spasm shut. Your nose may run and breathing will become difficult. You may cough, and your skin may have a burning sensation. Disorientation, confusion and anger are common.

The amount of discomfort from pepper spray depends on the dose you receive, your level of sensitivity, and the decontamination treatment you receive. Reaction to chemical exposure will be greater with the presence of skin conditions, such as acne or severe eczema, and breathing difficulties such as asthma. The long-term effects of pepper spray are well researched.

Tear gas (CN & CS) is emitted from canisters which are fired into crowds. The propellants used can cause cancer and be mutagenic. One form of tear gas (CN) used during the WTO protests was 50% solvent/propellant. A commonly used solvent, methylene chloride, is a highly toxic chemical also used as a pesticide and paint stripper which can cause altered central nervous system function and endocrine disruption. A significant number of women gassed in Seattle experienced immediate onset of menstruation outside their normal cycles. Some reported irregularities lasting for months. At least one miscarriage was reported. This may be due to the methylene chloride or other substances used as propellants.

The short-term effects of tear gas effects can last up to an hour, pepper spray up to two hours. You can then return to the action, assuming you take care of yourself in the meantime and are adequately hydrated.

**AVOID RISK OF TEAR GAS AND PEPPER SPRAY if you are:** asthmatic, have respiratory problems or infections, pregnant or attempting to get pregnant, ill, wearing contacts, a child, elderly or physically handicapped person or have a poor immune system, seizure disorders, sleep disorders or eye infections. Avoidance is not always possible, so come prepared to every action. If you know that chemicals are about to be deployed, put on protective gear and clothing, remove your contacts, and try to get away and upwind. An obvious clue that chemical weapons are about to be deployed is the police putting on their gas masks.

### PREVENTION OF TEAR GAS AND PEPPER SPRAY EXPOSURE

What to do beforehand:

- Avoid contacting any detergents; they provide a link between the oily base of the chemical weapon and your skin, allowing the chemicals to dissolve. Anything acidic will cause a stronger reaction. Don't use makeup, oil-based sunscreen or skin moisturizers. Do not wear Vaseline, toothpaste or mineral oil for protection! Use water- or alcohol-based sunscreen, clothing that covers your skin, and a wide-brimmed hat.
- Wash your scalp, hair and body in a non-scented castile soap (such as Dr. Bronners') on the day of the action to rid your skin of oils and dead skin cells which help the chemicals bind to your skin.
- Cover up as much as possible. Wearing an external layer of synthetic, water-repellent or non-absorbing materials cinched or sealed at the wrists, ankles, and neck can prevent the irri-

with water. Lean forward so the chemicals fall directly on the ground, not back onto unexposed skin.

- If there are medics at your action, they will have gloves, and can give your eyes a flush with water. The medic may also have whole milk or a liquid antacid solution (like Maalox) they might use instead of water.

### AFTERCARE

- Drink lots of water! Hydrate! Hydrate! Hydrate!
- Be aware that entering into an enclosed room or space with contaminated clothes, hair and skin will contaminate the room. A room with carpets or textiles or furniture may reek for weeks and prevent you from detoxifying. Seal the clothes in a plastic bag until you can launder them with nasty harsh non-organic detergent that can dissolve the chemical solvents. Remember your inaction to decontaminate could affect someone who was not even at the action!
- Decontaminate with a cold shower (keeps pores closed preventing chemical from entering skin and bloodstream). Later, a hot shower, followed by a thorough scrubbing with 1-2 cups Epsom salts or sea salt (available from grocery or drug stores), which are then left on the skin for 10-15 minutes before a thorough follow-up wash, will help draw the toxins from your body. Wash your hair in strong powerful detergent shampoo (non of the eco-friendly stuff). You can put the Epsom salts in bathwater if you prefer, and add 1 cup of Bentonite clay.
- 2-4 charcoal tablets will help kidneys filter the chemical from your blood stream.
- 4 drops of "Rescue Remedy" flower essence in 1 cup of water will help your emotional, physical and spiritual body.
- Another quick antidote is "Emergen-C" or other electrolyte mix high in Potassium. Bananas are also high in potassium. Miso soup is good for energy boosting, cellular nourishment and balancing electrolytes, add a seaweed like kelp. (Never boil miso!) Wheat grass juice or tablets, chlorophyll, and carrot juice are helpful.
- Drink copious quantities of nettle tea: 1/2 gallon/day. Nettle helps the replenishment of acetylcholinesterase which is essential for nerve function and gets blocked by the chemicals. Add red clover (a blood-purifier), oatstraw (nervous system), licorice, coltsfoot, mullein or marshmallow for the lungs, dandelion and burdock root for the liver if you really want to do it up.
- Your liver must work overtime to filter out the toxins from chemical weapons exposure. Milk Thistle seeds (*Silybum marianum*) helps the liver regenerate new cells. You can grind the seeds & sprinkle on your food, or take in a vegetable glycerin extract or powdered in capsules. Use milk thistle for at least 3 months after exposure.
- Avoid alcohol, cigarettes, caffeine and fried or high fat foods for at least two weeks while detoxing after exposure. Increase your intake of bitter foods (dandelion leaves, mizuna, grapefruit) and dark green leafy vegetables (kale, chard, spinach). Eat whole grains and root vegetables (potatoes, beets, rutabagas, turnips, artichokes). Your body needs plenty of potassium, magnesium and zinc following exposure.
- Stress and grief from an action can get stuck in your body. This can show up as frayed nerves, disturbed sleep, nightmares, anxiety, fear or depression. It can also trigger underlying stress from past events. Support your nervous system with hot oatmeal breakfasts, lavender flower or essential oil and oatmeal baths, or take internally an herbal formula of skullcap, oatstraw, hops, vervain, borage and California poppy.
- Hard exercise (break into a good sweat), long walks, hot springs (hot-cold hydrotherapy is very beneficial), saunas, Swedish massage, yoga, meditation and debriefing/talking with your affinity group or friends will also be very helpful.

For more information, references for practitioners in your area, and information about trainings, please contact the MASHH Clinic Collective (Medicine for Activists Seeking Health and Healing), POB 80793, Portland, OR 97280; mashh@wildrockies.org.

Other contacts include: the Black Cross Health Care Collective, POB 11303, Portland, OR 97211; blackcrosspx@hotmail.com; and the Colorado Street Medics at mchr@rescueteam.com.



**If You Don't  
RIOT**

**Then You Can't  
COMPLAIN**

tant from reaching your skin. Waterproof gloves and hair covers (such as plastic bags, shower caps or a rain hat) are useful, as are windbreakers and light rain gear. If possible, wear protective clothes you can throw away once they're soaked with chemicals. You can carry replacement clothes sealed in a bag.

- Avoid fuzzy garments which can trap tear gas and pepper spray, such as wool and heavy cotton. Synthetic, petroleum-based fabrics that are not covered with rain gear act like a wick, slowly releasing the chemicals for days afterwards.
- If you plan on wearing a gas mask, make sure it has shatter-resistant lenses and replaceable non-asbestos filters. An alternative to wearing a gas mask could be quality swimming goggles with shatterproof lenses and a respirator that covers the nose and mouth. It must have filters designed for paint stripper or hazardous gases. A bandanna wet with apple-cider vinegar over the nose and mouth helps, is cheap, and will be available if your gas mask gets stolen by the police. The solvents are oily and will slowly dissolve rubber and plastic, so your goggles will provide temporary protection, because the chemicals and eventually begin to irritate the skin beneath. Bring a couple pairs if you plan to stay for a while. Do not wear contact lenses to an action. They can trap the chemical to your eyes and can lead to corneal damage. Once your eyes are tearing and the eyelids are spasming shut, it will be very difficult to remove them.

### GENERAL TREATMENT FOR TEAR GAS AND PEPPER SPRAY

- Be cool! Stay calm and focused. When your body heats up (from running or panicking for example), the irritation will increase. Your pores will open allowing more absorption of the chemicals.
- Make your way to a safe space with fresh air where medics or unexposed comrades can help you.
- If tear gassed, face the wind, open your eyes, hold your arms out, and walk around to let fresh air decontaminate you. Take slow deep breaths of clean air.
- Call out for help to get decontaminated. Don't touch your eyes or your face, as you may recontaminate yourself. Blow your nose, spit out chemicals. Rinse mouth and lips and spit

### ANTIDOTE RECIPES

- Neutralizer #1: Carry a bottle of solution made up from water with 5% Baking Soda.
- Neutralizer #2: Carry a bottle of solution made up from water and sodium metabisulphate (sold as Campden tablets used in home brewing).
- Superdeluxe Pregassing Antidote: Mix 8-10 eggs, 1 cup water and a teaspoon of baking soda in a bowl. Beat mixture well. Keep refrigerated in small plastic bottles until a demonstration. Wipe the stuff on your face before a gassing occurs.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND POLICE BRUTALITY, CONTACT:

Bay Area Police Watch and The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights  
PMB 409, 1230 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 951-4844, www.ellabakercenter.org

Headwaters Forest Pepper Spray Civil Rights Suit  
c/o Trees Foundation, POB 2202, Redway, CA 95560  
(707) 923-4377, pepperspray@tao.ca

June 1st Legal Defense Fund  
POB 11922, Eugene, OR 97440

### HOMEOPATHIC REMEDIES

for exposure to chemical weapons, especially pepper spray:

homeopathic pepper spray/chemical agents protection formula (for before and after exposure):  
allium cepa, cantharis, capsicum, causticum, euphrasia, ledum, hypericum, pulsatilla

homeopathic remedy for pepper spray (post-exposure):  
200c arsenicum, 200c aconite, 30c apis, 30c cantharis, 30c causticum, 30c belladonna, 12c ipecac, 30c euphrasia, 12c carbo veg, and "Rescue Remedy" (flower essences)

# COAL SLUDGE SPILL POISONS APPALACHIAN WATERSHED

BY LYNDA ANN EWEN

On a rainy day in the spring of 1972 an impoundment dam above Buffalo Creek in Logan County, West Virginia, burst—sending a murderous torrent of coal sludge down a hollow—wiping out communities, schools and churches and killing 127 people. This was not ordinary water. It was mine waste—a sludge that skinned the bodies of the victims and filled their lungs with chemical pollutants. The officials, who had turned their eyes from the mounting evidence that the impoundment was unsafe, vowed “never again.” In October it happened again. A poorly constructed “pond” owned by a subsidiary of A.T. Massey dumped 250 million gallons of highly toxic contaminated coal waste into a West Virginia-Kentucky watershed.

Think about it. A gallon of water weighs about eight pounds. Sludge is much heavier than water. If a gallon of sludge weighs approximately ten pounds, that’s 2.5 billion pounds of poisonous liquid oozing into a watershed. Most of us remember the national outrage when the Exxon tanker Valdez spilled 11-million gallons of oil off the Alaska shore in 1989. This spill was 20 times the amount of the Valdez spill, and sludge is more toxic and more difficult to clean up. It has inundated 75 miles of streams, spreading poison and death to all wildlife and contaminating the numerous communities’ drinking water.

A bridge near a home on Coldwater Fork, normally eight or nine feet above the creek, is now about level with sludge that has spread out and filled in the floodplain. People are asking what will happen if a large rain comes.

The “clean-up” is wreaking its own havoc. Work is going on 24 hours a day using heavy equipment. A hog lagoon mixer/sprayer is being used to keep the sludge from settling out and to keep it flowing downstream. The stuff is so thick that pumping equipment is being damaged. Drive shafts worth thousands of dollars are shearing off. The heavy equipment being used has damaged sewer lines to septic tanks. Now septic systems are failing, and the oozing raw sewage is pooling on the sludge. The waste comes off loaders and oozes out of truck beds as it is being hauled away.

It is easy to focus on the mess, or on the heavy metals in the sludge or the numbers of fish and fowl that have been killed. But I would rather examine something more difficult and actually more sinister—the question of responsibility and accountability for the disaster.

According to some major media investigations, the 600 slurry ponds in Appalachia are all disasters wait-

ing to happen. The *Daily Independent* quoted Rick Eades, a Charleston hydrogeologist and former coal industry consultant as saying, “They’re all time bombs. It’s just a matter of do they come down in one year or 50 years or 500 years.”

Reporters also uncovered gross negligence on the part of both state and federal regulatory agencies in overseeing these huge deposits of mine waste. The regulations have either not been enforced, been laxly enforced or simply ignored. And it is not because regulators don’t know the risk. These regulations were passed after the public pressure generated by the Buffalo Creek flood—supposedly to prevent future disasters. The Martin County Coal Company holding pond that gave way on October 11 had already had one previous spill in 1994. The company was supposed to have fixed the problem, but according to Mining Safety and Health Administration records no one had checked to see if they had.



“This is—was—Coldwater Creek in Martin County, Kentucky, 15 days after the spill. Coal company goons blocked us from going further up the road. The toxic glop wasn’t even moving at this point. Further up the hollow, apparently, the sludge is spread out up to 70 yards wide and up to 10 feet deep...The devastation is mindboggling”

—VIVIAN STOCKMAN

What is going on? Is it a case of inept officials or an apathetic public? No. What emerges from a study of the situation is that responsibility lies with a political system so intertwined with the world view and profit concerns of the industry it regulates that considerations of public safety and interest are completely overshadowed. Consider, for example, an editorial in the *Coal Bell* (July 1998), a publication of the coal industry titled “State Agencies Send Mixed Message in Land Use.” Industry spokesperson Fred F. Holroyd writes in support of mountain top removal: “A new useful environment is created out of a worthless piece of dirt, good for absolutely nothing, save for snakes and scrub pines. It seems to me that if a property owners [sic] wants [sic] to flatten a useless mountain top he should not be pre-



“I was totally unprepared for the extent of the damage. This is a major environmental catastrophe...It is not an overstatement to say that every living thing in the two smaller creeks is now dead.”

—EYEWITNESS DAVE COOPER, POSTED AT WWW.APPALSHOP.ORG

vent [sic] from doing so. If an environmentalist or state agency wants to preserve a mountain top they should buy it.”

In other words, those who are destroying our mountains and leaving behind large deposits of dangerous wastes have a distinctive standpoint. They see our mountains as merely a place to exploit, a place that has no worth other than to provide the quickest buck. If coal mining is done carefully and safely, then it costs more. The industry is driven by market demands. We cannot expect less. We assume it is government that looks out for the general good, but in West Virginia this is not the case. Massive infusions of money into the coffers of the politicians make almost all of them beholden to big business interests. They are selling our birthright to the highest bidder.

Yet the mountains are our home, and will always be our home. This is where we hunt and hike. This is the place where our grandparents and great grandparents birthed their babies and blessed them in baptism. These ridges abloom in the spring and ablaze with color in fall make an awesome statement about creation. Can we stand by and let them be destroyed?

Folks in Kentucky are asking that people express their concerns to Kentucky Governor Paul Patton, 700 Capitol Ave, Frankfort, KY 40601; (502) 564-2611; (502) 564-2517 (fax); governor@mail.state.ky.us.

