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Earth First!

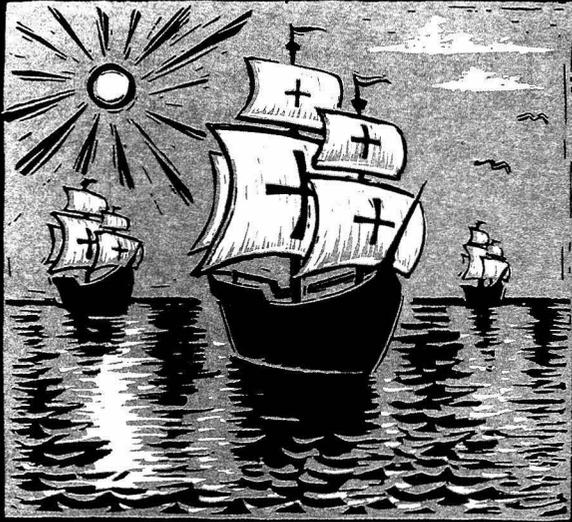
Mabon

September-October 2001

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1492



They brought us parrots and balls of cotton and spears and many other things, which they exchanged for the glass beads and hawks' bells. They willingly traded everything they owned... They were well-built, with good bodies and handsome features... They do not bear arms, and do not know them, for I showed them a sword, they took it by the edge and cut themselves out of ignorance. They have no iron. Their spears are made of cane... They would make fine servants... With fifty men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want.

—Christopher Columbus (journal entry)

Earth First!

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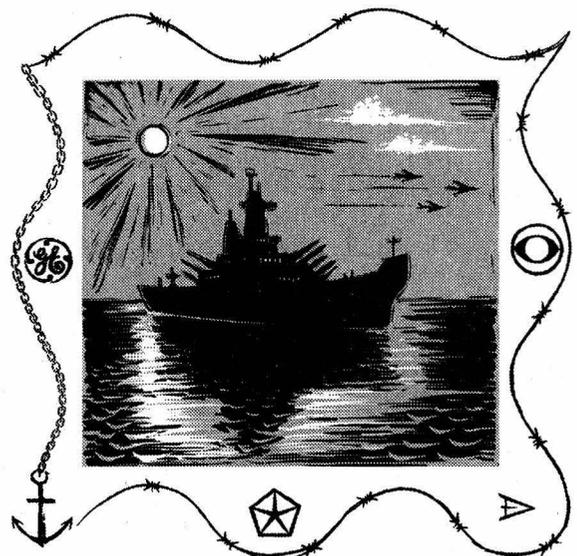
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Lay the proud usurpers low!
 Tyrants fall in every foe!
 Liberty's in every blow!
 Let us do, or die!

—Robert Burns



All's Fair in Love and War

It seems it doesn't take too long before we as humans come across something new about ourselves or the world around us that we hadn't known before. What we do with that information pushes us into untold directions of debate. And so, the philosophical definitions we subscribe to are always subject to change in light of this new insight into ourselves. What cannot be justified one day may have another chance tomorrow.

When we as a movement reach out to a broader community—into the mass populace—to promote and educate about our movement, a sense of alienation arises from those who are deterred by the more "extreme" actions taken in defense of Mother Earth. Even within our movement, divisive dialogue is breaking us into factions and discouraging potential supporters (those who should have the

option to choose their own level of involvement) from uniting with us in true solidarity. The direct conflict with riot police, the various arsons that have occurred, even the mild property destruction aimed at the corporados that is signature of large convergences, all seem to receive the usual petty cries from the general public for a more passive approach to the fight for life. I feel that the criticism that these sabotage tactics hinder our movement is a gauge of how far our society still needs to go to incite the worldwide coup necessary to stop the exponential deterioration of the natural environment. Our salvation, Mother Earth's salvation, relies on our willingness to accept these actions as necessary.

I say Earth First! needs to be at the level of rebellion that our movement implies. It is a war that we are fighting. The assault on all life demands our immediate response—actions that will produce immediate effects. To deny the right of these sabotage tactics as meaningful expressions of justice is to deny how much damage has already been done to the Earth and all life on her.

We've come full circle from the large manifestations of the civil rights movement to a day in which people are again being gunned down in the streets in broad daylight for the whole world to see. And like those days of the past, the need for people who are not just willing, but also compelled to stand up, lock arms and forge forward into a better tomorrow is more crucial now than any other time or struggle before us.

Actions that are born out of the intent to safeguard life's natural processes should be revered and emulated, taught to our children and done with no shame, fear or regret for any "progress" lost. With our time as natural living creatures reaching the cusp of the limits that support us, what we do now as a culture falls on matters of life or death. Our struggles are part of the healing process of our ill will to this planet. Direct actions and their extreme tactics are the natural reflexes of life beginning and wanting to heal. Please take part in this process, for the fight for life, remembering that the more that you're willing to sacrifice... the more you are ready to receive.

FSU, don't get caught.

—CHRISTIAN



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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 for a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via email. 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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Dear Shit fer Brains...

Dear bigots for brains,

Reading the letters of Anne Bella and M.M. Smith in *Lugnasadh SFB* gave me a couple of ideas. Here are a few suggestions for those of you who are so concerned about Mexican immigrants breeding and ruining *our* environment.

1) Go back to Europe and "clean up your own environment and political scene."

2) Jump off a tall building and encourage others to follow. Since one US citizen probably consumes at least what 4 poor Mexican children consume in their lifetime, this could be a more efficient solution to help reduce consumption and decrease environmental degradation.

3) Use your privilege to cross the border and visit a desperate impoverished Mexican family. Offer to trade places with one family member for one year. While in Mexico, get yourself a job and work for 6 bucks a day. If you have an unfortunate accident while running some machine that has had the safety devices removed, you'll be decreasing

the population! If you just decide life is better on the other side you can always bring your new family on a little hike across the Sonoran Desert and come on back.

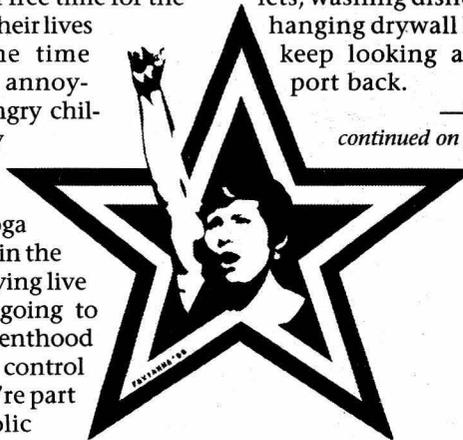
Meanwhile, your Mexican counterpart can live your life, whatever your trip is: enjoy your nice house, apartment, squatter community or groovy teepee. They can spend time tending your organic garden, get a job, shop at second hand and health food stores, dumpster dive, hop trains, drive your car or ride your cool bike. Since they'll have the luxury of free time for the first time in their lives (without the time consuming annoyances of hungry children) they can also spend time going to yoga class, hiking in the woods, enjoying live music, and going to Planned Parenthood to get birth control (unless they're part of the Catholic

conspiracy). Perhaps they'll attend local EF! meetings, travel to protests, and finally find the time to write letters to the *EF! Journal* about their experiences.

Now I'm going out to do some more research on sprawl here in Colorado. I'll be looking for those Mexican immigrants turned developers at county planning meetings and searching the legal notices for immigrants applying for building permits. So far, the only Mexican immigrants I can seem to find around here are cleaning toilets, washing dishes, and hanging drywall but I'll keep looking and report back.

—KIRSTEN

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WE WANT YOU!

The *Earth First! Journal*, located in sunny Tucson, Arizona, has an opening for a new member of our editorial staff. It could be you.

Being a part of the *Journal* is full of rewards—working on a consensus basis with a tight six-person collective among a supportive community to publish a magazine essential to the radical environmental movement.

Our new long-term editor ideally will have publishing experience, be personally compatible with existing staff, have pounds of patience, be computer literate, have excellent editing skills and have a sense of humor. As a collective, all of the work is shared, so a motivated, hard-working individual is required!

To apply, send your resume and a letter of interest to the *Earth First! Journal*, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Please forward a writing sample, activist history and the names of some EF! activists who can vouch for you.



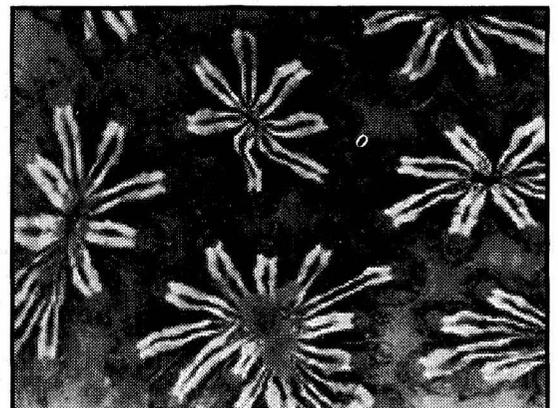
Fauna. *n.* animal life.

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

Sea squirts may unwittingly harbor alien gonads. Also called star ascidians, these subtidal animals exist in star-shaped colonies consisting of units called zooids that are connected by a blood system. Like some protists, plants, animals, slime molds and fungi, these creatures can naturally form chimeras (the fusion between genetically distinct individuals of the same species). When two colonies meet they mix their blood together and either unite to become a single organism or retract, rejecting one another. If they merge into a new being, a bitter battle brews, with cells of both original creatures striving to become body tissue, or better yet, the cells of the gonads. Thus, the apparent winner of such a cellular clash may actually be producing many copies of the loser if its reproductive organs have been parasitized.

BY FAITH WALKER

This interplay blurs the concept of individualism and provides a rare example of parasitism within a species.



ARCTIC DELUSION:

Truth is, ANWR could actually be among the safest places in Alaska. Truth is, this "save the arctic" song and dance is a ritualistic political exercise in which everybody wins except the actual arctic.

Every year, there is a proposal to drill in ANWR. Every year, it is defeated. Every year, environmentalists claim victory. With your generous donation they will do it again next year. Every year, pro-drilling politicians claim victory too, proudly displaying battlescars. With your vote, they will return to give it another go. Our noble David is winning every battle, but losing the war. These victories come at the price of annual compromises to the oil industry.

This year, they have gone too far. In a bid to buy the rights to fight the ANWR battle again next year, "Gang Green" is endorsing the single largest private construction project in the history of humankind. And that's just the beginning.

Gasline: The Largest Private Construction Project Ever

Alaska's arctic contains huge amounts of natural gas. Typically found in the same places as oil, existing wells suck trillions of cubic feet of the stuff out of the ground. With no way to get it to market, most of it is pumped back in again.

The industry pipe dream, kicked around since the early '70's, is to construct a 1,800-mile, \$15-20 billion pipeline from Prudhoe Bay, south to Alberta, where it will link to an existing system serving Chicago-based markets. This dream may soon become a reality. The Alaska Gas Producers Pipeline Team—a consortium of BP, Phillips and Exxon—is in the midst of a \$100 million feasibility study scheduled for completion in November.

Political boosters are numerous and powerful. The gasline is Alaska Governor Tony Knowles' top priority and is high on Democrat and Republican energy policies. A "wish list" to "streamline" regulatory review is currently circulating in Congress.

The "energy crisis" is being "solved" to an alarming degree by new gas-fired electric plants. Lower-48 gas fields are drying up quick. A huge increase in consumption must be supported from elsewhere, making the economic prospects look solid.

Perhaps most significantly, there has been "a turnaround in public sentiment from the early '70's, when political and environmental opposition and poor economics killed several pipeline proposals," according to an August 2000 article in the *Oil and Gas Journal*. So dramatic is this shift that the environmental establishment is endorsing the idea it once killed. Increased extraction of natural gas, and particularly the Alaska gasline, is "a key part of NRDC's energy policy—the bridge to greater reliance on cleaner and renewable forms of energy" (NRDC Energy Policy, 2001).

Construction of a gasline would have incredible environmental, social and economic consequences. Any of the proposed routes would open up vast areas of pristine wilderness unfortunate enough to contain natural gas. Despite a puzzlingly common belief that a gasline would "take the heat off" ANWR, a profitable arctic gas industry would greatly amplify earnings, causing more drilling across the region.



photo courtesy AK Action Center

Alaskan wilderness has been the scene of oil exploration for decades.

BY GABE SCOTT

A David and Goliath battle is being waged to save Alaska's arctic. The actors in this play are George W. Bush as "Goliath," while the national environmental movement, filling in for Gwich'in natives, plays "David." The setting is the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), in the extreme northeast corner of Alaska. The imminent threat is a Senate energy bill to allow oil exploration there.

While not entirely inaccurate, this dominant imagery is a delusion.

George W. Bush is not Goliath. Drilling here has gone full-steam ahead under every president since Jimmy Carter.

As for "David," don't make me laugh. The coalition, represented by the Washington DC-based Alaska Wilderness League, includes every major national environmental organization—the Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, World Wildlife Fund, National Audubon Society, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), etc. They have spent millions over the last decade "saving" ANWR. They have raised many millions more.

Consider a recent NRDC fundraising plea, which urges you to buy their polar bear tote bag, claiming *that* as "the perfect way to show that you're working to keep the Arctic Wild and Free!"

The ANWR political battle dominates perceptions of Alaska's arctic and the oil industry's role here. But ANWR is not synonymous with "the arctic." Its coastal plain is a fraction of the arctic ecosystem. As for "keeping" it wild and free, they've been drilling feverishly for nearly three decades.

ANWR AND THE FAILURE OF COMPROMISE

Suddenly cheap power would spawn massive industrial development along the route. A University of Alaska-Fairbanks professor recently testified that the gasoline could open up \$50 billion worth of mineral deposits in Alaska alone. Construction itself would come at a great cost. Even a sympathetic review of the last Alaska pipeline's construction presents a grave warning—devastating socio-economic impacts along the route, an average of one pint of oil spilled for every linear foot of pipeline laid, work-related deaths, disturbance to wildlife, daily accidents—all were amplified by shoddy management, regulatory rubber-stamping and the time-honored devices of cheating, lying and buying political support.