1) Tell him to ask President Clinton to declare Martin County a Federal Disaster Area, and stipulate that all federal costs for the cleanup be billed to Martin County Coal.

2) Express your concern about the other 600 coal slurry impoundments in Appalachia.

3) Ask the Governor to inform the residents of the Coldwater Creek, Wolf Creek and Big Sandy watersheds exactly what is in the coal sludge and in what concentrations, and what the risks are for residents and cleanup workers.

Lynda Ann Ewen, Ph.D., is a professor of sociology and codirector of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia.

## BARE BONES

### US Bans New Mining in the San Francisco Peaks

In mid-October federal authorities banned new mining for the next 20 years on the San Francisco Peaks north of Flagstaff, Arizona, held sacred by 13 Native tribes. The decision covers more than 74,000 acres, virtually all of the mountains, (the remains of an extinct volcano). At 12,643 feet, the peaks are the highest in Arizona and offer views to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, 80 miles away. A temporary ban on new mining had been in effect since 1998. There are still several small sand-and-gravel operations in the area that are not effected by the ban.

### Grizz to Return to Bitterroot Mountains

The US Fish and Wildlife Service announced in November its intention to release five grizzly bears into the Bitterroot backcountry for each of five years beginning in 2002, and to give their management to a committee of citizens. Grizzlies were historically widespread in the Bitterroots, wandering back and forth across Idaho’s Salmon River and over the millions of acres that are now called the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church-River of No Return wilderness areas. The last verified death of a grizzly bear in the Bitterroot Mountains was in 1932. The last tracks of a Bitterroot grizzly were seen in 1946.

The announcement brought an immediate threat of legal action from Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne. “I oppose bringing these massive, flesh-eating carnivores into Idaho,” the governor said.

The Bitterroot reintroduction program also will classify the grizzlies as a “nonessential experimental population”—a less protective designation that includes a zero-tolerance policy if any stray onto the valley floor.

The wilderness of central Idaho and southwestern Montana is the largest block of wild country in the Rocky Mountains. “It is worth a try”, said Mike Bader, executive director of Missoula’s Alliance for the Wild Rockies. “But it’s worth a better try than the government is providing—one where grizzlies are given full protection under the Endangered Species Act and an even wider expanse of territory to roam. On the one hand, grizzlies really belong there and have a rightful place in that ecosystem,” he said. “On the other hand, this reintroduction will return grizzlies under circumstances that we feel are inadequate and that set a bad precedent for bear recovery overall.” Bader also expressed concern about the citizen management committee, and whether its members will be true advocates of grizzly recovery.

### Teen Finds Antibiotics in Public Water

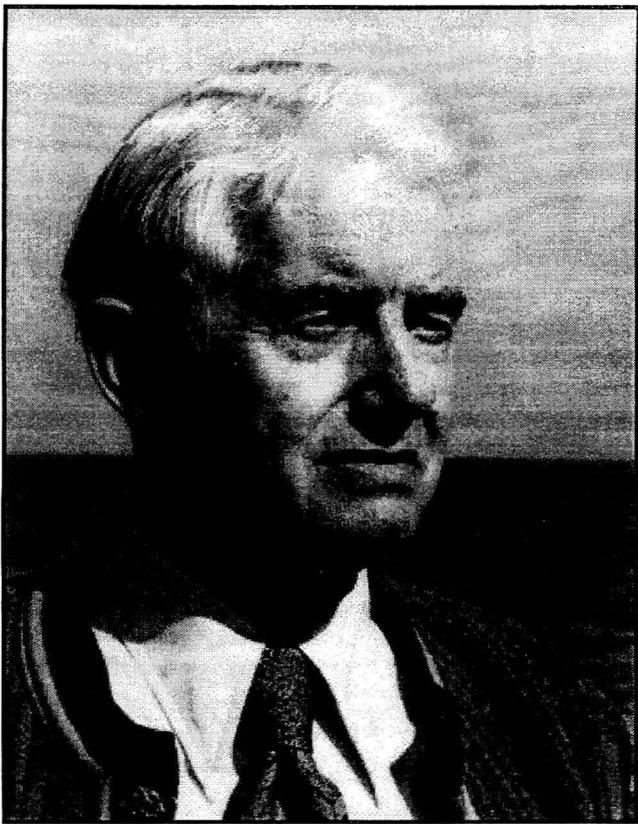
A high school student discovered antibiotics in the Ohio River, as well as in the drinking water of her home town, Wheeling, West Virginia. While she was one of the first to look for these drugs in US water, their presence has been a fact of life in Europe for at least 10 years. Some experts fear that even low levels of antibiotics in the water may help create superbugs that have evolved to withstand an antibiotic’s lethal assault. Public health experts already have noted the rise of infections that cannot be stopped with the usual arsenal of antibiotics.

The highest levels of antibiotics were found near livestock or dairy farms. Animals are kept in crowded, dirty conditions, so farmers rely on antibiotics to keep diseases at bay and to fatten animals for market.

# DAVID BROWER ON WILDERNESS,

## Interview

# DAMS AND THE FUTURE



David Brower contemplates the future of the Earth.

BY DAVID KUPFER

*I met Dave and Anne Brower in 1978 and we've been good friends since. We shared time rafting on the Stanislaus River and at numerous events, as well as at their home in Berkeley. I loved the firebrand nature of their personalities—every visit with them was enlightening. Their worldview was so compelling and practical that it hardly seemed radical. And their energy and vitality transcended their years.*

*Dave was a trend-setter, far ahead of his time in regards to the population, technological, ecological and institutional limits of the planet.*

*Dave did not mellow with age. He remained radical, erudite and timely, impatient with the pace of change in the face of the impending, continuing ecological crisis. He remained angry and passionate through my final visit with him in October. He was a genius in his ability to catalyze, nurture, propagate and expand environmental consciousness. The number of people he awoke and inspired, from those he led into the Sierras in the 1930s to those who read his final book—a children's book, *Reading the Earth: A Story of Wilderness*—is incalculable. He was the best teacher I ever had. Dave will live on as a permanent symbol for the movement. This final interview will give you a taste of his unique character.*

**David Kupfer:** Tell me of your first exposure to wilderness.

**David Brower:** It was through the reading of John Muir. Muir told me about wilderness. He liked it. I liked the description of the country he was in, once he hit the Sierra. I liked the general idea about wilderness that Muir picked up from Thoreau. My first visit was very early—we didn't call it wilderness then, that was in 1918, along Highway I-80, across the Sierra. There was a one-lane dirt road. No road kill, you couldn't go fast enough.

**DK:** How has wilderness inspired you?

**DB:** I generally am looking at wilderness to see what the world does when it is left to its own natural devices. There is not much of the world that has been left to its own devices. We try to modify everything that we touch. I've treasured places not exploited by technology and wheels.

**DK:** What is your thinking on the current state of backpacking and your prognosis for the future and wilderness preservation?

**DB:** Grim, very grim. Unless we do something about growth, it won't matter. Unless we improve the number of people working to protect the environment. Unless we change what we are doing, change our way of life—we have only 30 years left. But Wall Street, the big investors, they just don't want to hear that. They continue doing what they are doing, calling for more economic growth, not realizing that economic growth as we know it is costing the Earth.

**DK:** When will we pay the Earth back?

**DB:** Unless we change our attitudes and make change possible, it will not happen. We have to make some changes. There are a lot of them. I probably won't get many done, but I keep trying.

I am very anxious to save the national parks from the National Park Service. I am anxious to save the forests from the Forest Service. It would be nice if we had a Forest Service—instead we have a timber service. I have had that bias since 1938. The Forest Service has been very busy trying to build roads. I've been watching the Forest Service do very strange things. If you want to save wilderness you have to pay attention to what happens outside the wilderness as well as inside wilderness.

**DK:** What should we do to improve the stewardship of national lands in the US that are being used for recreation?

**DB:** My bright idea is that we should take the BLM and rename it, give it a new mission, not as just a national lands service, but have it be concerned not only with public land but also about private land. People have to get the idea that it is not theirs. They may have title, but it's not fair—there are a number of generations down the line, we can't trash them now, we need to give them a break. What we need is an understanding of what land is. I remember back in the book by Nancy Newhall and Ansel Adams, *This is the American Earth*, she wrote, that "we are a brief tenant." We owe it to the people who are not here yet, not to mention all the other species. Their genes are right here in our custody. We have a fairly big responsibility. It's too beautiful of a planet to screw up, and we're good at that. We know how to trash the place. We need a new conservationism. It's got to mean more than using resources at a slower rate. We've got to do something about restoration, hanging on to the things we cannot replace, and we have to restore nature as best we can. It takes quite a bit of confidence to try to restore nature. Nature knows what to do. At least we can get a start, instead of getting in the way. Conservation, preservation, restoration, restoration of our own human system. These are the challenges.

**DK:** What is it about the magic of wilderness?

**DB:** I go back to why I love that quote from Father Thomas Berry. He said put the Bible on the shelf for 20 years and read the Earth. I've spent a great deal of time reading the Earth. Still at 88 [I am] still impressed with the structure. It is pretty damn amazing, its design and how it works its way through evolution. You begin to admire it, seeing everything that nature provides us. Nature knows how to get water from the ocean, make clouds, rain and snow, and brings us drinking water.

**DK:** Let's talk about Hetch Hetchy.

**DB:** One reason we have a National Park Service is that back at the turn of the century, [it came about] as a consequence of the efforts by the city of San Francisco to build a reservoir in Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park. John Muir very much opposed it. The Sierra Club initially had mixed feelings but finally, when it came to a vote, they opposed it. But it was too late...

So O'Shawnessy Dam was built early in the 1920s. I'd not exactly been there, but when I had my sixth birthday party we camped nearby where there was a little railroad built to bring supplies to the dam site. If I'd known then what they were up to, I would've derailed it. But I didn't know. I was only six.

But it should not have been built in a national park. There was no need to do it. There were other sites.

**DK:** Tell me of the campaign to remove Glen Canyon Dam.

**DB:** The biggest mistake I ever made in my life was when I didn't keep up the battle when I could have, so we got a dam at Glen Canyon. We had enough people, enough person power.

I got the Echo Park Dam removed from the Colorado River Project. I was [then] told by the board that the Sierra Club would withdraw opposition to the Glen Canyon Project. I was opposed to the whole thing because it was bad engineering,

bad hydrology, bad conservation, bad energy, wasteful of water, all to build a big power plant to produce electricity. So, after the Sierra Club board dropped its opposition, since we happened to be the keystone of the Colorado River effort, the dam project went through easily. The dam was started, and then for the first time I saw the damage that I had done. When I saw the water start to rise in Glen Canyon and those incredible side canyons, I'd pretty much given up and regretted what was happening. In 1957 the dam started going higher and higher with more water—it was a major disaster. Then just four years ago I met Rich Ingersol, an MD in Salt Lake, and he told me about some new figures from the Department of Reclamation about how much water we were losing, about a million acre feet of water a year, which indicated that we are going to lose more as the reservoir filled. We're having enormous recreation pollution, and it won't be long before the reservoir is unfit to swim in because it has been so dumped in. It's caused all kinds of damage downstream to Grand Canyon...

I got all excited again and decided that if the dam was losing this much water from a river that doesn't have any water to waste, is polluting badly and is in danger of a fracture, they could get the power from other sources. If Lake Powell were full and [the dam] fractured, it'd probably empty Lake Mead too. So one of my arguments is drain Lake Powell while you still can, under control.

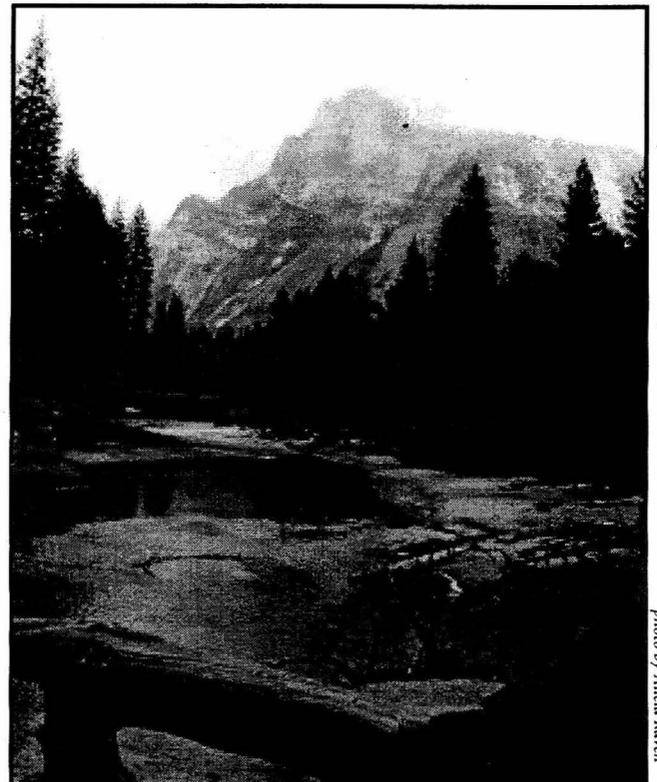
They should get the canyon back and develop a new relationship with the Indians living nearby. Develop it as a World Heritage Site so that the Navajo and the Hopi people can work as guides rather than servants to the people that come through the area. There are new numbers coming up about the weakness of the dam. There is the desperate need for that water in the Salton Sea, which is badly polluted. Mexico needs to be given a break so that they can have more water to make use of. There are all kinds of advantages, but there is also all kinds of opposition... The Bureau of Reclamation claimed they needed that water to store in case of dry weather. But they only need it once in a century! So for that, they are losing 100-million-acre feet annually for a century; that is unacceptable, a very bad idea.

**DK:** Your favorite thoughts about wilderness?

**DB:** We can read the Earth. There are a lot of questions to be answered there. A lot of reading can be done in wilderness. Without wilderness, the world is a cage.

**DK:** Any final words for the direct action community Dave?

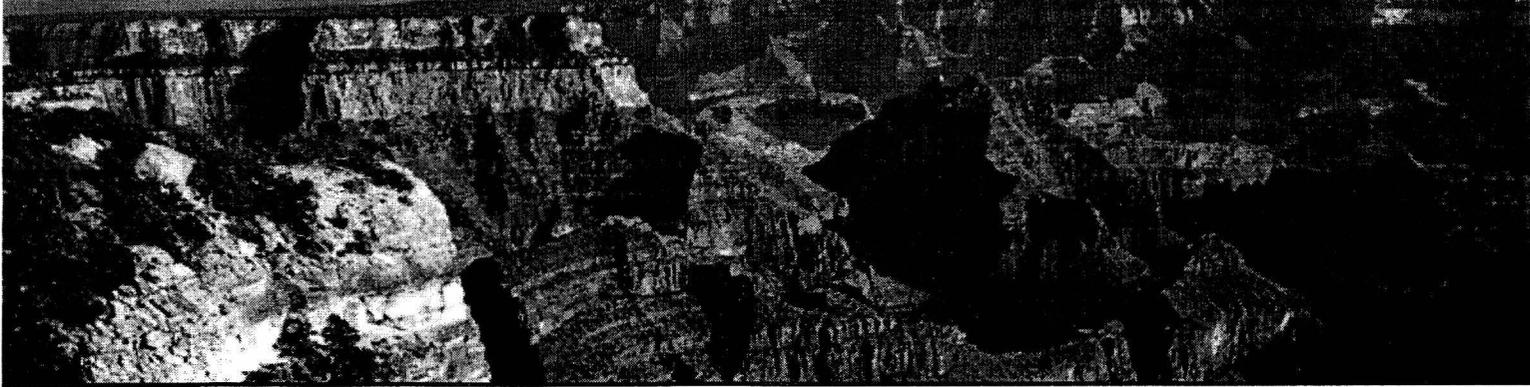
**DB:** Persevere. That's where it's at.