Suggesting natural gas as a bridge to sustainability is a little like giving an alcoholic a case full of beer, in hopes that it will keep them away from the whiskey. Natural gas is a significant contributor to global warming, acid rain and smog. Gas-heated homes face a gauntlet of unstudied poisons. Gas-fired electric plants aren't exactly organic farms.

Cleaner than coal? Sure. Deadly poison? Also true.

In terms of environmental and social impact, the gasoline eclipses even the most ambitious plans for developing ANWR. However, it is a mistake to contrast the two. They are born of the same mother.

The Backbone of the Arctic Oil Industry

The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) runs 800 miles due south from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez, at the head of Prince William Sound. Every drop of oil pumped out of the US arctic—more than 13.5 billion barrels thus far—depends entirely on the pipeline to get to market.

Since it started operating in 1977, TAPS has given birth to a huge industry in Alaska. The super-giant oil fields at Prudhoe Bay, just west of the Arctic Refuge, include more than 3,300 oil wells, a web of roads, pipelines, airstrips, gravel pits and generators.

TAPS was also a defining struggle during the infant environmental

movement's formative years.

TAPS permit applications were the first major exercise in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and the attendant public and political processes, as we know them today.

Aggressive opposition from groups like the Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth stalled the project for years. An "energy crisis" overwhelmed their opposition, however (sound familiar?), and in January 1974 approval was granted by Congress.

According to the application, over the next 30 years they expect to spill another 254,100 gallons of oil and petroleum products in the arctic oil fields, another 722,400 gallons along the pipeline corridor, 95,340 gallons at the Valdez marine terminal and 6,484,800 gallons into the ocean from their tankers.

Those numbers are certainly drastic understatements, neglecting the fact that the pipeline is corroding and failing to take into account future oil discoveries.

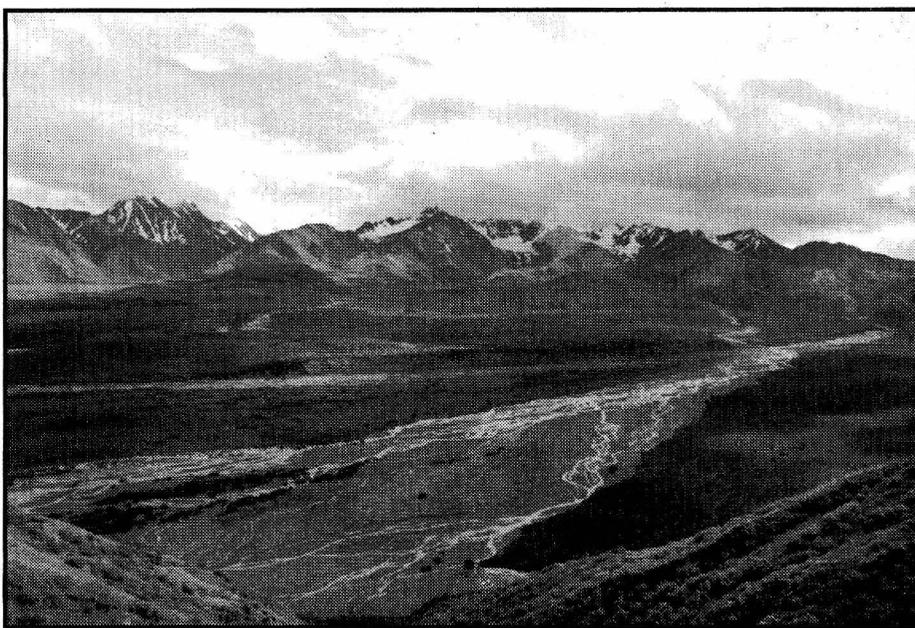


photo by Clunk's Johnson

One of the few Alaskan areas truly protected from oil drilling, Denali National Park.

Under federal law a right-of-way permit for a pipeline can be issued for a maximum term of 30 years. Among the lease's many conditions is a stipulation that the operators build and maintain a fund for dismantling the line when the lease runs out.

On January 22, 2004, the Alaskan arctic oil industry is scheduled to turn into a pumpkin.

Last spring the TAPS owners—BP, Phillips, Exxon, Unocal, Williams and Amerada Hess—filed an application to renew their right-of-way permit. The decision depends on a review of their compliance with existing laws, the economics of the proposal and completion of a comprehensive new EIS. While political leaders claim that approval is a lock, there are very good reasons to deny the request.

TAPS wasn't built to last for 60 years: It is literally falling apart in places, safety systems remain full of bugs and electrical systems fail with alarming regularity.

While the costs and risks of TAPS rise, the "benefit" it produces is increasingly seen for what it is—an ecologically devastating dead end. Global climate change is real, and fossil fuel consumption is the primary cause. Remember Good Friday 1989, when the Exxon Valdez spilled 20 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound. Some things are unforgivable. That event was one of them. By any measure, it had devastating effects. To this day, Exxon has yet to pay a penny of the \$5 billion it owes the people whose livelihoods it ruined.

continued on next page

FEEDING THE ADDICTION: BUSH'S MANUFACTURED ENERGY CRISIS

BY STUART BECHMAN

What's most amazing about the Bush II administration is not its blatant bias for big-money, corporate interests, nor the fact that Bush is so blatantly in-your-face with his arrogance and contempt for environmental interests; it's the fact that he's able to get away with it all with nary a whimper from either the public or his political opponents.

Make no mistake. George W. Bush is an oil man, as is his veep, Dick Cheney. Within a few months of announcing his bid for the Republican presidential

nomination, this first-term Texas governor with no prior political experience began receiving huge sums of cash, eventually reaching almost \$100 million. Does anyone really think that money came primarily from \$2,000-a-pop contributions of individual citizens as opposed to the deep pockets of Bush/Cheney's oil cronies? It's hard to imagine that anyone would invest that kind of money without expecting a reasonable return on their investment.

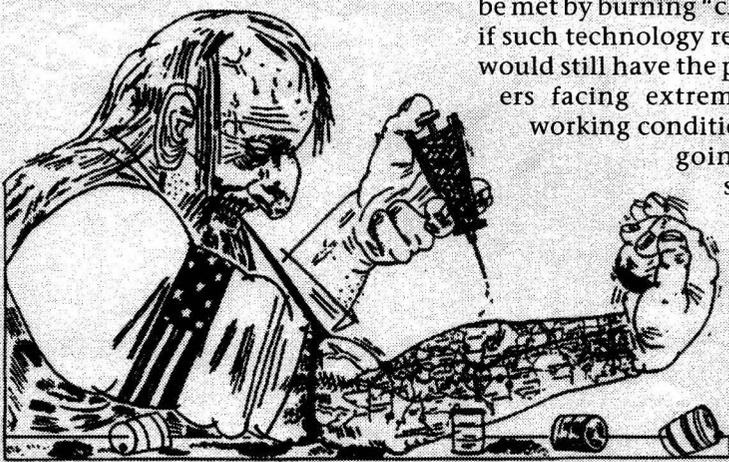
Bush's statements on the "energy crisis" are laughingly absurd. First, he tells us that our energy needs will be met by burning "clean coal." Even if such technology really existed, we would still have the problem of miners facing extremely dangerous working conditions and the on-

going prospect of seeing all of West Virginia's mountains and valleys flattened one mountain at a time (not to mention ripping off western indigenous

tribes and destroying their sacred lands). Yet, we have seen coal stocks double in price since Bush took office in Washington.

The stock rise pales in comparison to what we've seen with the nuclear industry. Per *The Nation*, an industry, which had been moribund for two decades with stock prices in the doldrums and the parent utilities asking state and local governments to bail them out of their nuclear investments, has seen an amazing turnaround in the past nine months. Where nuclear companies were selling their investments at 10 cents or less on the dollar more than a year ago, suddenly nuclear properties have become in demand again. With Cheney's "energy report" strongly suggesting that nuclear energy has been seriously under-rated, suddenly the subject is no longer taboo. Republican legislators are suddenly suggesting that we've been too hard on the nuclear industry, that it's still the best and cheapest way to meet our energy needs.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, having had most of its teeth removed in the past two decades by a quiet yet incessant lobbying effort



ARCTIC DELUSION CONTINUED

continued from previous page

Using a mathematical formula to make your head spin, the odds of another Valdez-scale disaster are calculated as zero.

The corporate entities behind TAPS are convicted felons who show little sign of remorse for, or even comprehension of, their crimes. A sane response to their plea for another 30 years of arctic oil drilling would have them cleaning up their mess and going back home.

Coming Full Circle

But "Gang Green" is not demanding anything like that. The "winnable" (read: "profitable") struggle is to plead, "Please don't explore for oil on the coastal plain of ANWR—at least not this year."

ANWR's prominence, according to the Alaska Wilderness League, is due to its "symbolic" importance. It is a symbol of "the arctic," and congressional approval of oil exploration there is a symbol of oil development.

Symbols are good for raising money, but places are good for a healthy planet. ANWR is an important place, make no mistake. But then, so is the rest of the arctic—the Taiga, the Brooks Range, the prairies. Gaia doesn't require symbols of itself to remain whole—it requires the whole of itself.

It is shameful that the environmental establishment, busy with a symbolic struggle, is so much weaker today than it was 30 years ago. Our Earth is being sucked dry, and the best we can muster in her defense are polar bear tote bags!

The TAPS right-of-way renewal presents a window of opportunity to revisit

our movement's inception.

We've come full circle and find ourselves where we started—richer, better established, more legitimate and weaker.

During the first pipeline controversy, we learned the delicate art of political compromise. We bickered about the best routes. We filed lawsuits and made deals. We played their game by their rules.

With what result? The first big battle over arctic oil and gas development was an exercise in defense. It was a campaign, which brought us one pipeline route instead of another. Now we are faced with the opportunity, and necessity, of learning to play offense.

For more information, contact the ANWR office at (907) 458-8264; www.alaska.net/~gwichin; www.tapseis.anl.gov/.

of power brokers like New Mexico Senator Pete Domenici, is not only considering loosening its current (low) standards of storing spent fuel rods on-site at the generating plants, but pushing a proposal that scrap metal used in nuclear generation/processing be recycled back into the domestic metal markets!

The only long-term nuclear waste facility that's anywhere close to being actualized in the US—the Yucca Mountain, Nevada, site—is still years from opening due to environmental and political concerns despite the US's already having spent several billion dollars trying to ensure its safety. With Nevada Senator Harry Reid, a staunch opponent to the project, now a committee chairman, it's more unlikely than ever that Yucca Mountain will ever open.

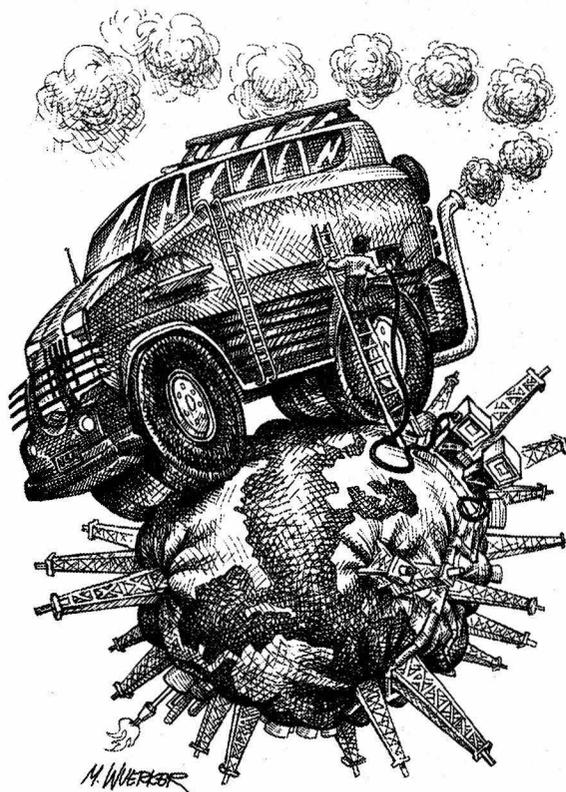
Furthermore, we have the Russians, who have been going through a financial recession worse than anything the US has ever experienced, considering accepting the world's nuclear waste to bury in Siberia. With the Russian state severely crippled financially and facing a "wild west" economy run by robber barons, there is little hope that Russia would have the means to ensure that such waste could even be safely guarded, let alone disposed of.

Let's look at the oil and gas industry. The original automobile cartel of the early 1900s realized a win-win game (for them) that we are now seeing played out in its fullest glory. The Rockefeller and Carnegie oil trusts realized early on that they would be in the catbird's seat if they convinced the automobile industry to develop engines that relied on petroleum rather than alcohol. Petroleum was a limited resource that required a fair amount of initial investment to produce and therefore was easy to control, whereas any farmer could cook up limitless batches of ethyl alcohol simply from crop roughage.

Once that concept was secured, the oil barons knew that it was their profit potentials that were limitless. They controlled the only source of fuel, and thus could manipulate the supply side of the market at will as long as they kept feeding America's addiction to

oil. In fact, they knew that if an end to the oil reserves was ever reached, the price of that oil—and their profits—would just continue to rise until it was all gone. Those who sat on the last reservoirs of oil would make the most money because they could demand the highest prices.

Despite the oil crisis of the 1970s, and a small blip in investing in alternative energy development, we have continued to suck up more of the black gold to the point where we import 58 percent of the oil we consume each year.



Cartoon by Matt Wueker, www.mwueker.com

It will take a good five to 10 years to really get production rolling; and the best estimates are that it—along with new deep-water offshore development in the eastern Gulf of Mexico—might push that 58 percent import number down to just 52 percent for awhile. Hardly enough to get excited about; and certainly not a long-term solution to our energy problems.

Meanwhile, the latest energy appropriations bill will be making billions of dollars in tax credits and incentives available to the fossil fuel industry while slashing what meager alternative fuel research and development programs exist down to 10 to 15 percent of last year's budgeted amounts. The latest rumors from the

Secretary of Defense is that US military policy will be expanded to focus on controlling and exploiting new foreign oil fields where feasible—like in Colombia, where the US has invested \$1.7 billion and will be investing almost \$700 million this year. In Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan, corporate executives are pushing to lay oil pipelines to bring oil to the US. Beyond the environmental havoc wrought in developing new oil fields, we also continue to contribute to global warming, oil spills and offsetting native inhabitants and their subsistence economies.

Then there's the natural gas issue. Bush disclosed his shallow cynicism when he suggested that ANWR was needed to help California out of their energy crisis—surely a Texas oilman would be well aware that gas, not oil, is the primary fuel for electrical generation plants? Natural gas generated from oil fields has been so abundant in the past that most oil producers found it cheaper to burn it off rather than bottle it and transport it to any market. But it has become more important as states have imposed environmental restrictions on electrical power plants; natural gas is one of the few fuels that's clean enough to meet those standards.

Unfortunately, gas still contributes plenty of greenhouse gases and has also been rising in price as demand has caught up with supply. The gas industry, along with coal, were the major lobbyists pressuring Bush to walk away from the Kyoto accords.

The corporate power has their man in office, and they're doing everything to get what they can out of him before they're shut down. The environmental lobby has its work cut out with this administration, and it looks like it will have to do it primarily through grassroots organizations. We'll be lucky to hold any ground until the next election. Meanwhile, the environmental lobby needs to marshal sizeable resources to counter the corporate media and inform the general public of the disastrous environmental policies of Bush and company.

Judi Bari vs. the FBI

BY ALICIA LITTLE TREE

On May 24, 1990, Northern California Earth First! organizers Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were car bombed in Oakland on the eve of Redwood Summer, a nonviolent direct action campaign targeting big timber corporations. They survived, but the FBI and Oakland Police Department (OPD) arrived at the scene and arrested the pair within hours for transporting explosives, using the bombing as an excuse to vilify Judi, Darryl and EF! as violent terrorists. Eventually, the district attorney declined to file charges against them. In 1991, Judi and Darryl sued the FBI and OPD for false arrest, illegal search and seizure and conspiracy to violate their rights by falsely branding them as terrorists. The thousands of pages of FBI files uncovered through the lawsuit are revealing of the FBI's activities with respect to EF! as a movement. The case goes to trial on October 1, in Oakland, California. Judi Bari died of breast cancer in 1997.

Photo by Pam Davis



Judi at the treespiking renunciation press conference, April 11, 1990

At last, after almost 11 years in court, the trial of *Judi Bari vs. the FBI* begins October 1; at the Federal Courthouse at Clay Street and 12th in Oakland, California. We've managed to get thousands of pages of FBI files and testimony from dozens of agents and Oakland Police officers. Even so, we're coming down to the wire as the trial approaches, working overtime at the last minute just like any direct action.

There's much to report on the legal and political fronts. We're trying to finish up final discovery with the government and taking depositions of a few key witnesses. Finally the trial is actually happening, and there's a chance for people who have been following the case to get involved.

Legal Update

On July 31, Federal Judge Claudia Wilken upheld the October 1 trial date, restricting the total trial time to six weeks (four-day weeks, five-hour days), allocating exactly half of this to plaintiffs even though we have the burden of proof.

We're also trying to uncover more information about the FBI's conduct toward Earth First!. In August, this search took us to Washington, DC, for the deposition of ex-undercover FBI agent Michael Fain. You'll remember Fain if you've ever been to one of Peg Millet's concerts—he's the guy who set her up, along with the rest of the Arizona Five, during the FBI's "Operation Thermcon" against Earth First! in the late '80s.

During a deposition, the witness (the person being "deposed") is put under oath and asked questions. The reason we are so interested in questioning Fain has to do with the larger context of FBI repression against Earth First! before Judi and Darryl were bombed, and the

Peltier's Solidarity Statement

Dear Friends,

No one can return the 25 years I have spent in prison based on an orchestrated frame-up at the hands of the FBI.

The Redwood Summer Justice Project is struggling for all of us who have been targeted for our work in defense of our people and the land.

In May 1990, as Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were on their way to an organizing event, they were nearly killed in an assassination attempt. A pipe bomb wrapped in nails for a shrapnel effect and triggered by a motion device exploded under the seat of Judi's car. The force of the blast buckled the car frame and blew a hole in the floorboard. The blast crushed Judi's coccyx and pelvis and left her crippled. Darryl escaped with cuts and broken eardrums.

Within minutes of the explosion, the FBI was on the scene and orchestrated a massive disinformation campaign designed to discredit and imprison these Earth First! activists. Equally sinister, the FBI never tried to find the real bomber who to this day, remains at large.

There can be no healing without truth, and the greatest love is that which is based on justice. Together we must guarantee the First Amendment rights of all activists who courageously defy corporate control of our environment.

I urge you to support Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney's historic lawsuit that will finally put the FBI on trial.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,

—LEONARD PELTIER

MORE THAN A DECADE AFTER AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, HER CASE WILL FINALLY GO TO TRIAL

agency's already existing efforts to "neutralize" the radical environmental movement. Michael Fain never had to testify in court because during the criminal trial Dave Foreman and the others agreed to a plea bargain before he took the stand. But on August 22, Fain was in Washington, DC, in his special agent suit and dusty cowboy boots, answering questions about the FBI's sting operation against Arizona Earth First!

The Same Thing Today

It's clear how the trial in the bombing case fits with FBI operations in the past, targeting Earth First! and many others as well. With the stepped-up FBI activity against environmental radicals in the last few years, it should also be clear how relevant this case is today. Look at the case of Frank Ambrose in Bloomington, Indiana, an effective regional organizer who is being set up as an eco-saboteur. Or the example of the Portland, Oregon, Joint Terrorism Task Force—a pact between the local police and the FBI to target environmentalists by suspending constitutional rights.

Recently retired FBI Director Louis Freeh included combating environmental "terrorists" in his funding requests to the Senate Appropriations Committee, branding eco-radicals among the top domestic terrorist threats, even though not one person has been hurt by any environmental activist. On the other hand, environmentalists have been brutalized, jailed and even killed as a result of corrupt law enforcement and corporate-backed violence.

We should also recognize that the FBI's efforts to "isolate, disrupt, misdirect, and neutralize" Earth First! have tried to falsely associate prominent EF! spokespeople with violence. The FBI has spent a lot of resources infiltrating the movement and encouraging property destruction, arson and the use of explosives. The movement should think critically about the reasons the FBI finds it useful for Earth First! to be associated with such tactics.

What You Can Do

As Judi and Darryl's case finally comes to trial, there are many ways in which we non-lawyers can play an important role. Primarily, we must be a visible presence at the courthouse, packing the courtroom and holding rallies and teach-ins throughout the course of the trial. To ensure that the case doesn't become isolated or ignored, local Earth First! groups might consider holding solidarity actions at FBI offices across the country, especially in those communities that have been hit by FBI harassment. Also, trial expenses are going to be astronomical, and our opponents have unlimited resources. It would be great to organize informational events and fundraisers to support the trial.

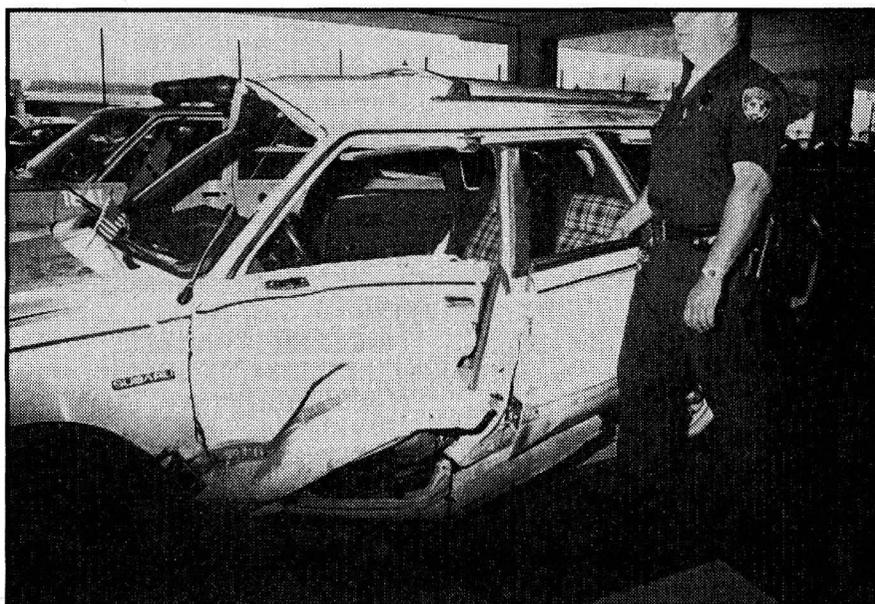
The best news is that Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney's case is coming to trial just as the FBI is being hit with scandal after scandal, and public mistrust of the FBI is at an all-time high. Right now, the Senate Judiciary Committee is holding hearings in Washington, DC, to look into the need for oversight of the FBI. The hearings focus on high-profile misdeeds of the FBI like the Wen Ho Lee case, the withholding of thousands of documents in

the McVeigh case, Waco, Ruby Ridge and others. Not surprisingly, however, the FBI's current and historic abuses against activists are absent from the scrutiny on Capitol Hill.

The trial will also coincide with the trial of the wrongful death lawsuit filed by the family of David "Gypsy" Chain against Pacific Lumber, and both trials will take place in the same Oakland Federal Courthouse.

In August, Darryl Cherney and I met with members of the Judiciary Committee about including the bombing case, and other cases of FBI targeting of political groups, in the FBI hearings. Although I am cynical about the government's making any real changes, the FBI is vulnerable right now, and Judi and Darryl's trial is going to unfold right in the middle of the hearings. We shouldn't miss the opportunity to turn up the heat by contacting senators and representatives and encouraging them to investigate FBI wrongdoing against activists like Judi, Leonard Peltier, Geronimo ji Jaga and others.

For more background on the case, visit www.judibari.org. Donations earmarked for the lawsuit can be sent to Earth First!, 106 W. Standley Street, Ukiah, CA 95482.



Judi's bombed car in police storage in Oakland. Note the US flag someone placed on the hood.

photo courtesy Oakland Police Department

That Strange Dance of Resistance

A LOOK AT THE G8 PROTEST

BY URRACA

The battle of Genoa has entered the collective imagination of the anti-globalization movement. This little pocket we've carved out in society now struggles against corporate forces in constructing the history of what exactly happened, and where that leaves us. Unfortunately, we are influenced by the forces of corporate media. These forces have, in turn, defined our own internal dialogue. Rather than solidarity and striving to understand, I find a largely divisive finger pointing (not always overt) and distancing from the media scapegoats, the "violent" protesters.

Memories of my own days in Genoa burn bright in my mind, simultaneously haunting and driving me forward.

It began in strategy planning meetings outside of Genoa under constant threat of eviction from our squat. This was merely the beginning of fear and confusion, as well as the excitement of being among hordes of people in resistance to the global elite—people who were showing up with a drive to change things. Even if we didn't share the same vision or strategy, we were all intent on making our voices heard. For some this was another stop in a summer of "summit hopping." For many it was part of a resistance movement that started in Seattle, while for those of us with a broader perspective, yet another battle in an age-old war of resistance versus domination and the destruction of Mother Earth. My own blood screamed a 509-year-old battle cry.

In getting a feel for the political scene, I quickly realized that the protest organizers—collectively known as the Genoa Social Forum (GSF)—were not trustworthy. While driven by good intentions, they were obviously looking after their own interests, intent on controlling the protests and making them "theirs." Besides their nonviolent code of conduct for protesters, the GSF had taken advantage of their

strong position with the government to sculpt the official events to their desires. They planned and received permission for both their marches, the so-called Migrants' March on July 19 and the International March on July 21.

GSF plotted the course of these marches specifically to prevent behavior not in line with their strategy and to make them "safe" enough for the government. Thus, on the International March a long stretch was planned with beach on one side and a



Robo-cop during the Genoa, Italy, summit.

tall wall and houses on the other, with few streets connecting.

I learned more about how the hierarchical *Tute Bianche/Ya Basta!* danced their dance of collusion with the government and media while often reacting violently toward more militant protesters (in the past going as far as beating them and turning them over to police). Only some workers who planned to march on July 20, and to break into the red zone, particularly the anarcho-sindicalist COBAS (*Comitati di Base*), seemed genuinely militant in their opposition.

I found those who planned to resist the GSF's stringent idea of protest nobly struggling to organize yet in complete disarray and isolation. Among the larger group there was much worrying about how to be strategic and effective in doing our own thing while trying to coordinate with other groups. Eventually we all trickled off to Genoa with no

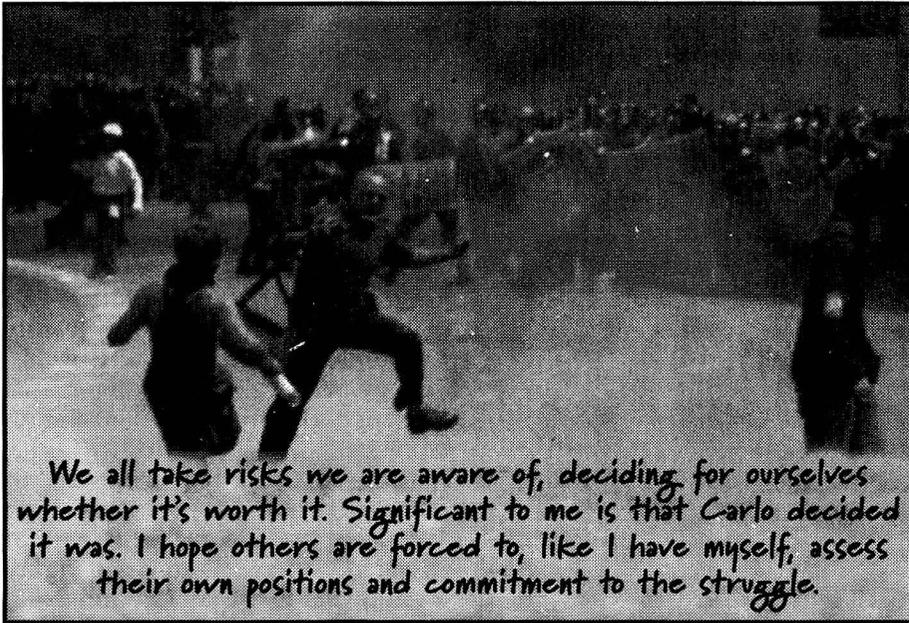
set plan but with similar ideas of, as a Greek comrade put it, "ruining their *fiesta*."