"Without wilderness, the world is a cage." Yosemite National Park

# A Wilderness Defender Returns to the Earth

"Next time you visit the Grand Canyon, thank David Brower. A guardian of the canyon in life, he's still out there with his watchful eye..."



continued from page 1

Philip Fradkin's 1968 elegiac *A River No More* mourned the dying Colorado. Indeed, the lower river, celebrated for its teeming diverse wetlands by Aldo Leopold in *A Sand County Almanac*, is today a dry salt flat, completely diverted, no longer reaching the sea or sustaining the vital estuary. Yet, despite repeated assaults from dams and development, the Colorado remains throughout much of its length the most dramatic and beautiful of North American rivers.

This beauty is undoubtedly what captivated David Brower and held his interest for more than a half century. The Colorado River represented, perhaps more than any other issue he was involved in, David's transformation from a soft-spoken, athletic young World War II hero to the man who led a revolution in thought and attitudes toward nature that began to redefine post-Industrial era values. He, more than any other figure in the late 20th century, led Americans to value the natural world beyond utilitarianism.

David's own life paralleled the reshaping of some of America's most spectacular western rivers into industrial waterways and power supply systems. The first dam across the Colorado was erected by the newborn Bureau of Reclamation near the US-Mexico border in 1909. David's birth on July 1, 1912, coincided roughly with the dawn of the era of big dams and, ironically, with the growth of the bureau itself.

If his college *alma mater* were the Colorado, David's nursery school was certainly the Tuolumne. When he was born, the "T" still flowed serenely through Yosemite National Park's Hetch Hetchy Valley. Just a few miles from the Browsers' home in Berkeley, California, lived 76-year-old John Muir, the Sierra Club founder. "John of the Mountains" was already campaigning fiercely to stop the City of San Francisco from damming the Hetch Hetchy for an unneeded water supply reservoir. Too young at first to comprehend the debate that consumed and, some say, killed the elderly Muir and divided the young Sierra Club, David developed an aesthetic sensibility for nature's beauty that rivaled that of the old Scotsman.

When the decision was made—at the urging of Muir's nemesis Gifford Pinchot—to build O'Shaughnessy Dam in 1913 and flood the Hetch Hetchy, David was scarcely more than a year old. Muir died on Christmas Eve that year, some say of a broken heart over his failure to keep the developers at bay

and preserve the place he so eloquently described as "more holy a temple than was ever consecrated by man."

As much as Muir in later years identified with the Tuolumne and finally with the cause to save Hetch Hetchy, so did David's life become intertwined with the Colorado River and in the end with the campaign to restore Glen Canyon, a series of cathedral-like canyons in the wild heart of the river that was dammed in 1963. Muir would have had some satisfaction in knowing that Pinchot's wise use maxim gave way to "Brower Power" in the 1960s.

But it was not always a straight shot toward preservation for David. In 1949, as an elected member of the Sierra Club's board of directors, David joined in casting a unanimous vote in support of the Bridge Canyon Dam on the condition, articulated by then-President Bestor Robinson, that the Bureau of Reclamation construct an elevator that would allow visitors to fish the tailwaters for planted trout. Such a far cry from what would become his signature line only 16 years later: "Should we flood the Sistine Chapel so that tourists can get nearer the ceiling?" David's thinking evolved considerably over that time.



In the Colorado River mud, Glen Canyon, 1963

Then there was the matter of the compromise over Dinosaur. When in 1952 David became the Club's first executive director, he was thrust directly into the spotlight, the fight to prevent another dam in a majestic national park. When Echo Park and Split Mountain Dams were proposed, they threatened not only the Green River and Yampa River, they threatened all national parks. As surely John Muir himself would have done, David led the Sierra Club—united, this time—into action. Successfully.

Under David's leadership, the pre-eminent public works agency of the western United States was brought to its knees—in the middle of the furious patriotic heat of the Cold War. But the victory at Dinosaur was tempered, ever

so poignantly, by the Sierra Club's unnecessary offer of support for a dam downstream at Glen Canyon. A higher dam, in fact, than one proposed earlier by the Bureau of Reclamation. A dam in the soft Navajo sandstone, a formation that the Bureau's own geologists in the 1920s declared unsafe. David spoke in favor of a high dam at Glen Canyon, a speech he came to regret. While his supporters urged him not to blame himself, he repeatedly reminded whomever would listen that he could have done more to stop it. He argued that two of his most important lessons were learned at the University of the Colorado River: 1) Never trade away a place you don't know to save a place you care about. 2) Clean up your mess for future generations.

These were some of the greatest contributions David made to environmental strategy and thought in recent years. Avoid compromises that involve irretrievable sacrifices. Stand firm, have the courage to subordinate pragmatism to principle. Take responsibility and take action. There is no substitute for action, no excuse for inaction.

On November 16, 1996, David surprised the world by bringing to the Sierra Club board of directors a resolution which passed unanimously, stating "The Sierra Club supports the draining of the reservoir behind Glen Canyon Dam." It was time for action to correct that mistake of the 1950s. David launched a campaign that has only grown in appeal ever since. The largest restoration project in world history!

David passed away on November 5, 2000, not yet having seen the splendor of the Glen restored, but he did live long enough to found a movement that will endure and ensure that his vision will be realized. His call for "CPR"—conservation, preservation, restoration—is increasingly heard not only in this country but around the world. He was unafraid to take on causes that his colleagues considered lost. David Brower made idealism acceptable to mainstream environmentalists and demonstrated this with his many achievements. The restoration of Glen Canyon and the Colorado will happen as it must and as testament to David's leadership and courage but only because he showed us the way and encouraged us to make our dreams—his dream—a reality.

And such may one day be his epitaph, writ large upon the face of the dam. That dam—Glen Canyon Dam:

R.I.P. David Ross Brower, 1912-2000. He made the world a better place. We'll meet you at the next eddy downstream, Dave.

## BARE BONES

### Gillnet Fishery Shut Down to Protect Otter

The California Department of Fish and Game shut down the Monterey Bay set-gillnet fishery for halibut and angel shark on September 11, banning gillnets in waters less than 60 fathoms from Point Reyes to Yankee Point. As almost all gillnet fishing for halibut occurs in waters less than 60 fathoms, the closure effectively bans gillnet fishing in most of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Commercial fishing is not regulated within National Marine Sanctuaries. The closure also shuts down a portion of Santa Barbara County to gillnet fishing. In total, 150 miles of California's coast are protected by the closure.

The threatened California sea otter has dramatically declined in the past four years, in part due to drowning in gillnets. The fishery also annually kills 120 harbor porpoises, 5,200 common murrelets, elephant seals and California sea lions. Common murrelets have declined from one million to about 100,000 on the Farallon Islands, 20 miles south of Point Reyes, in the past two centuries. In issuing the 120 day emergency closure, the Fish and Game Department admitted that otter and murre populations could be jeopardized by the fishery.

### Dunn Road Closed to Protect Bighorn Sheep

Following a lawsuit by the Center for Biological Diversity, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) closed the controversial Dunn Road near Palm Springs, California, to motorized vehicles on October 1. The closure will last at least until the BLM completes its Coachella Valley Plan. The 18 mile road, running from Palm Springs through the San Bernadino National Forest south to Highway 74, was illegally constructed in 1966 and has been a significant factor in the endangerment of the Peninsular Ranges bighorn sheep, whose population has been reduced to about 300.

### Scientists Say 11,046 Species on the Brink

According to the World Conservation Union's 2000 *Red List of Threatened Species*, the most comprehensive analysis of global conservation ever undertaken, 11,046 species of plants and animals are on the edge of extinction. The list is very likely conservative, they acknowledge, given that scientists have documented only 1.75 million of the estimated 14-million species on Earth.

### Idaho Resorts on "Wild" River Must Go

On September 19, US District Judge Sidney Thomas ruled that three fishing lodges on the Salmon River are illegal and must be removed, saying permanent resort lodges are not permitted on public land in a corridor designated "wild and scenic". Thomas agreed that the United States Forest Service gave 15-year permits to outfitters to operate "camps" on the Salmon in the mid-90s but pointed out that the agency never gave written permission to build permanent structures. Wilderness Watch, a Missoula, Montana-based group that brought the suit against the Forest Service, hailed the decision as a major triumph, claiming agency officials "just winked, nodded, and looked the other way," when the three lodges were built.

# Resumption of Global Whaling on the Horizon?

BY TAMI DRAKE AND JONATHAN PAUL

The Clinton/Gore administration has played a key role in returning whaling to the coastal United States, in clear violation of both domestic and international law. Ocean Defense International (ODI) President Jonathan Paul and Campaign Administrator Tami Drake attended the 52nd annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) as non-governmental organization observers. ODI's goal was to call upon world governments and their IWC delegates to demand a halt to this blatant disregard of international regulations. After attending this meeting in June and July in Adelaide, Australia, it was clear that there is an immediate and urgent need for direct action focused on whaling in international waters, including international whale sanctuaries.

## Japanese Whaling

Japan gave up commercial whaling in compliance with an international moratorium in 1986, but resumed whaling under the guise of "scientific research" in 1987. Article VIII of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling provides that, notwithstanding anything contained in the Convention, any contracting government may grant to any of its nationals a special permit to kill, take and treat whales for the purposes of scientific research, subject to such other conditions as the government thinks fit. However, the IWC recommended that scientific research involving the killing of cetaceans should only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, when the questions address critically important issues that cannot be answered by analyzing existing data and/or use of non-lethal research techniques.

Each year, Japan kills hundreds of minke whales in the Southern Ocean Marine Sanctuary and the North Pacific. Japan describes its scientific slaughter of whales as "an essential part of the conservation and management of all marine resources, including whales." The whale meat is then sold in the Japanese markets. By the end of this year, Japan will have slaughtered 6,514 minke, sperm and Bryde's whales since the international moratorium began.

At last summer's meeting of the IWC, Japan proposed to instigate the JARPN II program, where takes of minke whales and, for the first time, sperm and Bryde's whales would be authorized. Japan's purpose in their latest round of lethal research is "to examine the competitive relationship between whales and the fisheries industry." Japan has embarked on a multi-million-dollar campaign to convince the world that if it weren't for the hungry whales, there would be more fish for human consumption. Commercial whaling is being portrayed as an important means of boosting fish populations. This argument cannot be reconciled with the truth—humans, not whales, have depleted the fish stocks with commercial overfishing and pollution. The governments of the UK, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Germany, Italy, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand and the US co-sponsored a resolution, which passed on July 5, affirming that gathering information on interactions between whales and prey species is not a critically important issue. The resolution urged the government of Japan to refrain from issuing special permits for whaling under JARPN II. On July 30, the Japanese government deployed six whaling vessels to the North Pacific to conduct "scientific research" on minke, sperm and Bryde's whales, in direct defiance of the resolution.

Despite objections to the whaling, no action has been taken to stop the killing. While threatening sanctions under the Pelly Amendment, the Clinton/Gore administration has failed to implement them.

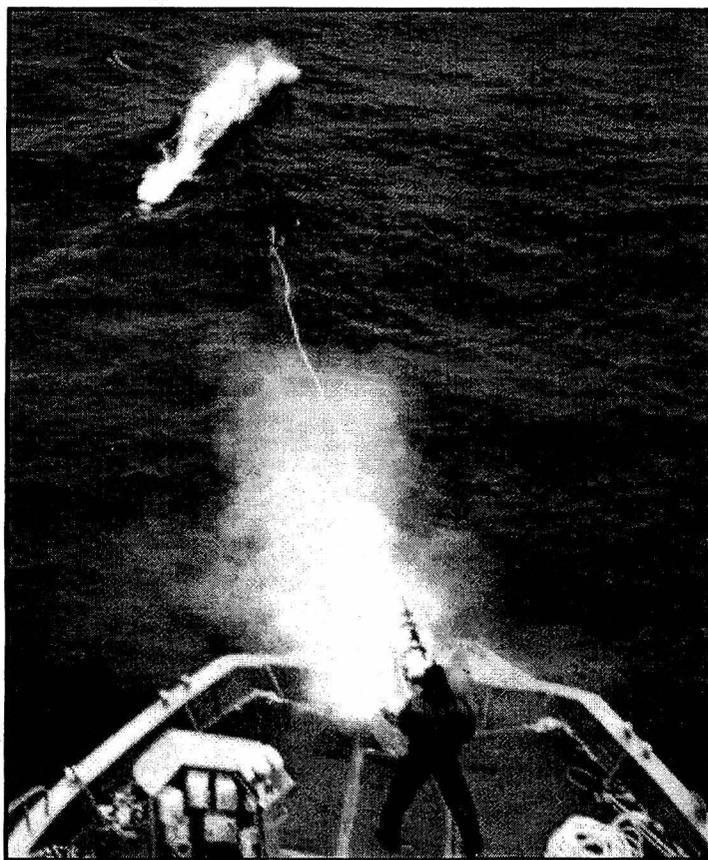
Japan is expending enormous political, diplomatic and financial resources to encourage nations—especially small island developing states—to join the IWC and support their position on whaling. Their "vote-consolidation program" has resulted in a strong "whalers' bloc" within the IWC. Records show that multi-million dollar grants from Japanese fisheries to weak, developing countries regularly coincide with those

countries' support for Japan at the IWC meeting. The South Pacific Whale Sanctuary was defeated because of the "whalers' bloc."

## Worldwide Whaling and Trade in Whale Products

Norway, along with Japan, continues to pressure the international community to resume commercial whaling with the open trade of whale products. The two nations have proposed, for the past several years, to transfer the listing of the northeast and central Atlantic minke whale stocks from Appendix I (endangered) to Appendix II (threatened) of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). This proposal is important to both Norway and Japan, as the listing is the primary barrier to resuming whale-products trade between the two countries.

Despite the ban on trade in whale products, in October 1993 an illegal shipment of nearly three tons of minke whale meat was discovered at the Oslo, Norway, airport. Its destination: Japan. Many other attempts to smuggle whale products have been revealed, including whale meat from Norway seized by



Minke whale blasted by a Norwegian harpoon

Japanese customs officials in 1996. DNA samples of whale meat in Japan have shown it to be from North Atlantic minke and other endangered whales.