In the painfully complicated world of the Italian hierarchical left, with its liberals, unions, endless communists and *Tute Bianche*, there are far too many interests in perpetuating or working within the status quo because it perpetuates their own power structures. An Austrian comrade commented that, "The state loves these people because they love capitalism, it gives them a reason to exist." In this context, an anarchist often feels alone in desiring genuine change, in upsetting the system. But we can't simply declare ourselves separate from its breast in this endless dance of opposition. This separation comes only through strategic, effective and proactive resistance. As someone who identifies as a revolutionary anti-authoritarian, I quickly realized my place in protests which have come to feel more like spectacles than strategic resistance.

Overcoming our own fear from paranoid rumors rather than any tight security, we entered Genoa.

There may have been rhetoric about space given to groups with different strategies, but we found messages about anarchists' meetings being removed, blatant misinformation about gathering places, etc. Away from officialdom, an effort was made to coordinate the Black Bloc with the Pink Bloc (the "tactical frivolity" people, also seen in Prague), but this apparently fell apart due to outspoken pacifists among the Pinks.

The Migrants' March was calm and festive with tens of thousands of protesters, almost entirely white. There was little room for disruption, and I saw little attempt besides some odd hammer and sickle graffiti. Memorable was my first glimpse of the heavily defended and militarized police citadel and close-up look at the Italian paramilitary police, the *Carabinieri*, in riot gear without badges and with bandannas over their faces.



We all take risks we are aware of, deciding for ourselves whether it's worth it. Significant to me is that Carlo decided it was. I hope others are forced to, like I have myself, assess their own positions and commitment to the struggle.

I knew there were some 20,000 of them there, beefy, well-equipped and poorly trained, some reportedly only with weekend refresher courses on crowd control. They paraded the street in their armored cars, their helicopters buzzing us constantly. I knew also of the right-wing government in power and the reputation of Italian police for being particularly brutal.

The next morning, we arrived downtown with a busload from COBAS. Within minutes of joining the crowd, we were being bombarded by teargas and pursued by paramilitaries. This was before I saw any kind of property destruction, although I believe some actions had begun earlier. We quickly grouped with the masses around us, nearly everyone already with gasmasks and bandannas. Everyone concentrated on either escaping the oncoming batons and armored cars or tossing back teargas canisters. A marching band started up amidst the battle, with drums and big black flags with anatomical parts, like lungs and hearts, painted in red. Everyone cheered as they marched in formation and did flag tricks. We moved with them up some tall stairs, away from the troops and the red zone. We thus entered a game of cat and mouse.

Imagine this trek through the geography of Genoa, all tunnels, hills and winding narrow streets with skinny stairways leading up to more twisting streets and alleys. The city is divided by train tracks and rivers—quickly becoming disorienting.

This group was largely, although not entirely, in black with masks. A lot of energy went into making barricades to stop the oncoming troops and into returning their aggression. Later, I would hear some activists wonder why certain groups were able to keep *Carabinieri* somewhat at bay while others weren't. I think this collective effort of defense speaks to that.

Certain targets quickly began to be hit as we came upon them, particularly large corporate stores. Destruction was somewhat generalized, although I personally saw no small shops wrecked. Much destruction was for reasons of defense, including barricade material, although some was just plain destruction.

Some things should be made clear; while this was a group characterized as "Black Bloc," it was a heterogeneous group consisting of thousands of protesters, some with strategic intent and others more caught up in what was shaping up to be an atmosphere of riot initiated, in my opinion, by *Carabinieri* attack and pursuit. There was accountability among the group, as in slapping people upside the head who decided to attack stupid targets.

There were obviously infiltrators as well, just as in every Black Bloc. However, as far as I'm concerned, they could have had little real effect on the behavior of the group, besides adding a little more undisciplined action. While critiques certainly have their place, conversations since the pro-

tests scapegoating the Black Bloc, particularly concerning infiltration, seem reactionary and directly in line with the state's interests.

Back to the protest, certain memories come to mind. A row of cars, nice but not fancy, with a BMW at the end. All remained untouched but for the BMW which was rolled and set aflame. A corporate grocery store raided, a moment of rest to enjoy juice, bread and cheese before the teargas came again. Numerous times barricades were hastily removed, the crowd parting for an ambulance to pass through. Reports of a prison attacked. Reports of someone shot dead.

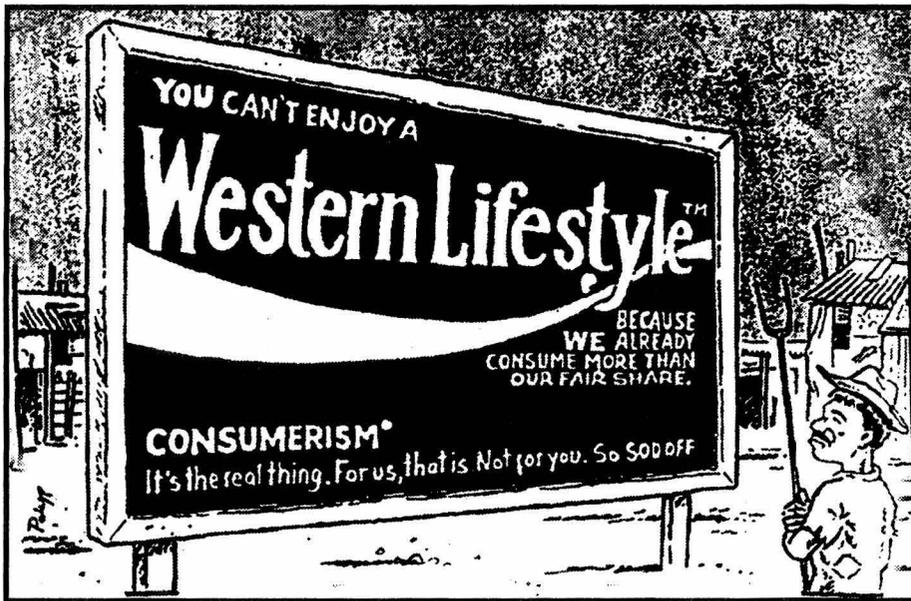
Later, a friend of mine told me a story. While wandering the streets of Genoa she came upon a strange scene—a group of protesters and *Carabinieri* standing together in a plaza, something unheard of that day. The troops looked scared, visibly shaken. She got on her comrade's shoulders for a better look, soon spotting a protester lying on the ground in a pool of his own blood. Her heart dropped from her chest. Then, the police violently cleared the square.

The death of Carlo Giuliani came as a shock, although not a surprise. I mourn him, we all did then, but this is by no means the first death in the anti-globalization movement. He may be the first whiteboy of the global North to die, certainly not the last. While this should not take away from our sense of outrage at the murder (it was not self defense; look at the photos), this is no game, no mere spectacle. We all take risks we are aware of, deciding for ourselves whether it's worth it. Significant to me is that Carlo decided it was. I hope others are forced to, like I have myself, assess their own positions and commitment to the struggle.

The International March happened the next day. I roamed the crowd of 200-300,000 people in awe—a line of people miles long, all here to voice their opposition to the G8. Pacifists and the more liberal groups marched up front. I passed seemingly endless communist groups with their banners, marshalls and big Soviet flags followed by *Tute Bianche* in their foam padding and helmets. Toward the rear were the unions, including COBAS, men and women marching arm in arm with crash helmets, many clutching sticks and pipes.

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HIDDEN STATISTICS: ENVIRONMENTAL REFUGEES



BY DR. ZOIDBERG

"Everyone is aware of the environmental problems of global warming and deforestation on the one hand, and the social problems of increasing poverty and growing shanty towns on the other. But when these two factors collide, you have a new scale of catastrophe."

—DR. ASTRID HEIBERG

As a term, "environmental refugees" is pretty much self-explanatory, describing populations obliged to leave their established homelands for reasons of environmental destruction, such as floods, desertification, deforestation or nuclear plant accidents.

Much harder to understand is the fact that, to this day, such refugees are not officially recognized within the narrow parameters of current international law—even in the eyes of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which distinguishes between *real* refugees (persecuted) and *merely* displaced persons.

Article 1-A(2) in the 1951 *UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* defines the criteria of being a refugee chiefly as possessing a "well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of particular social group or political opinion." Therefore, there is no

legal compulsion for its signatory states to acknowledge environmental refugees, nor offer them protection or asylum. Furthermore, if they do not cross international borders they are not officially *refugees*, thus excluding huge numbers of *internally* displaced people (of which environmental refugees are typical). This worldwide lack of recognition is not only surprisingly ironic given the fact that the term "environmental refugees" was introduced by the UN itself in 1985 (it's Environmental Program published the 44-page paper entitled *Environmental Refugees* by the Egyptian Professor Essam El-Hinnawi) but is also extremely misleading in that it implies environmental refugees constitute a mere fraction of the world's refugee population.

Unfortunately, this is far from being the case.

The UNHCR recognizes approximately 18 million political, religious or ethnic refugees in the world today. In comparison, there are officially *only* 10 million environmental refugees worldwide. However, since many governments take little account of this *unconventional* category of refugees, the figure of 10 million is considered a gross under-estimate by researchers (such as the WorldWatch Institute, Climate Institute, TERI and most notably the book *Environmental Exodus*:

An Emergent Crisis in the Global Arena by Drs. Norman Mayers and Jennifer Kent). In fact, a report issued on June 24, 1999, by the International Red Cross, determined that environmental refugees totaled 25 million— 58 percent of all refugees—significantly outnumbering those displaced by warfare or persecution. This number is also supported by World Bank figures from 1999.

The Red Cross report notes that while in 1992 it assisted less than half a million people with natural disasters, six years later that figure went up to more than five and a half million, indicating an extremely sharp rise in both environmental disasters and environmental refugees. On February 19, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which advises the world's governments under the auspices of the UN, estimated that 150 million environmental refugees will exist in the year 2050, due mainly to the effects of coastal flooding, shoreline erosion and agricultural disruption (150 million is 1.5 percent of 2050's predicted 10-billion world population).

The developing world and the poor in general suffer the most of all humans from this climate change, since they have fewer options for responding to weather-triggered disasters and are more dependent on agriculture, which is the most vulnerable sector to climate change. They have, by definition, fewer resources to move, rebuild, find new jobs and to protect their health.

These environmental refugees are ecological indicators of humanity's failure to be at peace, not only with the Earth, but with itself. They expose the existence of a racist, neo-colonialist system of resource management. The poorest people do not contribute to the problem of climate change to a substantial degree nor do they benefit financially from it, but they pay the highest price and are most vulnerable to its effects. More than 90 percent of all deaths from natural disasters occur in developing countries. The fossil fuel industry—coal, oil and gas—is not only the main factor in climate change, but

also a prime example of the racism and social injustice of this system in which the poor—both in the North and the South—suffer the consequences of the lifestyle demanded by the industrialized nations of the West.

Although good intentioned, most proposals discussed by NGOs, the UN or particular governments concerning environmental refugees lack a thorough analysis of the problem. De-contextualized from its socio-economic origins, it conveniently reappears in the shape of a safe, "humanitarian" issue, in which the cause is vague and faceless. At the time it is simply "nature's fault," conveniently bypassing the fact that 100 years of Western industrial pollution, carbon emissions and the general abuse and misuse of natural resources play the *leading role* in the climate changes which create environmental refugees. And where nature is not being blamed, the perpetrator seems to be an ever-abstract, unified "humanity," conveniently forgetting that the effects of climate change are *not* felt equally in "First" and "Third" World countries. Additionally, the ownership of the industries which cause and aggravate these effects is not evenly distributed between them.

Experts and bureaucrats maintain that the main difficulty in tackling the issue is "melding environmental policies capable of confronting today's harsh realities with a social program capable of addressing the refugee population growth." Historically there has been no integration of these two areas of concern. However, beyond this semi-obstacle lies the real one: an age-old Eurocentric tradition of colonialism, exploitation and greed. As Western corporations and organizations, such as the IMF and World Bank, continue to finance environmentally destructive industries in developing nations for their own profit; as Western-controlled international organizations continue to enforce neo-liberal, "free trade" and "New World Order" agendas; as Western-backed dictatorial puppet regimes or armed paramilitary goons carry out genocides and civil wars in "Third" World countries; the rich countries responsible for all

this adopt tougher and stricter policies on immigration. Adding insult to injury, the millions of impoverished victims created directly by US and European countries' environmental, economic and political practices cannot attempt to escape their misery by crossing the borders into the refuge of our "First" World ivory tower.

The real problem is elaborating—not to mention implementing—a competent policy. All we can expect from Eurocentric organizations are programs which combat the symptoms at the expense of striking the problem at its root, because this would mean admitting to and giving up the privileges environmental racism affords for the West. It should also be noted that even these kinds of programs are diminishing, as emergency aid funds have actually dropped (40 percent in five years, claimed the Red Cross in 1999), and many insurance companies simply refuse to provide coverage in areas struck by environmental disasters.