## Norwegian Whaling

Norway resumed commercial whaling in 1993, openly contravening the IWC's 1986 moratorium. Norway simply lodged a reservation against the moratorium and was therefore not bound by it. Norway was at the same time defying the IWC's 1985 decision to protect the seriously depleted northeast Atlantic minke whale population.

Like Japan, Norway conducted "scientific whaling" from 1988 to 1994, killing 288 minke whales. Norway also uses the argument that they are justified in killing the whales because the "the whales are eating all the fish." Norway's self-imposed quota increased each year from 1993 to 1998 based on *estimated* whale populations.

## US Politics and Norwegian Whaling

On August 5, 1993, the US Department of Commerce again certified that Norway's unilateral resumption of whaling undermined the effectiveness of the IWC's international conservation regime. In a letter to Congress, President Clinton stated that, while "[t]he United States is deeply opposed to commercial whaling," it "has an equally strong commitment to science-based solutions to global conservation problems," and that "not every country agrees with our position against commercial whaling." The letter concluded that while

US trade restrictions would be justified, "our objectives can be best achieved by delaying the implementation of sanctions until we have exhausted all good faith efforts to persuade Norway to follow agreed conservation measures." Nevertheless, both the House and Senate agreed to condemn commercial whaling. Members of Congress have urged President Clinton "to take decisive action to prevent Norway from resuming its illicit whale harvesting," including the possible use of economic sanctions.

The politics of the whaling dispute is affected by a number of factors, not least among them being that Norway has long been one of the closest allies of the US. The Norwegian whaling issue is one chapter of a continuing international debate over the interconnections between trade and the environment.

In 1999 Norway killed 589 minke whales, 36 fewer than the previous year and 164 short of their self-appointed quota. This was the first time since they defied the IWC moratorium that the number of minke whales killed was lower than the year before. The whale hunters say they had a tough season at sea, but according to reports from the *New York Times* their biggest problem is low consumption of whale meat by their countrymen. Frozen whale meat from the previous year's catch is still available in Norwegian supermarkets. Japan would pay a premium price for Norwegian whale meat if trade were permitted.

## The Revised Management Scheme

At the Adelaide meeting the IWC approved a hazardous resolution to fast track the Revised Management Scheme (RMS). This resolution was proposed by Sweden, South Africa, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Mexico, Oman, Spain and Switzerland. The RMS is the instrument whereby commercial whaling will resume. Many member nations allege that it will actually reduce the number of whales being killed, and that there will be tighter controls on whaling. These allegations cannot be substantiated.

The RMS outlines the rules under which a nation can whale commercially. It relies upon the Revised Management Procedure (RMP)—a mathematical equation/guess into which a nation can plug an estimated number of live whales and out will pop a number of whales it can kill. As the Scientific Committee of the IWC reports again and again, there is no accurate method to determine the true status of whale populations. The RMP is unreliable and unsustainable.

The RMS is also unenforceable. There is no way to ensure that the whalers obey the rules. It sets no binding penalties, instead relying on the good faith of whalers to regulate whaling. Unfortunately, Japan and Norway have time and again demonstrated bad faith when dealing with IWC regulations.

The RMS is an attempt to appease the whaling nations, and, like all ill-conceived compromises, once implemented it will be disastrous. ODI opposes the adoption of any regime that lifts the current moratorium on commercial whaling. Unfortunately, the RMS is likely to pass within the next two years. Japan and Norway will be joined by other nations in the illegal slaughter of whales.

According to the United Nations Convention on the Law and the Sea and the World Charter for Nature, we have the obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment for future generations. Greed and international politics have made the world's oceans an unsafe place for whales. ODI continues to urge the governments of the world to impose sanctions against the countries that continue this senseless slaughter. The whales can no longer wait for politicians to take action. Laws without enforcement are of no value. The time for action is now, before worldwide commercial whaling resumes.

ODI intends to commence a direct action campaign to end Japanese and Norwegian high seas pirate whaling.

For more information contact Tami Drake, Ocean Defense International, POB 401, Williams, OR 97544; oceandefense1@earthlink.net.

# Pirating Yellowstone

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I explained how patents can be an enticement to investors, something that can make a long wait for profits worth it—notably, 20 years of market control of whatever's patented. Finally, I asked, "What's this really about? Why are you suddenly calling me and asking about patents?"

And then she told me about a deal being made between a private corporation and the US Department of the Interior to allow bioprospecting in Yellowstone National Park. "They're looking for the heat-loving microorganisms that live in all those hot pools and geysers," she said.

That was how I learned that the official stewards of the national parks were about to announce a path-breaking deal for the extraction, commercialization and patenting of living organisms from Yellowstone.

"Can I call you back?" I gulped. "I've got to go."

"What do you mean," she answered, "you said you'd give me as much time as I needed."

"You know," I answered, "there are only two places in the whole United States that most people understand as commons. Only two places that people really care about that way. One of them is the Grand Canyon. The other is Yellowstone National Park. You just told me they're going to allow bioprospecting in a place the people still understand as commons. They're going to make the people of the United States complicit in the patenting of life forms they have been given to protect and steward for future generations. I have to get off the phone because I only have a few weeks before they announce that deal, just a few weeks to find a lawyer and sue the United States Department of the Interior for violation of the public trust and theft from the national commons."

A few minutes later I was on the phone with Andy Kimbrell and Joe Mendelson, lawyers at the International Center for Technology Assessment in Washington, DC. They took the case *pro bono*. Eventually, we were joined by the Alliance for the Wild Rockies and Phil Knight, a man who lives in the Yellowstone area.

July 1, 1997, Joe filed our first Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. August 15, he filed our petition for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. (The official stewards of Yellowstone, it turned out, hadn't done an environmental impact assessment of the effects of one of the biggest changes of policy in years.)

August 17, 1997, the US Department of the Interior and the National Park Service signed the deal with Diversa Corporation. They celebrated their Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) at Yellowstone's official 125th anniversary celebration. The park was going to get royalties from products derived from the organisms they were allowing Diversa to remove. Ultimately, Diversa would be allowed to collect "biological tissues, soils, sediments, water and rocks."

March 5, 1998, one internal review, one denial of petition, two FOIA requests, and one FOIA settlement later, Joe filed a lawsuit to stop the Yellowstone deal. Two months later we learned that the Park Service was

looking to make 15-18 other deals similar to the one at Yellowstone.

Eventually, we won the first part of the case. The court agreed that the Yellowstone deal was a big change in national policy and as such, required an environmental assessment. (We're still waiting for that assessment.)

Later, we learned the financial details of the deal. ("They sold our heritage for a pittance," Joe Mendelson would tell a reporter.)

Still later, we lost the second part of the case. The judge said the Department of Interior did not violate all the laws we thought they had; he said they had not breached the public trust, and that it was okay that they had declared Yellowstone a laboratory so as to make the deal fit a law that would allow them to make such a deal.

We're appealing, of course. And losing count of all the other park deals waiting for the outcome of our case in Yellowstone.

I'm often asked why we did it, why did we sue. The Edmonds Institute is, after all, a small public interest organization doing research and education, not litigation.



I still tell people what I put up on our website—we sued because as we understood what was happening in Yellowstone, it seemed that public agencies were acting in ways inconsistent with the missions they had been given by the people. It seemed they were acting counter to the protection of biodiversity, counter to the public interest and even counter to the social contract that binds us all together.

To discover if we understood correctly, we sued. Essentially, we asked the courts to help us do some research. As I wrote to the lawyers:

"One hundred years ago a roll call vote of 115 ayes, 65 nays and 60 abstaining made Yellowstone this country's—and the world's—first national park. Ulysses S. Grant signed it officially 'ours' in 1872.

"Home to more geysers and hot springs than the rest of the world combined, Yellowstone's miles of lakes, rivers, trails, meadows, mountains, streams and grizzly bears hold a special place in the public consciousness...

"Today, at the same time as the park is in a deep funding and conservation crisis, its wealth is being tapped by private prospectors. Some of them are going to make big money out of Yellowstone.

"The resource being extracted is a kind of living gold—microorganisms, tiny forms of life that exists only in the kinds of environments found at Yellowstone—highly acidic and extremely hot ther-

mal pools and geysers, for example.

"These heat-loving microorganisms and the enzymes they produce can be extremely useful in industrial processes ranging from paper and beer making to meat tenderizing and pharmaceutical creation.

"*Thermus aquaticus*, one such useful microorganism, was taken from Yellowstone a few years back and one of its enzymes... earns for its 'owners', Hoffman-LaRoche, the Swiss drug giant that holds its patent, more than \$100 million a year, with earnings projected to increase to \$1 billion a year by 2005. No money came to the national parks or the national treasury from the Yellowstone-derived microorganisms or its enzyme.

"Today there are many corporate prospectors and their agents in Yellowstone and the National Park Service are looking for ways to devise licensing agreements with them to ensure that taxpayers gain from profits derived from the national treasury. The Edmonds Institute has several concerns in this matter: at the deepest level is our concern that the Park Service is participating in the commercialization and privatization of life. As MIT molecular biologist Jonathan King once said, 'Privatizing life in a place like Yellowstone is like privatizing the sky—it is a misappropriation of the common heritage of us all... We didn't save Yellowstone to make a profit. We saved it because it has greater value.'

"On another level, (we're) concerned that if the Park Service is negotiating contracts and agreements with private individuals and corporations for access to materials in the national parks, those negotiations be made public, with adequate time and provision made for public comment. If the Park Service is negotiating, the public has a right to see that the Park Service does a good job of it, especially where the revenues concerned might be sufficient to pay the annual costs of the Park Service itself.

"Transparent negotiations are essential in a democracy, especially where there appears to be an absence of the usual pressures of the market. There is, in the case of Yellowstone for example, no competitive bidding for the privilege of prospecting the parks.

"While... (we do) not endorse the commercialization of the parks or the patenting of microorganisms or the enzymes derived from them, if such commercialization and patenting are deemed by the national will to be desirable, especially in times like these where monies are short for such desirable public purposes as maintaining the national parks (not to mention maintaining social safety nets), then all aspects of the process whereby national treasures such as the parks are apportioned or made accessible to private companies and individuals must be made strictly public, with all negotiations transparent and subject to public comment and scrutiny. To do anything else is to be complicit in theft from the national treasury."

The last time I went to Yellowstone, I took a long, hard look at the words on the great stone arch at the park's entrance. They say, "For the benefit and enjoyment of the people..."

Beth Burrows is director of the Edmonds Institute, 20319-92nd Avenue West, Edmonds, Washington 98020; beb@igc.org; www.edmonds-institute.org.

## Mattole Defense Continues

continued from page 1

The first of the seven plans—THP 1-99-475HUM—was approved in early September, but temporarily stopped in court by Environmental Protection Information Center, the Petrolia-based Lost Coast League and the Humboldt Watershed Council. Unfortunately, that temporary stay was overturned in early November, and on November 10, Columbia Helicopter employees, under contract to Maxxam/PL went in to begin logging. However, the Columbia workers (mostly from Oregon) were rather surprised to be met deep in the woods by over a dozen local forest defenders. At the end of the day, after tired sheriffs had been trudging up and down the hills trying to catch the sly forest defenders, only one tree had been cut. However, two valiant activists, Soma and Iguana, had suffered at the "hands of justice" when the sheriffs pepper sprayed them in the face for attempting to engage the workers in dialogue. Although loggers were expected throughout that weekend, as is the Maxxam-style of PL management, none showed.

About 20 Mattole community members rallied at

PL's Monument Gate early November 13, awaiting the arrival of the timber fallers. As dawn was breaking, the skies opened and rain and hail began falling. No fallers showed. By the end of that day, the 20-plus defenders now in the woods were camped out among four inches of freshly fallen snow. Forest defense in the woods has continued to grow, despite the incredible hike into the area and the extreme weather conditions. On November 20, another 35 people waited at Monument Gate. This time PL's head security goon Carl Anderson was there with a few sheriff's deputies, but still no fallers.

We continue to pray for rain, as neither Maxxam nor the sheriffs can use the seasonal roads on Long Ridge and Rainbow Ridge for timber operations until 48 hours after the last rains (or snow!). Community members are working to protect this forest on many fronts: in the woods, in the courts and by buying it outright. The long-term vision for Rainbow is to purchase the 14,000-acre North Fork Mattole lands from PL to protect the ancient forests and other areas of high conservation value, while managing the cut-over lands and rangelands in an ecologically responsible manner.

This acquisition is unique in that it is proposing to keep the land private (not giving it to the feds), for long-term community management.

Please contact Maxxam CEO Charles Hurwitz (713) 975-7600; 952-4795 (fax) and PL President John Campbell (707) 764-4212; 764-4269 (fax) and tell them that it would be in their best interest to avoid another public campaign to defend the ancient forests of the North Coast and instead institute a voluntary moratorium while the community can negotiate an option to purchase these incredible forests.

For more information and regular alerts, check out [www.asis.com/~coho](http://www.asis.com/~coho). If you can help in the woods, call the Mattole Forest Defenders hotline at (707) 441-3828, actions will likely be happening all winter, unless a voluntary moratorium is offered. Backcountry gear, food and cash donations can be sent to POB 117, Petrolia, CA 95558.

*Editor's note: The one tree that was felled early on was bucked up into short sections by a highly skilled local night elf making it unusable in PL's mill. Fellers were able to drop a few dozen more trees days later. Resistance is ongoing in the Mattole.*

# DEAREST SFB FOR BRAINS,

Dear Sir, or Madam,

Greetings from the subtropical delta of Bangladesh. As you very well know this is an impoverished and a least developed country on the face of 'our' planet. Confoundingly our government has taken the decision to erect a nuclear power plant in this densely populated nation to the consternation of many amongst us. The International Atomic Energy Agency has given their nod to go ahead with the project. The project itself is being questioned by many but the general population is being kept in the dark about its progress, as is the process in so many big projects that the government undertakes; so typical of third world countries with weak democracies.

We would be most grateful if your organization could assist us with the pertinent data as to the dangers of operating a nuclear reactor. We can not even begin to imagine where they intend to bury the toxic radioactive waste in this small country. The ocean floor (Bay of Bengal) seems like the obvious choice. Any way you look at it, the prospects do not look good for any inhabitant of this planet should we carry on with this nuclear technology. Electricity: how we get it does not matter anymore; we are addicted to it. We really need your expert help to stop this project. Please send us an information package with which we can debate the issue with our policy makers. We feel that you are in a better position to uncover some of the secret dealings going on at present to erect this nuclear reactor in this corner of the globe.

Won't you please help? We would like to put this project on ice! We look forward to hearing from you soon.

With warmest regards,

—ISHTIAQUR RAHMAN, ROAD 20, BLDG. 16, SECTOR-4, UTTARA, DHAKA, BANGLADESH

Dear SFB, etc.,

Last spring I wrote a grossly whiny letter complaining about never hearing about EF! actions in our area until afterward. I apologize to everyone for having made assumptions of elitism. As near as I can make out, there was no organized system for spreading the news of upcoming events. Friends remember to let friends know about stuff but it just doesn't occur to connect with out-of-the-way sympathizers.

Perfectly normal!

Since then, I have been at several actions, and I've had a chance to meet people as well as act. It is comforting to be able to do something. People feel stymied about what to do to turn things around. Lots of people would like to go further than the three r's but don't want to spin their wheels making noise that changes nothing. I talk with a lot of people who do believe there is a problem but who are so cynical and frightened of the monster social machines of politics and big industry that they are ready to accept eco-death. Earth First!ers are willing to speak up, to act. We are either the naive or the courageous. The difference is one of self-respect and some kind of ability to hope that a

future is possible. Most people seem numb, almost catatonic.

In a way, I am with the social ecologists. I believe that the changes needed can only be come to through reaching people and showing them how to gain a better way of life. Western economic civilization sucks! Self-referring communities, political decentralization and alternative economies rule! With that, megadeath industries will collapse. That's in the long-term. In the short-term, the more community each of us fosters, the more individuals will have the self-respect to get out there and organize, demonstrate, and if needed, put their bodies and lives on the line.

Change the Humans! Earth wins!

—PENNY J. NOVACK

Editor, EF! Journal,

Despite the media hype about the seven million acres of fires that burned this year, that number was well below the 1916-1999 US annual average of 13.9 million acres! Huge sums were expended fighting fires in remote areas posing no risk to property. Fire is a vital, life-giving force plants and animals depend upon for nutrient recycling and diversified landscapes.

Thinning, debris removal, and prescribed fire are the new panacea for a century of USFS fire suppression and forest cattle grazing. The "Flagstaff model," promoted by the NAU School of Forestry professor and pro-logging western senators, is simply industrial logging of large trees under the guise of "fuel reduction." The Flagstaff model is truly ugly—a few "telephone" poles remain, surrounded by deforested wastelands of slash waiting to be burned. Congress just voted this \$1.8 billion. It will start off by scalping 180,000 acres in Arizona. Logging the biggest trees sacrifices the trees least likely to burn, erodes topsoil and degrades entire streams and watersheds.

USFS experts say the 125-200 foot zone around homes is the zone to protect. The Flagstaff model, however, starts miles outside of Flagstaff. It is a logging scam having essentially nothing to do with protecting property.

—RAY LEIMKUEHLER

Dear SFB,

My name is Randy Sandberg. I live in the town of Moses Lake, Washington. I have an air quality problem and I don't know where to turn. A corporation, National Frozen Foods, purchased land adjacent to mine. I own approximately 30 acres. National Frozen Foods (NFF) began spraying processed waste water on these fields next to my property this spring. The odor is unbelievably foul when they are irrigating. I have called NFF many times, and have talked to their manager, Tom Schultz. He has assured me that they want to be "good neighbors" and will take care of the odor problem. The problem persists. I have called the Department of Ecology and written numerous letters to the DOE. Their enforcement officer, Don Nichols, told me they (DOE) probably won't shut down a big corpora-

tion because of a few complaints. I live 10 miles out of Moses Lake. I have lived here since 1983. Our lives this summer have been miserable. We cannot go outside whenever they are irrigating. The odor is unbelievable. We can't open our windows. Last night, October 19, the smell came into our house and all the windows were closed! This morning at 6:15 a.m. the smell was terrible. It was difficult to walk from my house to my barn and get in my truck. The DOE has told me it will take time (how long?) to work out the problem. National Frozen Foods said they will plant trees between their property and mine (it isn't a visual problem, it is an odor). Am I to wait for the trees to grow?? When NFF received their permit from the DOE, it states "if there is any odor, NFF must immediately mitigate the situation". When I reminded DOE of that statement, they said they didn't mean immediately. The DOE came to my house when I complained. They (DOE) drove out with the manager of National Frozen Foods to my place. That didn't look too impartial to me. And surprise, surprise, there wasn't any smell that day. No irrigating. What a coincidence. What am I to do? It is apparent that the DOE will not protect me or my family. I am a school teacher in Moses Lake. I have been here on my property since 1983. I love where I live. I shouldn't have to adjust my lifestyle or move due to a problem that shouldn't occur in the first place. I need some help. I cannot afford to hire an attorney. That is why I went to the DOE in the first place. Now I realize they are in the back pocket of NFF. The DOE is not fulfilling what they said they would. NFF is not fulfilling what they said they would. In their application for the permit, NFF said they do not make any odor. What can I do? My telephone number is (509)765-3765 home, and (509)-766 2661, ext. 2163, work. My email address is rnsand@moseslake-wa.com I need help. I don't know if you can help me or not. Please put yourself in my position. Thanks.

—RANDY SANDBERG

Dear SFB,

Tristan Masat takes issue, in the Mabon SFB, with my "lame, ignorant attacks" on his Industrial Workers of the World. He claims that "industrial" means industry by industry, not "industrial." Huh? And that neither does the "workers" part of IWW mean an endorsement of work. In fact, according to Tristan, the Wobblies "are only interested in ending the economic exploitation of people and the earth."

Maybe he could supply even one instance of any IWW questioning or indictment of basic institutions like industrialism or work. Without such an orientation the Wobblies, despite some militant rhetoric, are basically no different from any other union: necessary for brokerage (and thus maintenance) of wage-labor, part of the fundamental glue that holds the Work-Consume-Destroy Nature machine together. Like the Steelworkers, for instance.

—JOHN ZERZAN

Dear Editor,

Thanks for printing Tristan Masat's critique of John Zerzan's uninformed put-down of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), a great movement that is still alive thanks to organizers like Tristan and the late, great Judi Bari. That same Lugnasadh (August-September) issue had a couple of other letters that may have implied support for lethal violence as a "no compromise" tactic. Let's be perfectly clear that violence that includes the killing of other human beings is really ahistorical and therefore very, very stupid. Violence towards other human beings just doesn't work anymore—if it ever did. The totalitarian state that we are all, in varying degrees, suffering under, is not only far too ruthless and possessing far too much over-kill capacity, but has the sympathy of the vast majority of the public on its side as well. This is not about pacifism of life-styles. I'm just saying don't even think about actions that may result in human fatalities, as your insanity/retardation will get you only dungeons and death.

On the other hand, there is more than one kind of nonviolence. Monkeywrenching that doesn't hurt anyone is certainly a kind of nonviolence. Private property, after all, is not sacred. ("Property is theft" according to 19th century anarchist Proudhon). Captain Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society is certainly a great model for property-destructive nonviolence. His organization has damaged hundreds of thousands of dollars of "enemy" property, including the successful ramming of a Japanese drift-netter several years ago, and the sinking of at least four or five illegal whaling vessels. And yet Sea Shepherds pride themselves for never having caused the death or injury of a single antagonist.

Currently the most heroic of non-violent protagonists seem to be peoples in third world countries defending what is left of their lands. The U'wa of Columbia have threatened to commit mass suicide if big oil gets their way with them. And in central India, thousands of villagers in the Narmada Valley insist they will drown themselves rather than allow their arrogant government to proceed with the building of hundreds of costly and unnecessary land-flooding dams. Is this nonviolence as a lifestyle? Does it matter?

On the other hand we are far too ignorant of "Earth force," or truth-power, the psychological jiu-jitsu as taught by Gandhi, King and others. These may sometimes appear as compromising or "reformist" strategies, but that is only because we know no better. So let us study and work on ourselves with the concentration of the most dedicated martial-artist. And in all our actions, especially those in defense of this beautiful biosphere, let us be as clear-thinking and knowledgeable as we are brave and selfless. The masses of our fellow-earthlings may just join us as we show them how our own love for our Mother is saving us all.

Thank You.

—AL WHITE

To the editor,

Coyote Killers are salivating with anticipation for the opening of "save a cat—kill a coyote season." The killers of coyotes call it management, but lose sight of the fact that cats kill thousands of birds and other wildlife here on Cape Cod.

Would anyone suggest a "save a bird—kill a cat" season?

How about a hunting season for SUVs that speed along narrow Cape Cod roads killing hundreds of pets and other wildlife—children could be the next victim of these four-wheeled living rooms.

A hunting season to manage *Homo sapiens* would solve the problems of overdevelopment, fuel consumption, pollution and it would provide suitable habitat for other creatures to co-exist with us.

It's not the coyote we fear—it's ourselves. When the bullet tears into the flesh of the coyote killing her free spirit—her wildness, only then will Cape Codders miss the howl that gave all of us a brief glimpse of the wildness within us that vanished chasing the American dream.

—PETER SOUZA

Dear SFB,

Thanks for a good job over the long haul! I'm sure there were plenty of naysayers (some even allegedly on our side) who thought EF! would fade away in a few years, especially after the Arizona Five episode, but I'm glad the EF! Journal had enough far-sighted volunteers and financial support to stay the course. The Journal is always a good read. I very much admire the people who stand up for a just cause in defense of a small and ever more fragile planet.

Muir power to you!

—ARTHUR F. EVANS

Dear SFB,

I have always considered myself an environmentalist, but I have just started reading the *Earth First! Journal*, and I am left with some questions. There are some aspects I'm not getting here, such as the "struggle" against GM crops, capitalism, and why so many people are vegans.

Granted, GM crops would be bad if they were ever proven dangerous, but has anyone thought about how much land has been saved from the till due to the increased yield per-acre? Am I treading in the taboo? With six billion people, traditional crops are no longer sufficient until the population trend can be reversed.

Also, I have seen many arguments against capitalism, but what would the alternative be? Nobody specified this in the *Earth First! Journal*. A socialist utopia? Communism? Anarchism? Any type of tribal type government could not work with such masses of people in contemporary times, and other governments of the past are not any better than the freedom we have now.

My last area of question has to do with diet. Is being a vegan a moral choice or a health decision? Beef is an inefficient animal to raise and eat, so I can see that, but what about chicken, fish, goat? Humans are omnivorous, and animal protein is better than

vegetable sources. As long as endangered species are not being eaten....?

Anyone care to respond?

—NATHAN MARSH  
H-93497 C8-232L,  
PO Box 3030,  
SUSANVILLE, CA  
96127

Dear Subversive,  
Fly, Beings,

I recently received your August-September issue (addressed to boxholder). I had not requested it and this was the first I received, but I loved it. Please print this letter as I want to send much thanks to whoever gave you my address and maybe they'll read this. My single biggest personal political issue of concern is welfare reform a.k.a. welfare reform, but I support what I understand to be your agenda. Also I support what I recently heard described as "black block" ("blak blok?"). I was wondering if there was much concern about welfare reform among your crowd. I'm a member of United For a Fair Economy and am contacting the Kensington Welfare Rights Union and would like to hear your recommendations of other similar groups. Also, I plan to subscribe.

Thank You,

—SHAWN, POB 663, SENECA FALLS,  
NY 13148

Hello Excrement for Brains,

Wow! Am I really still in this shithole? Ya folks may or mayn't remember me from the SFB Eostar 1998. Enraged over the development that was creeping in, on, and around my wooded Sugar Creek homestead in rural Indiana, a couple compadres and I "deleted" a good doctor's fancy home overlooking the clear-cut wasteland he called his yard. That was almost five fucking years ago and here I sit. Guess they learned me, eh?

But I'm taking it all with a grain of salt. Doing whatever I can to expand the feces in my noggin. They keep me shuffled around because of my activist demeanor. I'm new in this Corrections Corp. of America joint in Indianapolis. Are you guys familiar with this emerging corporate leech? Capitalism at it's finest. I tried to implement a recycling program here. They treated me like a Scalawag with leprosy.

Fortunately they have a college program here, I was able to transfer a few of my credits to Ball State (not enough to complete an Environmental Science degree). I recently got my sheepskin, an Associate in Art, which the General Assembly was kind enough to knock a year off for. So now my never ending quest for knowledge trudges onward. I should receive my BS in December '01, which will put me out the door and into freedom.

I am now in the process of applying to graduate schools. I want to get out and finish my Masters (Hell, PhD) in Environmental Science or Law. Not only do we need to commit more direct action, frontline monkeywrenching and activism. Remember, the first activists were bearded, beer guzzling, backwoods good ole' boys like George Hayduke. We've also got to hit 'em with the almighty pen. Hounding state reps and Senate and filing lawsuits. What we don't need is a bunch of rich

suburbanite kids who just want to grow dreadlocks and waste mom and dad's money on weed and Congo drums.

Keep up the fight, I'll be joining ya soon.

A big Green fist to all,

—MATTHEW ROLAND #962480,  
CORRECTIONS CORPORATION OF  
AMERICA, 730 E. WASHINGTON ST.,  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46202

Dear Shit for Brains,

You would throw your support around like there is a popularity contest. EF! ain't a democratic election, it is a collective. Some EF!ers support Mumia Abu Jamal—excellent! I do too. You call Mumia a cop killer, so you may not know that his gun, found with the shot and wounded freedom fighter and used to convict him at trial, did not match ballistically with the lead pulled out of the dead cop.

I'll stand behind EF!, even if I don't see eye to eye with every EF!er, or agree with every group's methods or directives. It's Earth First! right? Separating over "comparatively" lesser issues is shitty. But if you feel that strongly about it, EF! is probably better off without you.

For Evolution  
For Revolution  
For Change!!!

—J.R. HOWARD

SFB,

Please help me find some open-minded people that I can talk to! My name is Zarah (16) and I live right outside of Greensboro, North Carolina. I was thrilled when I found out that the RRR was going to be so close to my home this year, but unfortunately I have parents who still think I'm 11 and an undependable car. I'm desperate to find people who are actually interested in fighting for the Earth instead of those who just sit on their asses holding up peace signs. Preaching and whining about how endangered our planet is. I know that there are people like me, but I haven't found them yet. As soon as I finish high school, I plan to move northwest, but until then I'm desperate to connect with people who are open-minded and educated about the EF! movement. I ask for anyone to write whether you live close by or not.

I'm searching for any intelligent life! Thanks!

—ZARAH, 6356 CLOUD RD.,  
JULIAN, NC 27283;  
LAUGHINGSIRENS@HOTMAIL.COM

Dear SFB,

The "Bring on the Repression" Society is here to say, "when we say bring on the repression, we mean a fuckload of repression, against us." Rather than use our energy to build broad alliances that can protect us, we prefer to isolate ourselves so that we can get slaughtered. We measure success not by how much real change we are effecting, but by how militant our tactics are and how brutally the cops react. Sure, we used to hang banners and use lockboxes and all that bullshit, but then everyone started doing it.

Threatened with losing our status as the most radical kids on the block, we had to become even bigger bad-asses. Now we fuck shit up. And our favorite things to fuck up are the fragile coalitions that others work hard to build and maintain. We've found that the most effective way we can isolate ourselves (so as to politically enable our own repression) is by being perpetually divisive and by shit-talking about everyone. We love to talk shit. We spend more time trashing our allies than we do smashing the state. We even trash the very people who go out of their way to support us. We prefer shit-talk over constructive critique, division over diplomacy, rhetoric over communication.