As for the future, even that very basic first step of actually recognizing environmental refugees seems distant, especially if Bush's rejection of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol is any indication of global policies to come. Sadly, the UN's definition of "refugee," elaborated right after World War II's mass displacement of Europeans, does not seem likely to be updated or extended anytime soon by lethargic bureaucrats.

The only good news is that we don't have to wait for laws or official recognitions to make a difference. We, the privileged kids within this cradle of affluence, can be part of the solution precisely because we are part of the problem. By learning to expose and peel off the various layers of our personal, everyday cooperation with the world's exploiters in our high streets, we reduce

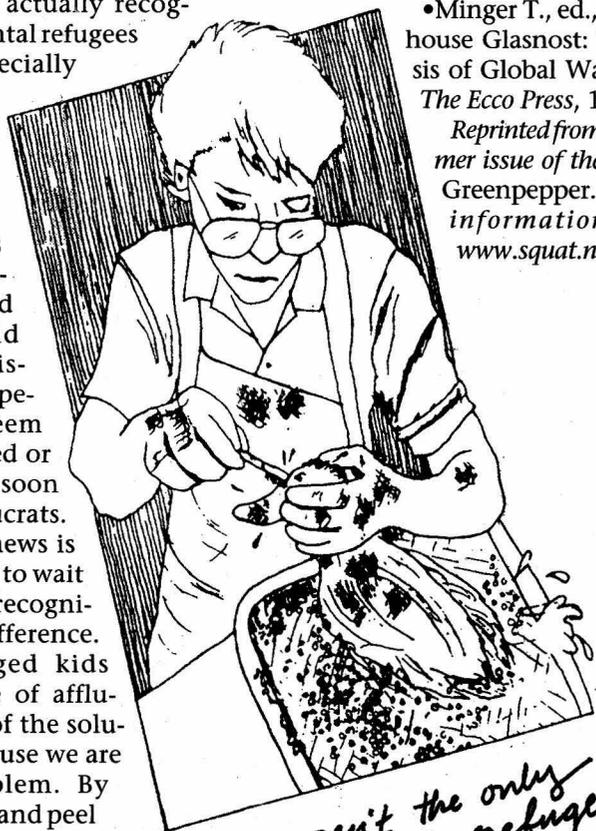
the number of moving parts in the death machine. We lay the foundations for the social and political movements which will ultimately build, maintain and become the alternatives to commodity capitalism, its human misery and its inherent ecocidal drive.

For more information, check out the Environmental Refugees and Ecological Restoration website at pubpages.unh.edu/leiderman.

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*Humans aren't the only environmental refugees
defend the earth · abolish civilization*

SANTA CRUZ EARTH FIRST!ERS

DEFY REDWOOD EMPIRE INTIMIDATION

BY SCOUT

On July 23, treesitters in the Santa Cruz redwoods made a desperate call to Blackbird, an Earth First! supporter. They were calling on a cell phone 110 feet up in an old-growth Douglas fir where they were being shot at by an unknown assailant. The connection was muddled with static, but Blackbird clearly heard a gunshot during their broken-up communication. He asked them to repeat what was happening to verify he had heard correctly and then told them to hang up and call 911, as would he. A sheriff was sent to the scene, but the shooter had fled. The sheriff offered to escort the treesitters off the property to file a report and most likely to be taken into custody. The treesitters opted to stay in the tree and continue the ongoing, month-long civil disobedience.

This was not the first violent threat. The previous day, loggers had hurled rocks at a platform. Luckily, no one was injured, but items were knocked off the deck. On another day, one logger was ordered to cut down traverse lines to connected trees. Blackbird was on one of these traverse lines, but the logger would not be deterred and intended to cut the traverse letting Blackbird drop to the ground. Fortunately, and unbeknownst to the logger, he was hooked into a safety line and did not fall. Treesitters have heard numerous threats including one logger saying he would climb up the tree, rape and kill the treesitter. A logger stabbed a dog to death thinking it was one of the activist's dogs, but learned later that it was a fellow logger's pet. Allowing this violence to continue has only caused it to escalate, and the threat of death is increasingly present.

One woman has spent time in the treesit who comments on the status of the threatened forest: "I was up treesitting for three days. Each day I heard about 15 trees being cut



photo by Hans Bennett

Earth First!ers blockading the entrance to the Freddie's to protect the Santa Cruz redwoods.

down. It sounds like death or the forest's heartbeat coming to a stop. All I can see around me is second and third growth. Branches on every tree are broken off. The trees look sick, none of the forest is thriving. The only old growth you can see is black stumps. I can see that the forest is endangered, and I am surprised that with less than two percent of old-growth forests left in the world that more people aren't adamant about saving the Santa Cruz redwoods."

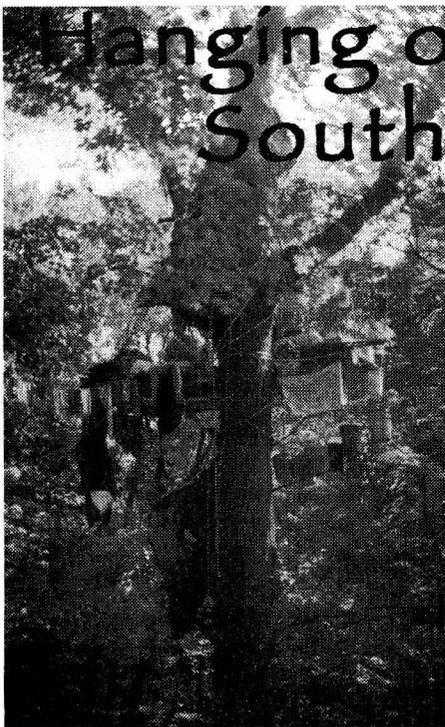
Santa Cruz Earth First! supporters refused to just stand by while friends were fired at by angered loggers or self-proclaimed Timber Harvest Plan enforcers. Activists and concerned locals mobilized immediately to take action in response to this incident and to raise local awareness. Two sisters, Liv and Dune, locked their arms around either side of the main entrance gate to the forest. Further back, Acorn was locked to another gate. Loggers were able to penetrate this blockade by removing the gate at the hinge, but the sisters were able to delay logging trucks for four hours. Public Works had to be called, and they

eventually decided to cut the actual fence with a saw in order to clear the road, putting both activists within inches of the saw blade and endangering them.

In the hours before officers showed up at the blockade, two Redwood Empire Company employees attempted to scare activists off the property but were unsuccessful. Both screeched up in Ford pickups, one swerving to nearly hit one supporter. The men proceeded to push, knock down, punch and drag supporters on the ground and over another debris blockade behind the gate. All the while the loggers engaged in a witty dialogue about these "dirty hippies." The loggers did not seem to mind that I was standing there with a video camera taping the whole thing—images of which were aired on two local TV stations.

This event has definitely raised local interest, and with three ongoing treesits in the mountains above Santa Cruz these loggers will by no means succeed in suffocating the actions of Santa Cruz residents and Earth First!.

For more information, contact Santa Cruz Earth First! at (831) 426-2667; cruzef@cruzio.com.



Hanging on Strong in Southern Indiana

Prometheus has once again put the fire in the bellies of activists in Southern Indiana, through the form of this red oak. Prometheus holds aloft two small platforms occupied by passionate, wild forest defenders. Defying the lurking presence and threats of "conservation officers" (CO); bracing under Midwestern thunderstorms and lightning; howling with primal love at the full moon and demonstrating passion, commitment and endurance in defense of Planet Earth; the entire support network of the Yellowwood treesit grows stronger all the time. This direct action in Yellowwood is part of the larger campaign to end commercial logging on all of Indiana's State Forests.

BY THE CHILDREN OF PROMETHEUS

Only once every two or three years, the yellowwood tree blooms with delicate white flowers. At the northern edge of the natural range of this species lies Yellowwood State Forest in Brown County, Indiana. A few small remnant stands of the tree hold out in this forest, despite the state's historical legacy of indiscriminate clearing the land.

This year, it was time for those stands of smooth-barked trees to simultaneously take part in this cycle of beauty and new life. Also in the spring of this year, forest defenders have risen up in Yellowwood State Forest in nonviolent, direct action for a wild Indiana. Since April, treesitters have held off the chainsaws from a piece of our public land by living on small platforms in the branches of a strong red oak known as Prometheus.

In ancient Greek mythology, Prometheus is the trickster figure who rebelled against the gods and stole the fire from Olympus to give it to the villages of the people. Prometheus is associated with the characteristic of "forethought," and he and the goddess Athena are said to have given people this ability with the intention of safeguarding hope. Prometheus was punished by Zeus for his deeds and bound to a rock. Each day an eagle (or some say vultures) came and ate off his liver, only to have it grow again each night.

Prometheus lies within one of 14 timber sales planned for this year in Yellowwood State Forest. The sale includes about 66 trees between the ages of 60-80 years old, while Prometheus itself has been placed at 85 years.

On July 6, Yellowwood's sister treesit on private land in the Bloomington area, Bluebird, was besieged by law enforcement. Treesitters and others were removed and arrested after a more than three-month occupation of the site, and a road is now being built where old trees once stood. The events motivated the community despite the unfortunate conclusion.

Soon after, on July 18, plain-clothed COs for the state of Indiana discovered three new platforms in Yellowwood, high in the branches of an old black oak known as Sasquatch, one of the oldest and grandest trees in the area. The platforms were discovered before activists could occupy them. In an operation that lasted more than 24 hours, the COs cut them down. For a long period, officers contemplated cutting down Sasquatch immediately to "prevent more treesits." Instead, in an equally senseless act of violence meant solely to intimidate and punish the treesitters, officers cut off the branches of the mighty oak nearly to its farthest reaches.

Support is needed in many forms. For more info., call the Yellowwood campaign at (812) 336-0462.

BARE BONES

Canadian Ski Resort Development Protested

A road blockade erected to protest development of a British Columbia ski resort was dismantled by Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) as more than 40 officers, two police emergency response teams, three canine units and an RCMP helicopter were standing by.

Protesters have been trying to stop the development of the Cayoosh ski resort. Six protesters were arrested after they barred a convoy of logging trucks from proceeding along Hwy 99.

Sergeant Randy Brown said the protest began peacefully, but escalated.

Aboriginal protesters were also told to leave Tod Mountain, on the Sun Peaks resort near Kamloops. The protest camp was set up in October 2000, after Sun Peaks announced expansion plans worth \$170 million. Members of the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council claim ownership of the land.

Federal Judges Guilty of Anti-Environmental Activism

A new analysis, released July 19, finds a decade-long pattern of judicial activism by judges ideologically opposed to environmental protections. An analysis of federal rulings from the last 10 years found that a group of highly ideological judges—most appointed by former Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush—have disregarded norms of judicial conduct to shape a new judicial philosophy that threaten environmental protections.

This is the first time environmental organizations have mounted a national effort to scrutinize the records of those named to the federal bench.

"In pursuit of anti-environmental activism, judges have repeatedly ignored basic principles of judicial fairness to shut citizens out of the courthouse and create new rights for polluters," said Greg Wetstone of the Natural Resources Defense Council.

There are more than 100 vacancies on the federal bench, giving President George W. Bush an immediate opportunity to significantly shape the federal judiciary. Bush has named as "model" judges Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas—both known for promoting anti-environmental activism.

Compromising Away Ancient Forests

BY TIM REAM

Imagine one year from now, you wake up and flip on the radio for some corporate morning "news." The top story? Right before election 2002, George W. Bush has just signed a new law that "saves the old-growth forests!" Happy? America sure is! They've wanted those old-growth forests saved for years. They thought Clinton had done it about 10 years ago, but they are glad Bush

finally got it taken care of. And guess what else? The law will also help loggers! It is amazing what can happen when Democrats and Republicans get beyond bipartisan bickering and actually work to solve problems.

What will have really happened is that the Northwest Forest Plan will have been reopened to move more timber. The payoff for the "good" environmentalists standing up at the press conference included pretty

good protection for most of the maybe 175-plus-year trees still left unprotected in the west side owl habitat in Washington and Oregon. That is a tiny portion of the Northwest's national forests. Any remaining protections left from the Northwest Forest Plan for the rest of the forest will be what the grassroots were able to fight like hell to keep. You wonder how we'll fare against George Bush, his new Forest Service bosses, sell-out Democratic senators, the timber industry and the corporate media allied against us?

After breakfast you get to go out and explain to folks that you are trying to stop timber sales on public land to protect habitat, and that you want to end commercial logging on public lands.

"Didn't they just save that?" Have a nice day.

This is not a far-fetched story. Here's how it could happen.

Very successful and tireless forest watch and litigation work over the last 10 years has stopped logging on many of the forests in the Northwest. Timber prices are relatively low. Public attitude continues to shift away from cutting. Direct action and sabotage keep the economic equation tilted toward inaction. And the Bush Administration is still settling in.

Nonetheless, everyone knows that the Bushies owe timber companies, and the repayment is coming. Litigation options are fewer, and the timber sale pipeline is filled with some of the nastiest sales we have seen in years. Sometime late this year they will be dusting off the big saws.

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) smells an easy victory. As the new Chair of the Senate Resources Subcommittee on Forests, he is ready "to save the old growth" if you're a liberal audience and "to get the forests working again" if you are a timber type. That means old growth in the "matrix" for cutting under the plan will receive some protection. But senators do not give you something for nothing. It is called "making a deal."

Some of the things the dark side wants: waivers from the Endangered Species Act or Aquatic Conservation



Clearcut II by Peggy Sue McKee

Strategies; loosening of the "survey and manage" provisions for old-growth dependent species; moving "non-old growth" from late successional reserves into the matrix for cutting; protections against future litigation; land exchanges; and a relatively narrow definition of old growth requiring age, canopy closure and structure requirements to qualify.

Would any forest activists go along with such horrible deal making? Remember back when Northwest forests were a raging national issue and Democrats controlled both houses of Congress and the White House in 1993? Eight scientifically defensible plans to protect Northwest forests were on the table. But the deal was not sweet enough for Timber so science went out the window, and Slick Willy asked the enviros for a little favor called Option 9. Yes, some forest activists broke rank and took the deal. Think it could happen again?

Some of the best forest activists and organizations in Washington and Oregon have formed the Northwest Old-Growth Campaign out of Bellingham, Washington. They are putting together a bill for this congressional session. Their campaign brochure includes a map depicting where to find Northwest ancient forests on public land—the eastside of the Cascades is blank. Despite its inclusion in the Northwest Forest Plan, Northern California is also absent. The solution presented is to permanently protect ancient forests. On the next page old growth is defined by age (175 years and older), canopy closure and structure. "Mature" forests are also noted to "play a very important role." The following page tells us "What Our Leaders Think." Their leaders include first Freddie grandson Gifford Pinchot III; former Freddie Chief Michael Dombeck; Jeffery Metzger, CEO of the largest homebuilder in the US—KB Homes—and eight members of Congress.

"Campaign partners" include American Lands Alliance, Cascadia Wildlands Project, ForestEthics, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, Oregon Natural Resource Council, Pacific Crest Biodiversity Project, the Sierra Club's Oregon Chapter, Siskiyou Project and Umpqua Watersheds.

So the strategy questions are these. Should the Northwest grassroots groups shift their work away from the

McKinney-Leach bill (National Forest Protection and Restoration Act) that would end the timber sale program completely? While no one thinks Bush would sign it, it does have more than 100 co-sponsors in the House, and it happens to be what the majority of Americans want. It seems a better opening bid to counter Wyden than asking for old-growth and "mature" forests.

How will this campaign affect forests in the rest of the region or nation? Congressional demand for unsustainable timber volume from public lands is not being challenged. The suggestion is that forest activists from the rest of the nation might shift work away from ending the timber sale program nationally and toward seeing what Bush will give each regionally. What happened to solidarity?

Then what should we be doing in the Northwest? Let's trumpet our successes in shutting down the timber sale program *ad hoc* just like most Americans want, but warn the public that big, bad Bush wants their trees. The only way to stop him is to get government out of the timber business: McKinney-Leach. Let's fight like hell to prevent any attempt at re-opening the Northwest Forest Plan for any reason under this administration and reaffirm our commitment to ending all commercial exploitation of public lands, without compromise. When we commission national polls, let's ask about ending the timber sale program. When we ask for letters to the editor or endorsements, let's ask for an end to the timber sale program.

Bush will not "save the old growth" no matter how much we hope! It is easy to fantasize about sweeping protection and forget that the key Northwest politicians on the issue include Wyden and Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) who were both against repealing the Salvage Rider. The Northwest players on legislation are in Timber's pocket. There is no forest protection Holy Grail in the next three years, especially one with W's initials on it. So let's leave the grassroots out of the game of compromise, cut our losses on this misguided campaign and return to advocating for what the forest needs and the public wants: a complete end to the timber sale program on public land.

BARE BONES

Mexican Forest Activists Lose Appeal

In mid-July, two Mexican anti-logging activists, Rodolfo Montiel and Teodoro Cabrera, lost their appeal of a drug and weapons conviction. Their appeal claimed that the courts omitted evidence when they were convicted. Yet the Unitary Tribunal of Chilpancingo in Guerrero ruled that, despite evidence of confessions obtained under torture, the six-year and eight-month sentence for Montiel and 10 years for Cabrera would be upheld.

In 1996, Montiel and Cabrera were protesting the environmental devastation left by logging in the Petatlán area. After conflict arose between environmentalists, loggers and the military, Montiel and Cabrera were arrested in 1999 and accused of trafficking in weapons and narcotics, and of being members of an "eco-guerrilla organization."

Their case will now be presented to the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights.

US Imports Rare Timber From Orangutan Habitat

In an effort to save Indonesia's rapidly disappearing orangutans, an international ban on the export of a rare tree species went into effect August 6. Indonesia's government banned both the export and domestic trade in ramin (*Gonystylus bancanus*) due to continued illegal logging within several of Indonesia's Orangutan National Parks.

Orangutans are highly dependent upon trees for their food, nests and for moving through the forest. In the world-renowned Tanjung Puting National Park in Kalimantan, where roughly 500 orangutans survive, massive illegal logging has devastated much of their habitat.

Orangutan numbers in the wild have declined by 50 percent in the last decade and habitat destruction poses the greatest threat to their survival. Indonesia is home to 80 percent of the world's remaining orangutans.

The US is one of the world's largest importers of ramin, importing more than \$12.3 million in ramin last year.

EF! and RAN Blockade Boise Cascade

BY COHO AND COFFEE POO

Wild Rockies Earth First! (WREF!) made the hot, optimistic journey from the Round River Rendezvous to Boise, Idaho to protest and preach outside the corporate headquarters of logging industry giant, Boise Cascade. In Southeast Idaho we drove past Simplot's phosphate mines, which are responsible for 150-160 dead sheep, poisoned by selenium. We waved at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and tried not to think about the plutonium in the Snake River aquifer that irrigates 75 percent of the barley used to make beer in the US (that's right, nuclear beer!). We just kept drinking our beer, glad to be back in good ol' Idaho.

We arrived July 27 to find Boise Cascade Corporation's (BCC) headquarters blocked off with caution tape and wooden barricades with flashing construction lights. We were flattered. Two of our cohorts went into the building for the free coffee in the lobby and to tell security that WREF! was in town. The employees tried really hard to look mean, but we could tell they were the kind of guys who were afraid that Seattle was ahead and just wanted a chili-dog and a paycheck. We yelled, "We don't want beer bellies, cell phones, baseball or corporations so have a good day!" as we walked slowly (so as not to spill our coffee) outta there. The next day we had a full day of workshops on BCC, salvage logging, climbing and Grumbles' wonderful nonviolence training. Sunday, everyone participated in a day-long vigil outside BCC's headquarters. Many passersby stopped to check us out, and TV stations came by to ask us if we were the Earth Liberation Front!

On the last two days of July, we shook Boise up quite effectively. First, WREF! and the Landlocked Pirates, a group of local activists, met outside BCC to pass out leaflets to employees. On one side of the flyers it said, "Quit your job! Join Wild Rockies Earth First!" and offered a free one year membership for former BCC employees. On the other side it read, "Could you be the real eco-terrorist?!" followed by a list of facts about



Boise Cascade's public lands carnage, Umpqua National Forest, Oregon

Photo courtesy RAN

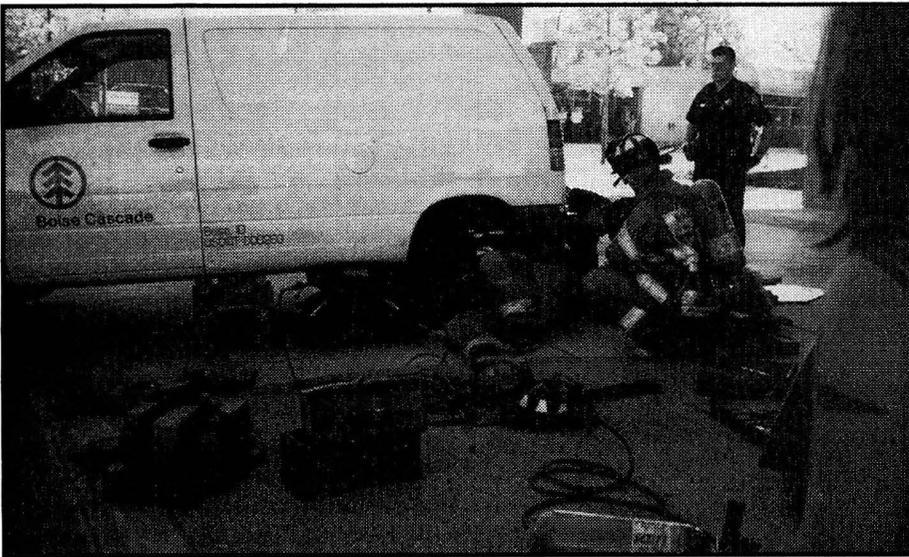


photo courtesy RAN

Frustrated firefighters work to remove a locked down Tate Valle.

BCC's business practices. Not too many of the employees were responsive at first. They walked fast, eyes down, into the building, trying not to look at all the sidewalk chalk, Earth First! banners and people with signs. WREF! was outside when hundreds of workers came to work, went to lunch and went home.

On August 1, Tate Valle locked himself to the rear axle of a BCC distribution van. Six police cars, three bike cops, two fire engines and paramedics were quickly on the scene. The firefighters decided they had never seen a situation like this one before and jacked up the car with air bags, took off the rear tire and cut the axle in half with a pneumatic drill. Although Tate has a serious medical condition, the police would not let his legal medical aid be a witness. Corporate TV cameras and reporters were allowed behind the police tape, but videographers from independent news organizations weren't because, to quote Lieutenant Miller, "I just don't feel like it today, why don't you shut up young lady." How professional.

The closest lane of traffic was shut down and police began heavily patrolling the area looking for any "criminals" who might attack poor, unsuspecting corporations. Tate eventually unlocked due to the Boise Police Department's apparent inability to safely extract him. He was charged with a felony for solicitation to halt or impede lawful forestry, mining or agricultural practices. Affectionately known as the "Earth First! law," this charge was first used in 1995 against arrestees at the Noble Road blockade at Cove/

Mallard but was eventually dismissed at the arraignment. On September 5, a district judge in Idaho threw Tate's case out, and the law has still never been challenged in court.

More than 40 people turned out for a rally after Tate's arrest and were harassed by the Idaho Rangers (a private security group), Boise police and BCC's hired goons. One activist was detained and cited by the police for "inhibiting a Boise Cascade worker from getting out of his vehicle."

On the same day in Itsaca, Illinois, home to BCC's office products distribution headquarters, 20 protesters with the Rainforest Action Network—including Bonnie Raitt and other celebrities—were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct for trespassing on BCC property.

After our stop in Boise the tour continued on to the Otter-Wing timber sale in the Nez Perce National Forest, where a small crew did a field assessment of recent logging damage. Old-growth units will be helicopter yarded sometime this fall, and we invite anyone who would like to do actions in the area to contact us for maps and directions.

Wild Rockies Earth First! will spend the next month in the Bitterroot Valley doing field assessments on the Forest Service's 280-million board feet proposed salvage sale. We may be engaged in direct action there, as the agency is planning to issue a record of decision and start work right away.

Contact WREF!, POB 1742, Missoula, MT 59806; (406) 721-3494; wref@wildrockies.org.

BARE BONES

Dyn-O-Gel Sucks Up Storm Moisture

In a July 19 test, a powder touted as a potential way to weaken hurricanes succeeded in sucking the moisture out of a thunderstorm off the Florida coast. An airplane dropped \$40,000 worth of Dyn-O-Gel granules into a cloud 10 miles offshore, and soon thereafter a television station's weather radar confirmed that the cloud lost moisture.

The granules, made by a company called Dyn-O-Mat, fell into the ocean as a gel-like substance that dissolves in salt water. Each granule is said to absorb 2,000 times its weight in water.

The product was dropped in a line from the outer portion of the storm to its eye. The company contends that by dropping moisture out of the swirling mass, the storm is weakened.

Dyn-O-Mat hopes to sell the product to the federal government. The company claims its products can help with droughts and fires, as well as soak up oil, gasoline, anti-freeze and much more.

US Sets Up Shop for Mutant Mice

The National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), a branch of the National Institutes of Health, has announced the official opening of a network designed to provide mutant mice to scientists throughout the world.

The Mutant Mouse Regional Resource Centers network is intended to be a kind of central market for researchers to obtain or donate genetically altered mice for a vast range of basic biomedical research projects. The network includes four US repository and distribution facilities with an Informatics Coordinating Center located at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine. In general, each facility has the ability to preserve embryos and re-create various strains as needed.

"The network is designed to be a comprehensive means of providing disease-free or relatively disease-free animals to appropriate investigators worldwide," NCRR director Dr. Judith Vaitukaitis said.

A Prayer for the Earth, Water,

Diné Elders Arrested at Sundance Ceremony

Elvira Horseherder was one of five Diné grandmothers arrested by the Hopi Tribal Police in July. They were charged with trespassing and holding a ceremony without a permit.

We have the right to have a ceremony. We can pray to the Earth, the water, the trees, everything. We as grandmothers—Pauline Whitesinger, Ruth Benally (my mom) and myself—were pushed around, arrested and hurt by Hopi police.

We are not trespassers, we live here at Big Mountain. We were born here, and our ancestors were here long ago. This land is our traditional grandmothers' and grandfathers' land. Their burial places are here, and we know where they are, we know their names. We never heard of a Hopi that lived here back then. The Hopi Tribe just wants coal and money. This is what is destroying our land. We live by our prayers and traditional ways. We don't understand digging coal. The coal is Mother Earth's liver.

On July 1, we prayed early in the morning. My mom made a ceremony, and we left to go to Kayenta to get the Sundance tree. When we tried to bring the tree into the ceremonial ground we saw a lot of police blocking the road, and they stopped us. We told them we are having this ceremony because our people are suffering. We have headaches and are sick. We told them we need support from all natives and non-natives that come to support and pray for us, for our land, water, for the air, for our health and our animals.

My mom and I stood in front of the tree. A man came up to us and said we have no right to do this. He opened the door of his vehicle and grabbed my mom by her belly and pushed her in the vehicle and slammed the door. He pushed me in the vehicle. I saw that Pauline Whitesinger was already in the vehicle. He drove off with us right away. We looked back and saw

that Louise Benally and Joella Ashike were in the back of the truck. They rushed us towards Rocky Ridge.

The road was rough and ungraded. We were going more than 75 mph on the dirt roads. My mom asked him, "Can't you slow down?" He did not understand because my mom spoke only in Diné. My mom almost bumped into the front dashboard since she was given no seat belt. He drove 90 mph on

the paved road to the Hopi Chairman, Wayne Taylor's office. We went in as they dragged Louise. He told us we were arrested and handcuffed us. We were pushed into another vehicle and taken on to Keams Canyon. We never saw the Hopi chairman.