Who would we want to communicate with anyway? They're all middleclass bourgeois and—even though we were recently the same—they're the enemy. And nothing they can do is of any benefit to our revolution. In fact, nothing anyone does, except us, is of any benefit at all. Bearing a striking resemblance in both size and mentality to religious sects which claim that theirs is the only way to heaven, we hold that ours is the only way to revolution.

We recognize the present time as historic not because of the powerful grassroots alliances that are emerging everywhere, not because our values of non-hierarchy and autonomy are being infused into many popular organizing efforts, but because finally we're in direct confrontation with the state. So what if we can't possibly win a direct confrontation with such an advantaged opponent at this time? Maybe we're not aiming to win.

Fuck everyone, so we'll get fucked!  
Repulsively yours,  
—THE "BRING ON THE REPRESSION"  
SOCIETY

Dear Earth First!

I am writing you this letter from within the walls of the Sterling Correctional Facility in Colorado. A buddy of mine has been getting your magazine and been lending it to me for some time now. I agree with all the issues that you all present in it, and I am currently trying to start a Forestry Conservation study course! It has only come to my attention in the past few years that we are destroying this place we call home. And that is not right! I consider myself a political prisoner of the state of Colorado, who is soon to be released. In the past five years of being a guest of this state I have come to realize what has been going on with the planet is the fault of uncaring people. It pains me to see that we can sit by and let this planet be destroyed and not do anything about it. What is wrong with society today? I guess I just don't understand why people can't understand, that by killing the earth we are killing ourselves! How long do they think they will be able to drink this water before there is nothing left but what we polluted! If we don't stop polluting our atmosphere, water and land we are going to have to face the consequences eventually. I guess that I just don't understand how we can kill something that provides us with life. If you think about it, how long is it going to be before we contaminate all of our soil? How long is it going to be before we contaminate all the water?

Those two things right there are the only means of survival. There is no way to live if there is no water to drink or land to harvest food on. I guess that there is nothing to understand. People just don't give a XXXX anymore. Well I hope that you can have some kind of understanding of how I am looking at this, because I am tired of being alone in my thoughts of this screwed up world! Until we meet or hear from one another again, be strong in the fight!!!

Always an Advocate

—RODNEY "EDGE 69" MILES,  
#91114, SCF/c-2, POB 6000,  
STERLING, CO 80751

Dear SFB,

I have recently moved and need to change my contact information with your records. I've really enjoyed reading the journal and have passed it around to my family as well as not-so-enviro coworkers. They make fun, but I see them reading. And a couple weeks ago, I even had a decent conversation with one guy about mountain top removal. Babysteps to a new way of thinking. Keep up the good work!

—STEPHANIE

Dear S.F.B.,

I recently caught a segment of news regarding the release of animals in Ft. Collins, Colorado. The ALF took responsibility for the righteous liberation of hundreds of innocent animals. I couldn't help but crack a huge smile and laugh to myself. I suppose I can't help but be happy and content in knowing that there are a lot of us out there who actually break the barriers of social naivete and care about *all* of life, rather than just our own.

The part that broke my smile was where they referred to the ALF as a terrorist group. I've heard this on countless occasions, not only about the ALF but many other activist groups as well. I have to question this label, as I'm sure most of us do. The establishment, the government, the fascist law-enforcement, judges, and even the locals actually believe this to be terrorism. It only goes to show how conditioned our society has become, to actually go along with such ignorance.

Genesis labs lost their research, which means they also lost money in this liberation. The animals were set free, and the media of course had their choice of words. Cruelty is too often mistaken for heroism in our naive society, another activist group has once again been marked "a terrorist group" and I'm positive this will continue to be acceptable in the minds of the masses. Ignorance!

Countless accounts of animals every day living in fear, being tortured with cruel and unkind experiments. The mass production of cattle and poultry for slaughter, for carnivorous human consumption, for capital gain. The question the world has to ask itself is, who are the terrorists? I find it hard to believe that so many people find it acceptable to agree with the illusion that the media creates when they refer to this type of liberation as a terrorist act.

Down by law,

—SMAKONE

Dear SFB,

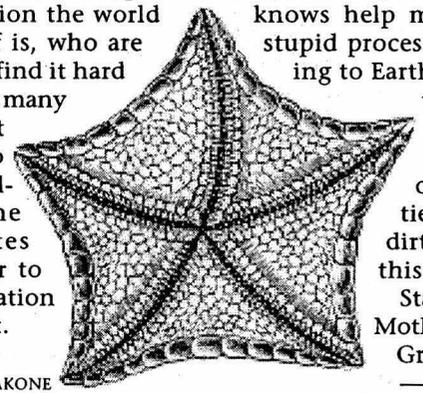
IM GONNA MAKE THIS SHORT AND CLEAR BUT IM SURE IT WILL BE IN VAIN... I GOT FAMILY IN THE SOUTH AND IN THE NORTH WEST TIMBER REGROWTH IS SUBSTANTUALLY REPLENISHED YEAR AFTER YEAR BOARD FOOT BY BOARD FOOT I HAVE SEEN THE FULL CYCLE TAKE PLACE IN OREGON AND OKLAHOMA AS WELL AS ARKANSAS... TIMBER IS WHAT HAS MADE MY FAMILY & COMMUNITY WHAT IT IS TODAY AND SOMETIMES THATS NOT MUCH THE SUPPLY AT HAND HAS BEEN OR IN THE PROCESS OF BEING SHUT DOWN TO HARVESTING... FAMILYS HAVE SUFFERED OR IN SOME CASES TOOK THEIR OWN LIVES AS RESULT OF EXAGERATED LIES... THE SHEEP YOU HAVE BRAINWASHED TO THINKING A GODDAMN OWL IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF HONEST WORKING CLASS FAMILYS, YOU ALL HAVE ALLREADY STARTED TO PULL THE TRIGGER THAT FIRES THE BLOW THIS COUNTRY DONT NEED... I GOT A STAT YOU WILL LOVE..... HOW MANY MEMBERS & OR SUPPORTERS AMONG YOU HAVE WITNESSED THESE FAMILYS I SPOKE OF OR EVEN BEEN IN THE TIMBER YOU SO ACTIVLY PROTEST????? OR HOW MANY OF THE LIVE IN THEM LOCATIONS AS WELL????? I CAN SEND PHOTOS SO PLEASE KEEP YOUR CITYFIED NEED FOR PROTEST IN THE CITY AND ABOUT THE CITY THIS IS MY HOME AND I LOVE IT MORE THAN YOU!!!! STAY AWAY FROM MY LAND & MY FAMILY... LOGGING BUILT THIS GREAT NATION WE HAVE MANAGED TO PRESERVE THE MAJORITY OF OUR RESOURCES WE LIVE HERE YOU COME SEE IT WHEN YOUR DAY PLANNER DONT DICTATE YOUR LIVEING RAT RACE LIFE... SINCERELY,  
—CHRIS MCDUGAL

Greetings Earth First workers!

Just another of my thank you letters and to let it be known that I received September-October 2000 Mabon issue. This issue has hit close to hometown where the article of the Kaweah River by Phil Pescosolido was wrote right round hometown in Tulane County, Porterville. We are about 12 miles from the entrance to Sequoia National Park, but this article has been new news to me being behind the razor wire for five years now. Cement rivers look ugly, besides destroying hundreds of years of old-growth oaks is —ed. In Porterville a lot of oranges for Sunkist are grown and down the road about 5 miles west the town of Lindsey for the famous Lindsey olives will hopefully have a say so about water protection from the Tulane Irrigation District. Like Phil wrote— "Why is it willing to spend \$15 million in demolition, construction and legal costs to save \$300,000 a year." If anyone

knows help me figure this stupid process out by writing to Earth First! for me

to learn the minds of yo-yos who put on suits and ties and do this dirty work! I kept this at 170 words! Stay Strong for Mother Earth,  
Grayhair Navajo,  
—VICTOR TREVINO



## BARE BONES

### Texas Moves Toward Sea Turtle Reserve

Nesting Kemp's ridley sea turtles will now have a better chance of reaching their US nesting grounds on Padre Island, Texas, with a new no-shrimping zone established by the state. The south Texas coast will now be closed to shrimping from December 1 to July 15 out to at least five nautical miles offshore. In addition, no night shrimping will be allowed at any time within five miles of the shoreline. The Texas coast has long been a death zone for sea turtles due to illegal capture in shrimp trawl nets. Sea turtles drown when trapped in nets not properly equipped with turtle excluder devices (TEDs). The state also placed new gear restrictions on shrimp trawlers, set aside more nursery areas for shrimp in the bays and adopted federal TED laws as state regulations to enhance enforcement.

The seasonal closure allows shrimping to continue between July 15 and December 1, leaving sea turtles to face more than 1,500 shrimp vessels that normally trawl the coastal waters. Some of the worst stranding episodes have occurred in October and November.

### Vietnamese Troops, Rangers Fight Illegal Loggers

Troops and armed police have joined forest rangers in Vietnam to combat escalating violence over illegal logging and the trade in wild animals. The new strategy comes amid a string of gunfights and other incidents between forest protection officers and illegal loggers, the latest of which saw two people killed.

From 1995 to 1999, 12 forest rangers were killed and 490 injured in clashes with illegal loggers and wildlife smugglers. Recently the violence has increased. In the past eight months there have been at least four deaths in 17 armed assaults against forest protection officers. In one incident in southern Dac Lac province earlier this year, armed men destroyed forestry department vehicles and held three officials at gunpoint until they released a group of illegal loggers who had been arrested.

Rangers are being trained in self-defense, but forest protection officials say they need increased powers to deal with offenders who are reportedly often protected by powerful district and provincial officials. Environmental groups say Vietnam has become a major player in the international wildlife trade and that up to one million cubic meters of timber is illegally extracted from protected areas each year.

### Fee Resisters Acquitted

Four residents of Tucson, Arizona, were acquitted of "Failure to Pay Fee" for visiting Mount Lemon in the Coronado National Forest. The federal prosecutor representing the Forest Service pursued the matter criminally to discourage those who disagree with the Fee-Demonstration Project and refuse to pay out of protest. Through the Demo project, the federal agencies charge a use fee to park at trailheads on public lands. As criminal convictions require a higher burden of proof than civil matters, the prosecution failed. "It is interesting that if you pay the fee, you are counted as a supporter of the program, but if you refuse to pay you are prosecuted as a criminal," said defendant Lynn Jacobs. "I think this is a good opportunity to encourage users of public lands to refuse to pay the Recreation fee. Why should we endorse this test program by paying to use lands that have always been ours?" The local Apache representative could not be reached for comment.

# OXY BEGINS TEST DRILLING ON U'WA LAND

## SOLIDARITY ACTIONS CONTINUE

BY DANIEL

Three activists rappelled off the Morrison Bridge in downtown Portland, Oregon during the afternoon rush hour October 25, and unfurled a giant banner to call attention to the imminent mass suicide of thousands of indigenous U'wa people in northeastern Colombia. Up to 5,000 U'wa have said they will walk off a cliff if Occidental Petroleum (Oxy), which is preparing to drill on a site within ancestral U'wa territory, begins extracting oil on their land. As Berito Kuwar, President of the Traditional U'wa Authority said on May 4, 1997, "We would rather die, protecting everything we hold sacred, than lose everything that makes us U'wa."

Oxy expects to find over one billion barrels of oil, most of which would probably go to the US for petrochemical applications, particularly PVC pipe. The action targeted Vice President Al Gore because his political and financial relationships put him in a unique position to pressure Occidental and Colombia to halt the drilling.

Once deployed on the bridge, the activists were able to attach and jump in under five minutes, their bodies pulling the banner taut. Police arrived within 10 minutes, and eventually called in the fire department, rescue squad and county sheriff. After two hours and with the waning of daylight, the jumpers agreed to have a fireman rappel down to each of them and lower them individually into a waiting sheriff's boat. They were each charged with trespassing, disorderly conduct and interfering with an officer, then released. Their arraignment was on December 5.

The banner was clearly visible to drivers on the Hawthorne Bridge to the south, and especially to thousands of

slow-moving northbound commuters on the I-5 Marquam Bridge. Hundreds gathered at Waterfront Park to watch the action, and all local major media picked up the story.

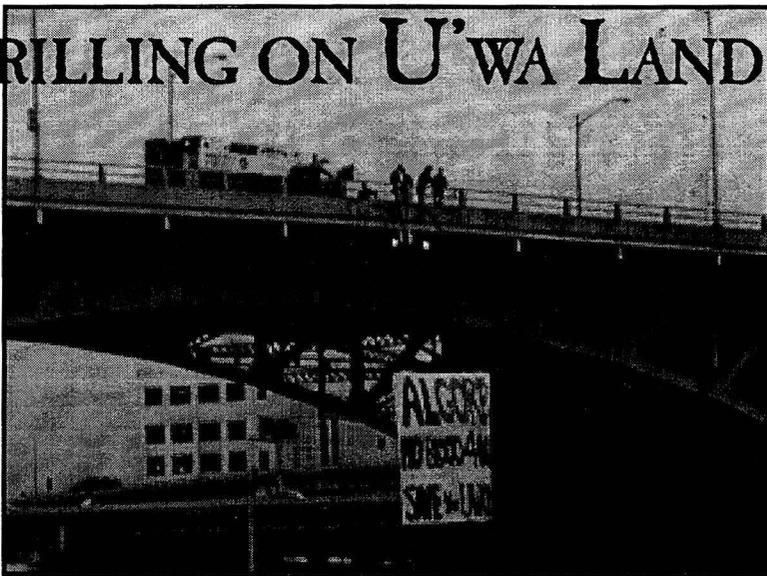
The action made its way into rush hour traffic reports.

Madrone, one of the jumpers, had this to say about the action: "Time is running out for the U'wa, so extreme actions like this are needed to wake people up. We all need to realize that when we drive cars and when we use plastics, we're directly contributing to the potential extinction of the U'wa people. Human lives are more valuable than oil."

This action followed a disruption at a Portland Gore campaign rally November 22, when activists held signs and screamed "Because you lie, the U'wa die!" To date, more than 20 Portlanders have been arrested for actions calling attention to the plight of the U'wa.

The situation became even more tense as Oxy began test drilling for oil on U'wa land November 3—the best time to get the story buried in pre-election weekend news. Thousands of Colombian troops remain on site, guarding Oxy equipment, from leftist guerillas, and terrorizing U'wa residents. The U'wa are currently organizing for a mass on-site mobilization, and are desperately in need of funds.

For more information contact Amazon Watch, 20110 Rockport Way, Malibu, CA 90265; (310) 456-1340; 456-0388 (fax); asoltani@igc.org; www.amazonwatch.org.



Your addiction to driving is killing the U'wa!