At Keams Canyon a police lady came in and threw some prison clothes at us. My mom was forcefully dressed for refusing to wear the pants. We were pushed into a room and they threw us a big smelly mattress. We were all supposed to sleep on one mattress. My mom said that her waist hurt where the policeman grabbed her.

The next morning they told us to eat. Pauline and Ruth could not even eat their food since they have no teeth and take a while to eat. They took our trays back before we were finished eating.

In the courtroom they lined us up in front of the judge. They asked Louise to translate for us. Louise said "No way, you arrested me, why should I help you? You can talk to them yourself." They didn't know what to do since they did not have a translator.

Then they motioned for us to go out, so we followed them, and they took us back into the little room. Just



A trampled prayer offering

photo courtesy: BAMS

... Big Trouble at Big Mountain ...

BY GEOFF BOYCE

On August 17, without any warning, a group of 60 officers, representing the Hopi tribal government, the Hopi tribe's land team, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Navajo County Sheriff's Department, invaded the ceremonial Sundance at Camp Anna Mae—home to the traditional Diné resisters who have vowed to remain on their homeland despite continuous threats of forced eviction by the Hopi and federal governments.

This ceremonial ground is the site of a continuous ceremony dedicated to the healing of the Earth and toward the creation of life. The officers who came to invade the village arrived armed with a bulldozer, backhoe, chainsaws and other equipment of destruction, as well as weapons with live ammunition and several ambulances. Within several hours, the entire ceremonial site at Camp Anna Mae had been bulldozed. The sacred Sundance Tree of Life, including its eagle feathers and prayer offerings, was cut down and shredded.

This act of aggression followed more than a month of increasing harassment and escalating tension after a similar attempt to raid the Sundance camp on July 11, when five Diné elders were arrested for trespassing.

The land at Big Mountain and Black Mesa truly belongs to the indigenous residents whose ancestors have occupied the land for countless generations.

One positive thing that has come out of these recent events is the level of commitment, determination and support demonstrated by the resisters at Black Mesa and their allies. The residents at Big Mountain and Black Mesa will not allow anything to dissuade them from maintaining their commitment to their traditional lifestyle.

Louise Benally, resident of Camp Anna Mae and July 11 arrestee stated, "This issue is not about politics; indeed, it is politics—arbitrary US law—which has created this situation. This issue is about the rights of a people to survive, and that is what the residents

Animals and Trees

Louise and Joella had court. They were not going to release us unless we paid them a \$500 bond each. But after our attorney called, they told us we were free to go. When we left the jail there were a whole bunch of people waiting there for us.

Finally, when we went back to where the ceremony was held, we were happy to see that it was still going on. We went to the Sundance tree and prayed for our healing. We prayed for the people, land, air and trees. We were happy to be home.

During the Sundance the police made a roadblock to turn the people back and give them tickets. The police gave out about 400-500 tickets for \$500/day trespassing charge to the Diné people and to our supporters. Even my daughter was told she would be fined if she left to get us water. The police said they shut off the water well for the whole time of the Sundance. It was not until Sunday afternoon that they turned the water back on.

We are grandmothers, who like to help and pray. We are still human beings with five fingers. We always go by our traditional ways. We pray and we want to walk in Beauty Way. We were all born on Big Mountain, under the tree, on the ground. When we were born our grandma picked us up from the Earth and cleaned us. She laughed, and we were wrapped in mohair sheepskin. We will not forget our traditional ways, walking and having our children grow up among Big Mountain.

When I think about the policeman speeding down the dirt roads, I remember it was rough and scary. The Hopi police and the Hopi tribe lied when they told us they were just taking us to meet with the Hopi chairman to see about a permit for the ceremony. When we got there they arrested us. This is what I know. This is the truth. We want our freedom so we can pray and not be called trespassers on our own land. We just want to be free.

—ELVIRA HORSEHERDER

... Camp Anna Mae Raided ...



The Hopi tribe offers no apologies.

of Big Mountain are going to continue doing. However, it is clear that this conflict is far from over."

"This is just one of the steps that the Hopi tribe will be taking to enforce its jurisdiction over the Hopi Reservation," said Cedric Kuwaninvaya of the Hopi Land Team.

"They tore the tree down, the arbor and the lodges, but the people's prayers

are still in place. The rangers and the police involved are all lost and have no concept of having a life or understanding of it, so don't waste too much of your time on them. We need pressure at all levels," urges Louise Benally.

The Diné of Black Mesa have called for a worldwide prayer gathering on October 12-13. People from all around the world are asked to assist the Diné elders and their families in

two days of prayer in support of indigenous rights, religious freedom and the setting in motion of events that will allow all people to return to harmony with Earth.

For more info., contact Black Mesa Indigenous Support, POB 23501, Flagstaff, AZ 86002; (928) 773-8086; blackmesais@yahoo.com; www.blackmesais.org.

BARE BONES

Panama Canal of the North

The Northwest Passage—the route linking Asia and Europe across the Canadian arctic—is expected to become a feasible shipping lane in 15 years. A professor at the University of Calgary, Rob Huebert, believes that as global warming melts the polar ice cap, the passage will rival the Panama Canal. He says that Canada is not prepared for security issues, crime, disease or potential environmental disasters which may result.

The Northwest Passage is usually choked with ice for most of the year, but in the summer of 1999 a pair of icebreakers accompanied a Russian floating dry dock through the passage on the way to Bermuda and encountered little ice.

The first person to navigate the passage was Roald Amundsen in 1906. He spent three years making the voyage—including two winters locked in ice. Soon the crossing time could be as short as one week. Oil-laden supertankers traveling between Japan and Europe, currently unable to use the Panama Canal because of their massive size, will save 12,000 nautical miles with the arctic route. It is a possibility that lends the potential for environmental catastrophe should such a ship suffer a mishap.

U'wa Tribe Hides Oil

Occidental Petroleum (OXY) announced in late July that it failed to find oil at the Gibraltar 1 well site on the U'wa tribe's ancestral land in Northeastern Colombia. The company has begun removing equipment from the site—a positive turn of events for the resistance campaign waged by the U'wa, an indigenous community of 8,000.

The announcement by OXY came after the U'wa had been praying for months and using traditional rituals to "hide the oil."

While the U'wa called this development a "cultural triumph," the tribe pointed out that the land is still threatened by oil exploration by the Spanish company Repsol, which is just beginning exploratory drilling in the Capachos 1 block.

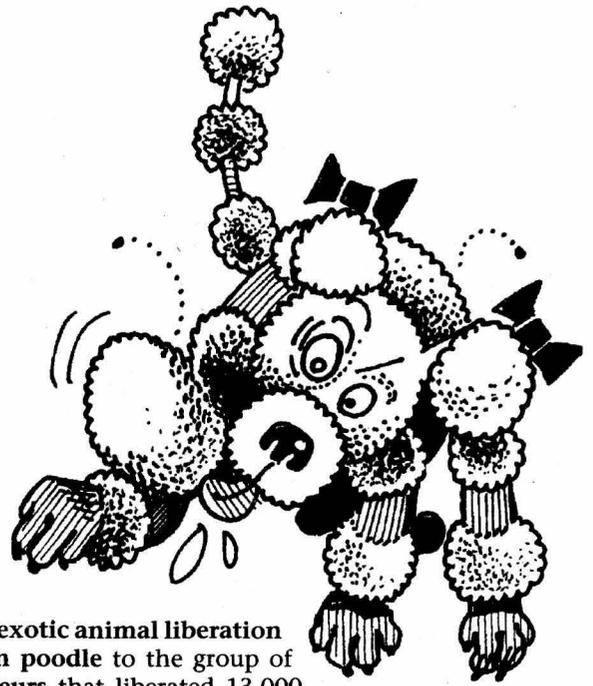
Wolves and Poodles

An indigenous, anarchist, head-hunting wolf to the unknown person(s) who "in an apparent protest" beheaded and spray-painted a marble statue of Christopher Columbus in Santa Barbara, California. Painted on the statue was a peace sign and the anarchist "circle A." On the back were the spray-painted words, "Tell children the truth." An upside-down American flag was placed in front of the statue, with the words "Truth: 509 years of indigenous genocide."

A Better Homes and Gardens black-mailing wolf to the Lawn Liberation Front! for mailing out to their neighbors white handbill-sized flyers attached with a black ribbon. Below the ribbon were the letters LLF!. The flyers explained that the recipient of that letter's lawn may be bestowed with 12-inch spikes to encourage them to stop mowing. The flyers assert that lawnmowers and tractors are the leading causes of toxic emissions in the US and that plastic bags of grass contribute to the "exponential expansion of landfills." The notice further declares, "Grass is a living entity that deserves as much respect as humans."

A take this weak-ass, see-through, timber-industry-backed appeal back to Norton and die wolf to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals for dismissing a lawsuit claiming that more logging is needed in Wyoming's Medicine Bow National Forest. The lawsuit was filed by the Coalition for Sustainable Resources and represented by the Denver-based Mountain States Legal Foundation. This is the same legal foundation where Secretary of the Interior Gail Norton got her claim to fame. The coalition's lawsuit claimed that a lack of logging in the Medicine Bow National Forest has increased the forest density and decreased the amount of water runoff into the Platte River.

A Cactus Ed Haaooooooooowlin' wolf to Ken Sleight for receiving the first-ever Edward Abbey Award for Conservation from the Sierra Club's Glen Canyon Chapter. Sleight, a conservation legend in Utah, was immortalized as the character "Seldom Seen Smith" in Abbey's 1975 novel *The Monkey Wrench Gang*. "The Sierra Club honors Ken in recognition of his great contributions to the protection of Southern Utah's public lands, wilderness and wild rivers," said the group's chairman.



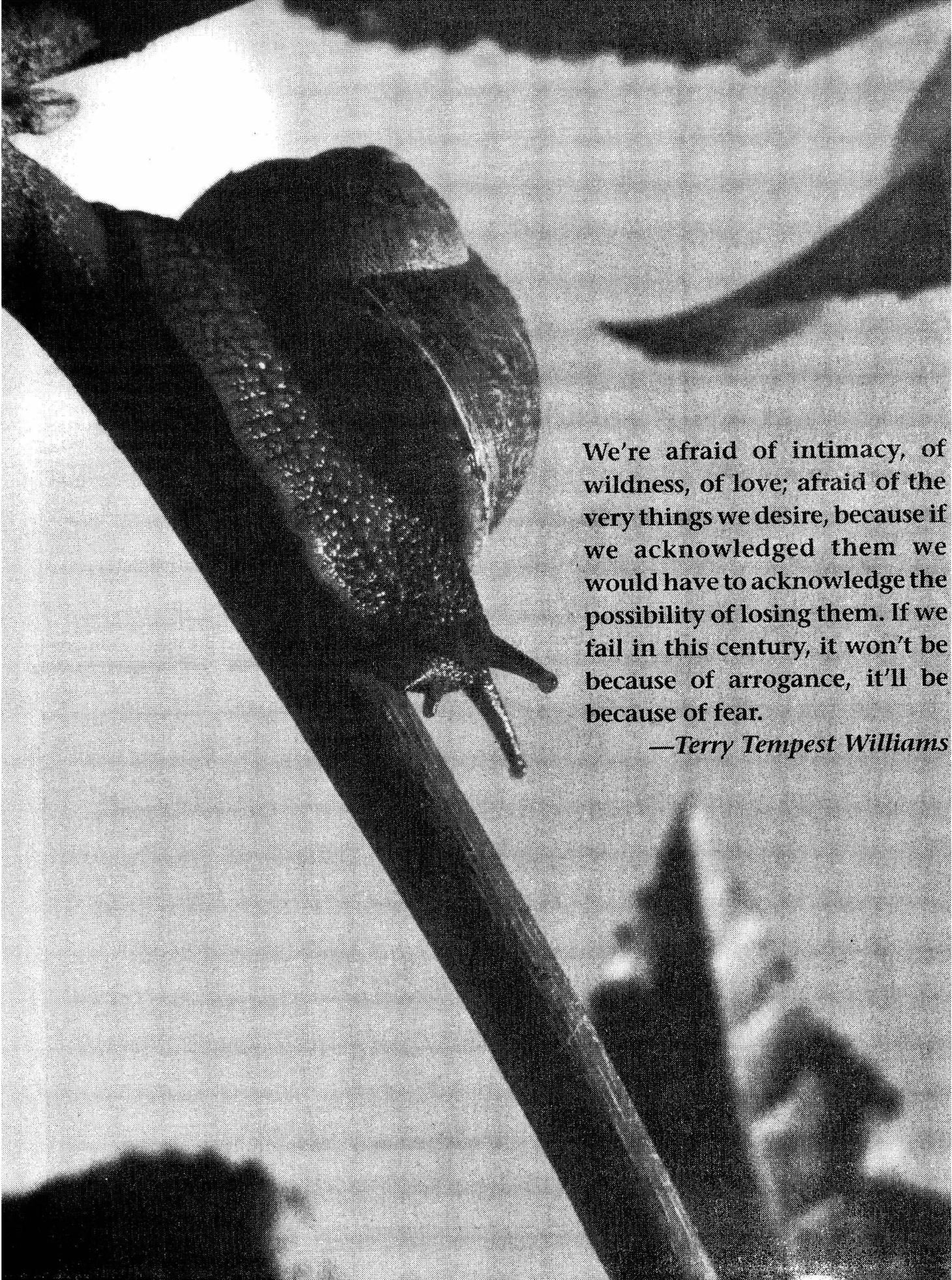
An exotic animal liberation action poodle to the group of saboteurs that liberated 13,000 non-native minks from a fur farm in

La Puebla de Valverde, a community of 500 residents 200 miles east of Madrid, Spain. The mink fled after unknown attackers knocked down 80 yards of fence and opened cages in the middle of the night. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. The minks were of the American variety not native to Spain's countryside and can attack partridges and rabbits, competing with native predators for food.