### U'WA LEADERS RESPOND TO MEDIA COVERAGE

On November 4, in response to Occidental Petroleum's commencement of drilling at the Gibraltar 1 test site, and the Colombian media's reporting that the U'wa had accepted it, the Association of U'wa Traditional Authorities and the U'wa Council issued the following statement:

The traditional authorities of the sovereign U'wa community, Werjayas, and the highest U'wa council, by way of this document make an official pronouncement to the international and national community: We reject the manner in which the media, national radio and press have informed the public that on November 3 at 4:00 p.m. Occidental Petroleum of Colombia Inc., has finally, after all the inconveniences presented by the U'wa, been able to begin the drilling on the Gibraltar 1 well, where they will have five months to definitely confirm if hydrocarbons exist in this site which they expect to be larger than the Cusiana Reserve.

We reject the manner in which this information has been presented through the report on the RNC News, which says: "The U'wa have accepted the exploration on the Samore Block, known in the high government as the Sifiri Project. All this report does is damage our image, placing barriers of conflict between all sectors and the community in general, communities that have brought assistance in this peaceful fight in defense of our territories."

As it is known to the U'wa community, and to both the national and international communities, the final drilling machinery was transported to the Gibraltar 1 well site. But before all of this, we emphasize that we have never accepted and never agreed, and always informed the media that our position is that we reject petroleum exploration and exploitation; even though this is not what the media informs the public now. What is informed by the televised media is different. The company will always have inconveniences with the U'wa because we will never permit that our highest law be violated by the Riowa (outsiders).

The U'wa have never negotiated because it goes against our cultural principles, right of life and respect for the environment.

The only thing that has been accomplished, in Cubara on July 7, 2000, is an agreement between the high government and the U'wa which states the following: "conform a work commission for the explanation and evaluation of the environmental, social, territorial and cultural impacts of petroleum exploration in the Samore block and to discuss the general problems of the U'wa community."



Company machines desecrate the sacred land at the drilling site.

### The U'wa Tradional Territory, by the Numbers

According to the U'wa Defense Project:

- The entire nation of Colombia is roughly equal to the size of Texas and California combined.
- The U'wa-defined ancestral territory is 6,100 square miles, half the size of the state of Maryland.
- The U'wa territory officially recognized by the Colombian government is 850 square miles, roughly half the size of Joshua Tree National Park. It is 14 percent of the size of the U'wa-defined ancestral territory.
- An equal percentage comparison would be if the U'wa-defined ancestral territory were the size of the United States. In such a setting the amount of land officially recognized by the government as U'wa territory would equal the size of Florida.

photo courtesy the Association of U'wa Traditional Authorities

## CONSIDER THE SALMON: ON EATING

You say you don't speak salmon  
but sliced thin in sushi it's nice  
Eat—and you are eating the wild  
swallowing what you can't imagine any  
other way  
part of the throbbing rivers  
the source of the rain god's single sigh  
Eat—barbecued salmon  
streaked black against rosy flesh  
for the understanding of the wild  
a view from under the horizon  
Eat—and you join the great sea  
join the traffic jam of salmon road  
twenty thousand in front, twenty thousand  
behind  
twenty thousand to the side  
pushing the water wall  
in the silence of no wind  
towards the krill gardens of the arctic  
Eat—the voice of God absorbed through  
the skin  
in the deepening thunder of swimming  
the muscled understanding of direction  
knowledge of source  
without this food we know nothing  
smoked to a toasted bagel with sweet red  
onions  
eat the knowledge of piloting with one  
purpose,  
one direction no phone calls  
no zip code  
pick up speed at the smell of your own  
river  
and poached with capers and cream  
in that fabulous French restaurant on West  
Thirteenth Street  
the tender rich sea crests on your tongue  
taste the will to survive  
the wild leaping climb home  
the possibility of broad listening beyond  
the horizon  
the eyes and ears to navigate wilderness  
Eat—so the elaborate mess of nature  
Makes elaborate sense.

—Patti Trimble

## ARMED WITH VISIONS

Clear as cut glass  
& just as dangerous

Treat each bear as the last bear.

Each wolf the last, each caribou.

Each track the last track.

Gone spoor, gone scat.

There are no more deertrails,

no more flyways.

Treat each animal as sacred,

each minute our last.

Ghost hooves. Ghost skulls.

Death rattles and

dry bones.

Each bear walking alone

in warm night air.

—Gary Lawless

## HERE BEFORE

*a chant*

Grizzly lived here  
before my people came

Grizzly lived here  
before my people

And the way that they lived,  
the way that they lived

They could've lived that way forever  
They could've lived that way forever

Here  
here on the brink of the world  
here on the brink of the world

Salmon lived here  
before my people came

Salmon lived here  
before my people

And the way that they lived,  
the way that they lived

They could've lived that way forever  
They could've lived that way forever

Here  
here on the brink of the world  
here on the brink of the world

Cougar lived here  
before my people came

Cougar lived here  
before my people

And the way that they lived,  
the way that they lived

They could've lived that way forever  
They could've lived that way forever

Here  
here on the brink of the world  
here on the brink of the world

People lived here  
before my people came

People lived here  
before my people

And the way that they lived,  
the way that they lived

They could've lived that way forever  
They could've lived that way forever

Here  
here on the brink of the world  
here on the brink of the world

—Kirk Lumpkin

## RIVER TOTEM POEMS FROM WATERSHED— AN ENVIRONMENTAL POETRY FESTIVAL

**WATERSHED:** A ridge of high land dividing two areas that are drained by different river systems. Also called water parting. The region draining into a river, river system, or other body of water. A critical point that marks a division or a change of course, a turning point. [American Heritage Dictionary]

## TREE

It is foolish  
to let a young redwood  
grow next to a house.

Even in this  
one lifetime,  
you will have to choose.

That great calm being,  
this clutter of soup pots and books.

Already the first branch-tips brush  
at the window.  
Softly, calmly, immensity taps at  
your life.

—Jane Hirshfield

Contact individual poets  
by writing to the  
Warrior Poets Society.

Send poems to:  
Warrior Poets Society  
PMB 361

108 MLK Jr. Student Union #4510  
Berkeley, CA 94720-4510

## BARE BONES

### Dam Demolished

A nearly century-old dam in Northern California was demolished in early October to free miles of flowing water for spring-run salmon. Saeltzer Dam was a 20-foot high, 90-foot wide barrier across Deer Creek. Authorities said its removal will improve flow along a nine-mile stretch.

About 12 miles of prime salmon-spawning habitat lies behind the dam, which was built in 1903 about 150 miles north of Sacramento. Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon were listed as a threatened species last year under the federal Endangered Species Act. The creek should now produce about 13,000 salmon yearly.

Since last year, some two dozen dams have been removed from Idaho to North Carolina, and at least 18 others are scheduled to go this year.

### GM Protesters Cleared

Greenpeace UK executive director Lord Peter Melchett and 27 environmental activists were found not guilty of causing criminal damage after admitting to destroying a six and one half acre field of genetically modified corn at Walnut Tree Farm, Lyng, near Dereham, Norfolk, in England last July. The corn was being grown as part of an experiment conducted by multinational agrochemical company AgrEvo, now called Aventis. Melchett and his co-defendants were arrested at the site of their dawn raid when a farmer called the police. They had been cleared of stealing the genetically modified corn by a different jury in April. The group said it was acting to protect neighboring organic crops and gardens from damage by genetically modified pollen.

Asked if he would consider destroying other crops, Lord Melchett said: "We have no immediate plans to take further action. Now is the time for the chemical companies and Blair to act. If they don't, we do not rule anything out."

### Salmon Declared Endangered

The wild Atlantic salmon was declared an endangered species in mid-November by the US federal government. The long-awaited decision by the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service extends federal protection to a population that biologists say has dwindled to fewer than 150 fish.

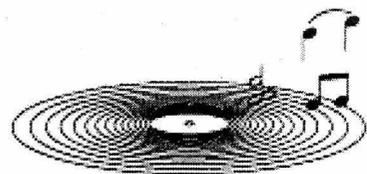
The listing applies on eight rivers in Maine: the Sheepscot and Ducktrap in midcoast Maine; the Narraguagus, Pleasant, East Machias, Machias and Dennys in Washington County; and Cove Brook, a tributary of the lower Penobscot. On the three rivers equipped with traps or weirs, only 27 adult salmon were counted migrating upstream to spawn this year.

Jamie R. Clark, director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, said federal protection was critical because less than 10 percent of the fish needed to ensure the long-term survival of wild salmon are returning to the rivers.

Under the law, the two agencies will review any federal project or action that might affect the fish. The government also will scrutinize any activity on private land that involves a federal permit or federal funding.

Fish farms on the Maine coast, which are required to obtain permits under the Clean Water Act, will be a top priority for federal review, because biologists believe that escaped farm salmon can get into salmon rivers and compete for limited habitat, pass diseases to wild fish or breed with them and dilute their genetic integrity. The aquaculture industry has refused to stop using European strains of salmon, which grow faster than native fish and allow fish farms in Maine to compete with foreign operations.

# Music Review



## Danny Gives Robert Hoyt's Latest a Spin

BY DANNY DOLINGER

In my not-so-humble opinion, Robert Hoyt is the best songwriter/musician to ever grace a campfire (sorry, Woody). He is easily as dedicated to his craft as anyone I know and devotedly meticulous about his music.

Robert's gifts for great music wrapped around cunning, insightful lyrics are well showcased on his second album, *Dumpster Diving Across America*. The engaging, thoughtful delivery of songs that really mean something is an excellent study in what a folk album can be. It is, however, the raw fire of his first effort, *As American as You*, that made me an aggressive champion

of this man's music. The fierce brimstone hammerings of "Apple Pie" and "Hot Little Corner," (either one ripe for a rendition by Motorhead or Ani) or the slow burn of songs like "It's One of Ours," wrap my heart in foil and stuff it into the embers overnight. This album has been #1 on my charts with little competition for 10 years.

With these two works to his credit, it should be no surprise to anyone that Robert's latest, *Mind's Eye* is a five-star-plus recording. It is rich with finesse and fire, the fire of the deep woods in the deep night.

Those who pine for the pyrotechnics and over-the-top rantings, chantings and mayhem of the rowdy campfire will no doubt spin this one at keg parties, roundly ignore it and find that it generously scratches that exquisite Rendezvous itch. Those who yearn for the quiet, precious listening moments of a late, late, late night campfire, when the rowdiest of the rowdy have run out of steam, when even coyote is quietly resting (or passed out) just outside the circle of firelight, and when stellar invocations of musical magic, beauty and reason are offered up to Gaia, the Universe and those wise enough or blindly lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time, take heed. Buy this album! Resist the urge to slam it into your stereo at the office while munching a veggie burrito and tapping at a keyboard with a phone jammed between your shoulder and your ear. Wait! Wait.

Listen to this album for the first time in a sacred space, a hot candlelit bath or maybe lounged out with loved ones around the wood stove or fireplace. Collect all the yummy, relaxing things you need so you don't

have to move, unplug from your life for 45 minutes and listen.

Prepare to take a joyous romp through an ominous place. "Valley of the Shadow" sets the stage for this journey. Clean, uncluttered, simple yet sophisticated instrumentation; really clever lead and harmony vocal lines support and enhance Robert's thoughtful and intelligent lyrics. There are lots of songs about looking for the light at the end of the tunnel; this one looks back into the blackness very honestly, but from the blessed, happy safety and sunlight of the other side. As with every song on *Mind's Eye*, the music sounds amazingly like the subject matter. I really think that every aspect of this album

song, one of three on the album, and a political prisoner song as well. The "walls closing in" are prison walls, but if you didn't know, you wouldn't guess. In fact the main critique I could make is that one or two of the topical songs might not quite have enough information for the uninitiated—"Jack Road," for instance. However, if you have ever been a part of a long-term occupation campaign anywhere, you'll understand at a core level, and it will break your heart. So will "Red River," and if there's a nitpicky little bit of detail missing from one or two songs, Robert's mastery of the broad and cryptic stroke glows like a tombstone under a full moon on "Ocilla

You Sleepy Little Town." This song will leave your asking questions you don't really want answered. Not one wasted detail, not one wasted word, not one wasted note on *Mind's Eye*.

"Lonely Road" and "Old Shawnee" are healthy, wholesome unrequited love songs. The music is so upbeat, these songs salve the wounds we all know so well, get you on your feet dancing and back in the game. "Swamp" and "Little Tree" will take you to two very different places outside of Babylon. "Stop Go," "Christopher Street," "I Hate Money" and "Indentured Class" all roll up their sleeves and get to the root of the matter as only a Robert Hoyt song can.

No "Hot Little Corner" on this one, but it doesn't belong here. Not one rant, yet what this album lacks in blood-boiling anger it more than makes up for in the clarity, reason, sadness, joy and hope of the spirit of the campfire just before dawn. And if you work for justice in any arena, "Your Rules" oughta fully get your dander up to write a letter to your congressperson... or maybe something a little more passionate. As *American As You* has slipped to number 2 on my charts, *Mind's Eye* is by far the better album. Everyone who contributed to this album has my immense admiration and respect. Get the album and find out who they are for yourselves. If you love acoustic guitar and words that mean something, this album will stand up to anything you've ever heard. *Mind's Eye* is truly a masterpiece. Thank you Robert. Job well done.

To order *Mind's Eye* send \$12 for a tape or \$17 for a compact disk to the Earth First! Journal, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440.

## MIND'S EYE



Robert Hoyt

is right, all the components are rock solid, but what most astounds me is how gorgeously and unobtrusively the music supports the message of every song, a brilliant balance of Robert's gifts for studio perfection and campfire simplicity. Robert Hoyt is the Lennon and McCartney of the artists listed in the *Earth First! Journal*, and this album is the best of *Revolver* and *Rubber Soul* combined.

If you're familiar with Robert's live performances and you're listening with your sweetheart, the first sweet soulful strummings of the second song, "This Star," will instinctively cause you to draw closer together. "Take a picture and hold it in your mind's eye, so when the walls close in you can still see the sky, there are so few things on which you can depend, but you can count on this star to shine without end." I am an unabashed mush puppy who loves songs that are so gooey you can't help but get some on you and this is one of my very favorites.

"This Star" is also a Cove/Mallard



# Hear ye, Hear ye, Hear ye...

## Political Prisoner Listings

### Eco-Defense

- Ted Kaczynski, #04475-046, POB 8500, Florence, CO 81226-8500.
- Wiebo A. Ludwig, Grand Cache Institution, Bag 4000, Grand Cache, Alberta, T0E 0Y0, Canada.
- Jeffrey Luers (Free) #1306729, 101 W 5th Street, Eugene, OR 97401. Awaiting trial on arson charges.
- Craig Marshall (Critic), POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405. Took a deal and is serving 66 months for attempted arson and other charges.
- Betty Krawczyk, Burnaby Correctional Facility for Women, 7900 Fraser Park Dr., Burnaby, BC V5J 5H1 Canada. Serving one year for blocking a road whilst trying to stop logging in the Elaho.
- Nikos Maziotis, c/o Dafni Vaganou, Ozortz 3, 10689 Athens, Greece. Serving 15 years for bombing the Greek Ministry of Industry in protest of an attempt by TVX-Gold to build a factory in Strymonikos Bay.

New: ELP North America  
POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440

### June 18/May Day

- Robert Thaxton #12112716, OSP, 2605 State St., Salem, OR 97310. Serving seven years for throwing a rock at a policeman in self-defense. Currently in solitary confinement for unknown reasons. Call OSP to inquire more information (503) 378-2453.
- Kuldip Bajwa (DN7230), HMP Brixton, Jebb Avenue, Brixton, London, SW2 5XF, England (21 months).
- Michael Collins, FR6303, H.M. Prison, PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, London, SW18 3HS, England (2 years).
- Nikki Koole, FB6530, HMYOI Feltham, Middx, TW13 4ND, England (9 months).
- Angel Makoly FB4689 HMYOI Onley, Rugby CV23 8AP England (24 months).
- Paul Revell, FR5599, H.M.Prison, PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, London, SW18 3HS, England (18 months).
- Simone Sabeddu, FB2520, HMYOI Feltham, Bedfont Road, Feltham, Middx TW13 4ND, England (14 months).
- Darren Sole, DN9381, HMP Highpoint, Suffolk, CB8 9YG England (12 months).
- Kevin Townsend, FR6275, H.M.Prison, PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, London, SW18 3HS, England (9 months).
- Darryl Walker, FR5483, H.M.Prison, PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, London, SW18 3HS, England (15 months).
- Gareth Williams, FT7291, HMP Pentonville London, N7 8TT, England (6 months).

### Animal Liberation

- Jeremy Parkin, 3365 South 900 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84119. Recently arrested and being charged with ALF activity. For more information, <http://freejeremy.uarc.com>.
- Aaron Rudra, PB 43, 5726 Vaksdal, Norway. Sentenced to 10 months for an arson attack against a slaughterhouse in Bergen.
- Barry Horne, VC2141, HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London, SE28 0EB, England. Serving 18 years for various anti-vivisection arsons and attempted arsons.
- Darren Cole, FN4694, HMP Blakenhurst, Howell Lane, Redditch, Worcs, BN7 6QS, England. Awaiting trial for an anti-live exports bomb hoax at Dover Docks.
- Mel Broughton, DJ8216, HMP The Mount, Molyneux Ave, Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP3 0NZ, England. Sentenced to four years imprisonment for conspiracy to cause explosions.
- Tony Humphries, AP7965, HMP Swaleside, Brabazon Rd, Eastchurch, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 4DZ, UK. Sentenced to seven years for conspiracy to cause explosions plus two years concurrent for possession of explosives.
- David Elliot, HMP Chelmsford, Springfield Rd., Chelmsfield CM2 6LQ, England. Serving two months for an alleged assault on a police officer during a hunt sabotage.
- Mark Kulsdom, Blegdamfejens Faengsel, Blegdamsvej 6, 2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark. Dutch ALF activist serving 10 months for releasing 8,000 mink from a fur farm in Denmark.
- Robert Molenaar, Vestre Faengsel, cel 408, Vigerslev Alle 1, 2450 Copenhagen SV, Denmark. Serving same sentence as above.

### Indigenous Land Rights

- Leonard Peltier #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048
- Robert Wilson (Standing Deer) #640289, Pack Unit 1, 2400 Wallace Pack Rd. Navasota, TX 77869. While in jail, he exposed government plot to kill Peltier.

### EF! Journal in Tucson

All ye buccaneers interested in how the *Earth First! Journal* sails, we're looking for input on format, any general ideas and a few brave scalawags to crew the *Journal* in Tucson. Send yer two bits to EF!, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702 or come to Pirate Island for the Organizers' Conference. The lily-livered need not apply!

## AGAINST PATRIARCHY CONFERENCE

The aim of this conference is to focus directly upon Patriarchy and our roles within it. Through presentation, dialogue, and performance, we hope to broach these questions seriously and playfully, with intellect and emotion. The goal is an increased understanding of our lives under Patriarchy and how we might change it, so that we may one day live in a world where love rules over power and trust is valued over manipulation.

- WHAT? "AGAINST PATRIARCHY: A Step Toward The Abolition Of Male Privilege"—a 3 day conference/punkfest for men and women
- WHERE? University of Oregon campus
- WHEN? January 26th (Friday) to the 28th (Sunday), 2001
- CONTACT INFO? AP Collective, POB 10661, Eugene, OR 97440; [againstpatriarchy@fruitiondesign.com](mailto:againstpatriarchy@fruitiondesign.com); [www.fruitiondesign.com/againstpatriarchy](http://www.fruitiondesign.com/againstpatriarchy)

## Shut Down the FTAA: April 2001

April 2001, Quebec City has the dubious honor of hosting the Summit of the Americas, which brings together all the so-called leaders of North, Central and South America (except Cuba). For a few days, Quebec will be turned into a militarized zone as these heads of state, and their big business pals, gather for a series of meetings, photo-ops and posh dinners.

The stated purpose of Summit meeting is to put the final touches on the Free Trade Area of the Americas Agreement (FTAA) which aims to extend the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to the entire hemisphere. The FTAA is supposed to be adopted no later than 2005.

Like the WTO, IMF, WB, APEC and the rest of the insidious alphabet soup, the FTAA is another engine—in the form of a "free" trade accord—which drives capitalist globalization.

In the spirit of Seattle, and the anti-IMF/WB demonstrations in Washington on A16/17, we've started to organize to make sure the Summit is effectively short-circuited. We want to go beyond symbolic protest or reformism to making sure the Summit of the Americas is shut down.

We are still determining the exact framework of our network or coalition, but we'd like to encompass as many groups and individuals as possible, representing and respecting a variety of tactics, while stressing decentralization, autonomy and affinity as organizing principles. We wish to creatively, effectively and militantly oppose the FTAA, as opposed to engaging in lobbying or reformist strategies. The shut down is envisioned as part of a larger campaign of awareness raising, popular education and skill sharing which complements existing organizing efforts.

For more information contact: (514) 526-8946; [lombrenoire@tao.ca](mailto:lombrenoire@tao.ca); [www.tao.ca/~stopftaa](http://www.tao.ca/~stopftaa).

## Blade Runner: "Stop The Crop"

VHS 22 minutes \$25 (includes domestic shipping)

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## Earth First! Radio Show on Free Radio Asheville

The EF! Radio Show is a project of EF!ers in Asheville, North Carolina. Broadcasted every Friday from 6-8:00 p.m. on Free Radio Asheville 107.5 FM, we play music from EF! musicians and others with social/environmental lyrical content. We also feature taped commentary from such folk as Ralph Nader, Dave Foreman, Winona LaDuke, etc. While we've got an extensive selection of spoken word recordings, but we could use some music! Any tape or CD contributions would be greatly appreciated. Send donations to EF!, POB 1485, Asheville, NC 28802

## Writers Needed

The *Raven Review*, an independent, student-managed newspaper at Prescott College, seeks free-lance manuscripts. We are particularly interested in hard-hitting, but well-researched and fair feature articles (1200-1600) words on environmental issues in the American Southwest. Accompanying photos encouraged. Send manuscripts or queries to: The Raven Review, Prescott College, 220 Grove Ave., Prescott AZ 86301. Call 520 778-2090 ext. 2261 for information

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A Night to Howl is Tuesday night  
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## MASHH Wilderness First Responder Course

Medicine for Activists Seeking Health and Healing (MASHH) is announcing a Wilderness First Responder course geared for activists involved in forest defense and frontline direct action. The course will be held near Garberville, California, starting February 23 (tentative). This is a 10-day course with the option of two days extra training for activists. The cost for the course will be \$500, although there may be a couple of scholarships available. A deposit of \$150 is due by January 15. Sign up now, space is limited and will fill up fast. If you are reading this after January 15, call now as there may still be room for you to participate. You will receive textbooks for study prior to the course when you send in your deposit.

Skill in emergency medicine is a crucial skill to have in our collective toolbox. It is becoming imperative that more of us know how to respond in emergency situations where lives are at risk. You will learn the language of the Emergency Medical System, Patient Assessment System, and receive CPR-PRO certification.

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## Cove/Mallard Strategy Session: February 3-4, Missoula, Montana

Bring your creative ideas to share with others, or send them to us. The Cove/Mallard Coalition is at a critical point in our 10-year history. We need to make decisions on how to continue and be a more effective group. New threats to the Northern Rockies include massive salvage sales in the Bitterroots. We need new energy and dedicated office folks, as well as higher participation in our field campaigns. Contact the Cove/Mallard Coalition at cove@moscow.com or call at 406-523-5577 or 208-882-9755 or write us at POB 8968, Moscow, Id 83843 for exact time and location or to send us your ideas.

Destruction started at the Mackey Day Timber Sale in late September, after the National Marine Fisheries Service finally rolled over and gave the go ahead for this ugly project. In the middle of October we received word from the Forest Service that Shearer Lumber Products would conduct logging operations on the Otter-Wing timber sale for the duration of the winter logging season. The coalition organized a successful demonstration at Region 1 Forest Service Headquarters in Missoula on November 11. About 40 folks, including three Forest Action Network folks from B.C., braved freezing temperatures to demand that the Forest Service buy back the Otter-Wing and Mackey Day timber sales.

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The NAPSIN has been formed to deal with the increasing level of police and state repression of the growing anarchist and revolutionary current in the Northwest. As the level of resistance increases, it becomes more important than ever to support those comrades who are held captive by the state due to their beliefs and actions.

Our goal is to provide financial and emotional support and revolutionary solidarity to our comrades and allies in the Northwest, including corresponding with prisoners, raising funds through benefits and raising public awareness by publishing their written words and facts on their situations.

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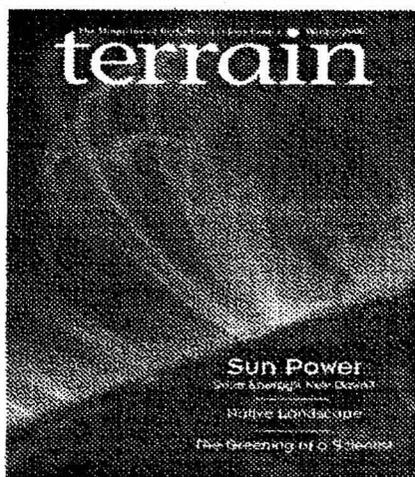
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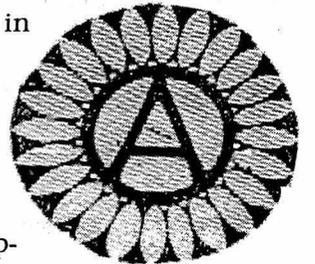
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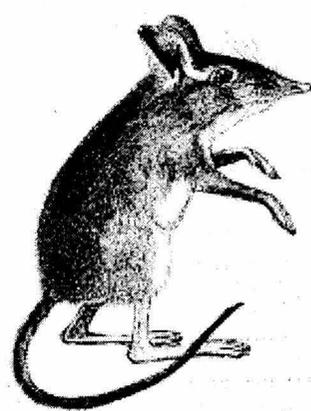


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# International

*There is an international Earth First! web page at: [www.eco-action.org/ef/](http://www.eco-action.org/ef/)*

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**ENGLAND**  
Over 50 Earth First! and radical  
ecological direct action groups exist in  
the "United Kingdom." There are also  
a number of other anarchist/revolutionary  
groups and projects. For a list or for  
general news from the UK, contact:  
EF! Action Update  
c/o POB 1TA, Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
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(541) 344-8004; earthfirst@igc.org

## EF! Projects & Campaigns

Bioengineering Action Network  
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ban@tao.ca; www.tao.ca/~ban

Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers  
POB 7941, Missoula, MT 59807  
(406) 728-0867; cmcr@wildrockies.org

EF! Direct Action Fund  
POB 210, Canyon, CA 94516  
tel/fax (925) 376-7329

End Corporate Dominance  
HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830  
(541) 468-2028

Warrior Poets Society  
PMB 361, 108 Student Union  
#4510 Berkeley, CA 94720-4510

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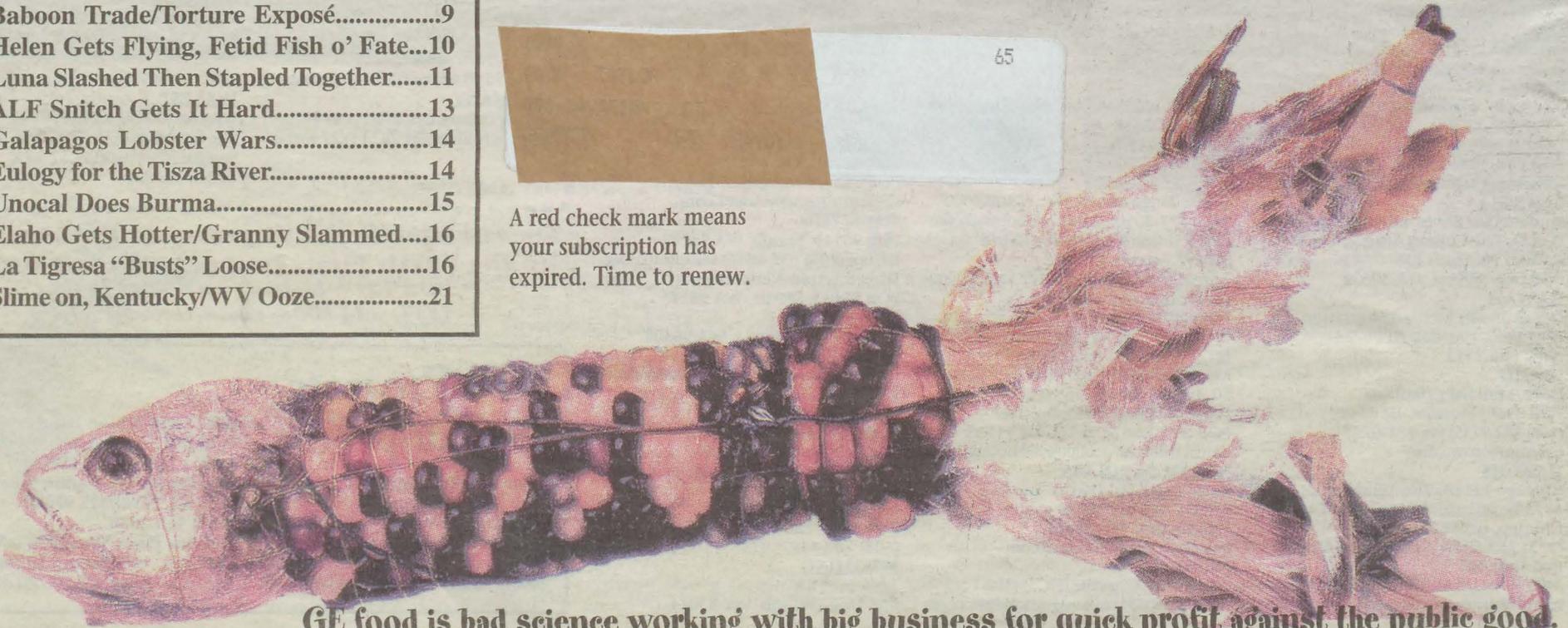
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