A we can log "protected" forest and spend the money on greenwashing our public image poodle to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for teaming up with International Paper (IP), one of the largest loggers of forests in the world. TNC purchased 26,500 acres of IP's 300,000 acres of forestland in Adirondack Park, New York. An IP spokesman stated they wanted the land to remain in "working forest condition" and that TNC would either log land themselves or sell the timber rights to contractors.

A now I can shoot you with no eco-guilt poodle to the US Army for designing a less environmentally harmful 5.56 mm bullet for their standard M-16 rifles. In the new bullet, a less toxic tungsten composite replaces the lead. In a program that has cost \$12 million so far, the military says using "green-ammunition" cuts soil contamination caused by the millions of slugs fired annually at its practice ranges. "We just want to be good stewards of the environment," said Army spokeswoman Karen Baker.

A mad-cow happy-meal token gesture poodle to the National Audubon Society for presenting McDonald's with its 2001 Environmental Leadership Award. Citing more than a decade of "environmental action," Audubon President John Flicker praised McDonald's for its "green track record," saying "McDonald's implements the highest environmental standards." The Audubon Leadership Award recognizes the recipient for either a single, extraordinary feat, or a long record of significant contributions to conservation. "With more than 28,000 restaurants serving more than 43 million people a day in 120 countries, McDonald's as a business leader demonstrates to the world true corporate responsibility and leadership."



We're afraid of intimacy, of wildness, of love; afraid of the very things we desire, because if we acknowledged them we would have to acknowledge the possibility of losing them. If we fail in this century, it won't be because of arrogance, it'll be because of fear.

—Terry Tempest Williams

Round River Rendezvous

Bringing EF! back to where it all began

BY WYOMING WOMYN

Another week goes by in a blur. Yet this time it's a week in Wyoming, and we are guests of Teewinot Earth First! at the Round River Rendezvous from July 7-15.

The Rendezvous committee was limited in number this year, which meant much of the infrastructure was not in place until after a hundred or so activists had arrived. The work that needed to be done was completed quickly and efficiently by a large number of volunteers. Many thanks to all of you!

The Rendezvous site was beautiful; kudos to the local EF!ers who picked it out! It was also sufficiently trashed by cows and ATVs; so much so that 400 or more of us over a week's time were unlikely to leave a significant impact.

A local newspaper estimated 10 to 15,000 people would attend. Luckily, crowds of that size never materialized. We did, however, have 400 to 500 people total throughout the week. Even some locals joined our band of bandits around the campfire to present a variety of viewpoints.

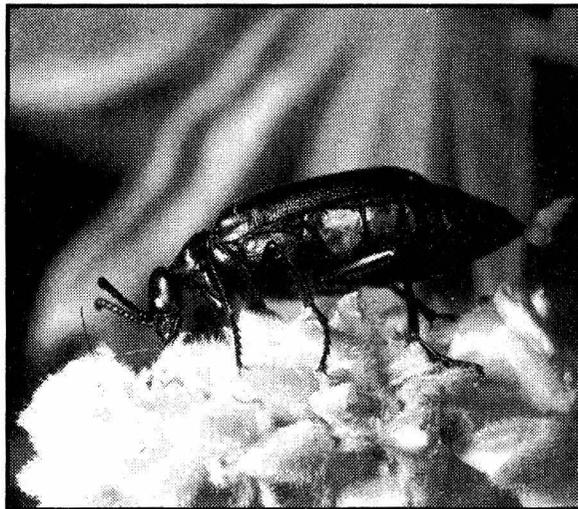


photo by Dave Parks

Blister beetle on lupine flowers

Fire danger was high but not that high—with intermittent rain, usually a few sprinkles but occasionally a real storm. On Sunday there was a storm that brought wind, lightning, rain and golf ball-sized hail that gave us a significant quantity of moisture.

The bears, wolverines and mountain lions must've heard that a bunch of wild eco-freaks were coming their way. Squirrels, birds, grouse and peculiarly extroverted deer were probably the only wildlife observed by the vast majority of attendees.

Demographically, there were many more virgins than repeaters, and many of them were young urban activists and anarchists who were getting their first backcountry experiences. One suggestion overheard at the Rendezvous: That because we seem to be attracting a lot of people with minimal or no camping skills, we need to schedule an early workshop that will fill people in on those basics. There was more car camping at this Rendezvous than at most—hopefully that will not become a trend.

Frontlines

Golf Courses Choice Target for ELF

Three college students claiming to be a part of the Earth Liberation Front were charged July 19 with damaging golf courses in Nebraska. They were charged with multiple counts of fourth-class felony charges of criminal mischief in Douglas County Court. The Pines Country Club in Valley was hit July 17 and was the fourth area golf course damaged since late June.

At the Knolls golf course and Champions Club in northwest Omaha and the Indian Creek golf course in Elkhorn, buildings were spray painted and greens dug up causing an estimated \$7,000 in damage.

Douglas County Sheriff Tim Dunning said the arrests came after a tip from a resident near the golf course. The three men "indicated they were part of ELF," Dunning said.

ELF Hits Dynegy Power Plant Vehicles

Fifteen vehicles had their tires slashed and flattened, slogans spray painted and a dozen windows broken on July 21 at the Dynegy power plant in Lagrange, Kentucky.

"We wanted to send a clear message to Dynegy that the people will not sit around idly while our Earth and health

is put into jeopardy for the sake of a few wallets," stated an ELF communiqué.

Dynegy's natural gas-powered plants release nitrous oxide, one of the main ingredients in ground level ozone.

Trees Spiked in Gifford Pinchot

An anonymous group claimed responsibility for spiking hundreds of trees in Washington's Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The Greenhorn Timber sale contains 99 acres of old-growth forest.

A communiqué stated, "We are claiming responsibility for spiking 60-penny nails high and low into hundreds of trees in the Upper Greenhorn Timber Sale in the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest... The Forest Service was notified of this action *before* this year's logging season so we could take all precautions to assure worker safety."

Dutch Railway Sabotaged to Interrupt Car Imports

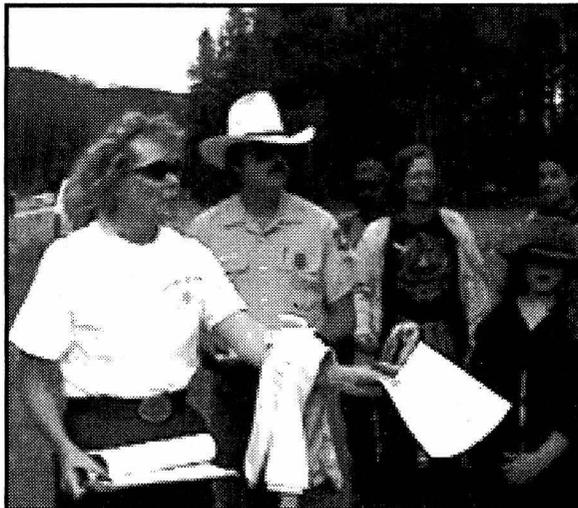
The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) sabotaged part of the freight railway tracks near Leusden, The Netherlands,

Little Greys River, Wyoming

There were ticks, however; and supposedly brown recluse spiders that thankfully were so reclusive nobody encountered one. The most abundant fauna undoubtedly had to be the mosquitoes and flies. The mosquitoes, though annoying, were wimps as mosquitoes go—not like the ones at the Wisconsin Rendezvous that would carry you off if given half a chance. After awhile you adapted.

One interesting aspect to this Rendezvous concerned the matter of the Forest Service's required, large-group camping permit. While getting a permit hasn't always been an issue at Rendezvous, there has been growing resistance to the idea. With the help of sage advice from more experienced activists present, the committee drew up a site plan in lieu of a permit and were gratified (and a bit astonished) to find it accepted by the Freddie's. No signatures were ever given to them! The Freddie's—along with other local and regional law enforcement agencies—left us well enough alone afterwards.

One major decision evolved this year: We decided on a



Freddie's unsuccessfully attempt to get permit signed.

photo by Andy Cliffer

policy of never signing anything at the Rendezvous or Organizers' Conferences, with the proviso that the planning committees can, if necessary, discuss a permit with the whole group once the gathering begins.

This was a very mellow Rendezvous with low controversy levels. Even those who disapproved of the large numbers of dogs running around without supervision were mellow about it. Though dog lovers do need to supervise their pets more diligently at these events.

Previous years' Rendezvous frequently came with a maze of banners as various camps identified themselves. This year that long-standing Earth First! tradition was largely missing.

A couple of things stood out this time around. While there was a dearth of the traditional abundance of white guys with guitars, this Rendezvous was somewhat unique in that most of the stay-up-all-night campfire performers were gals with guitars—and not everybody around those fires was white either. Who'd a thunk it?!

continued on next page

Frontlines

causing car transport delays. The action was taken in late July due to the failure of the Bonn climate conference, stated an ELF communiqué.

The activists also placed an obvious warning sign for the train's engineer. According to the communiqué, "A bar of rail was removed near car importer Pon."

The target, Pon Corporation of Leusden, imports Volkswagen, Audi and Porche cars, and the ELF states that Pon contributes to climate change. "It is clear that solutions are not to be expected from democratic governments. Large industries, such as the oil business, have them on a leash."

Pon has been targeted before: In 1993, hundreds of tires were sabotaged, and in 1995 several hundred cars were smeared with paint.

GM Field Destroyed in The Netherlands

On July 12, the third test field to be hit in The Netherlands in recent months was destroyed in Elst. Activists calling themselves the Mobile Unite for Bio-safety destroyed a field of potatoes, belonging to Syngenta Mogen. The potatoes were genetically altered to resist the phytophthora fungus.

Earlier, the Raging Hares destroyed two fields of genetically modified sugar beets.

GM Farm Raided for the Second Time

In July, police were called to Sunnymead Farm in Wivenhoe, United Kingdom, when farmer Jim Dutton heard noises in one of the two fields he uses for testing genetically modified (GM) forage maize. An Essex Police spokeswoman said, "They arrived and found there had been damage to the maize crop, but there was no trace of anybody." The raid is the second large-scale act of sabotage at the Sunnymead Farm, which has been the center of controversy since GM field trials began there last summer.

Eleven activists were acquitted June 27 for causing criminal damage to GM crops at the farm during a night-time raid on June 20, 2000. Police apprehended the "Wivenhoe 11" at the farm, yet the court prosecution collapsed because the defendants had been charged with damaging GM crops but had actually damaged non-GM crops by mistake.

Seven protesters were also arrested on June 30 during a daytime protest at the Sunnymead Farm for trespassing and criminal damage.

EF! annual Rendezvous continued...

continued from previous page

The site lay near the town of Alpine, Wyoming, with a friendly watering hole: the Bull Moose Saloon. This probably helped to keep the stray glass and aluminum to a minimum.

Twenty years ago in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, EF! fought off oil and gas interests that were trying to get their little fingers into the Wyoming Wildlands. Drilling is a major issue in Wyoming right now, especially with the phony "energy crisis" that is being pedaled to us by the Bush/Cheney machine (see article page 6). So in the spirit of "bringing it back to where it all began," the post-Rendezvous action targeted the drilling on Wyoming's public lands.

On July 16, 40 protesters took over the BLM office in Pinedale, Wyoming. The front doors to the office were locked shut by two women who used bike locks to secure their necks to the door handles. A third person locked to a structure in the center of the office. The BLM employees tried to ignore us; but thanks to a few talkative folks, musicians and guerrillas, the staff was unable to concentrate on their work. The local cops were present along with reporters who stated that they had never covered a story like



photo by Andy Coffrey

Red, green and black unite in Eugenia and Wobblio—a modern, anarchist version of Romeo and Juliet.

this before. This small Wyoming town was caught off guard by our convergence on the office.

After about three hours of hell-raising and discussions, the field manager and activists reached common ground—an arrangement that allowed the EF!ers to walk free of charges, and the BLM read and signed a statement drawn up that stated: "We agree that the long-term environmental health is more important than economic gains. We agree that development of environmentally sensitive energy sources is a priority, and we are willing to work together toward these goals." Symbolism and lip service notwithstanding, we got the BLM employees to step beyond rhetoric so commonly exported by people in government.

The Wyoming BLM is under federal pressure to approve as many drilling permits as they can. In fact, the Pinedale office personnel admitted they never fully denied a permit but rather shifted the drilling site to a "less sensitive" area. Presently, more than 100,000 new oil and gas wells are proposed for Wyoming. There are already 22,500 such wells in the state today.

For more information, contact Teewinot EF!, POB 1588, Wilson, WY 83014; skulnrs@aol.com.

Frontlines

SUV's and Weyerhaeuser Torched

The ELF officially claimed responsibility for three actions targeting McDonald's, SUV's at Roy O'Brien Ford and a Weyerhaeuser office in June and early July near Detroit, Michigan.

A communiqué claimed credit for the actions:

A newly built McDonald's was vandalized in June with two plateglass windows and drive-thru windows destroyed. "This action was in solidarity with the actions of women farmers in Brazil against worldwide neoliberal economic policies," explained the communiqué.

Soon thereafter, eight Ford Expeditions were set on fire at Roy O'Brien Ford. "This action was a snarl of rage directed toward the planet rapers who construct these unregulated petroleum guzzlers who profit off the pollution caused by fuel emissions and the needless use of natural resources."

Futhermore, an executive office of Weyerhaeuser was torched on July 4 in protest of the company's part in funding Oregon State University and the University of Washington's poplar and cottonwood genetic engineering research.

Demonstration at the Biomedical Primate Research Center

On July 3, 150 employees of the Biomedical Primate Research Center (BPRC) in Rijswijk, The Netherlands, were prohibited from entering the center for several hours.

Activists from the campaign *Koen*, named after one of the HIV-infected chimpanzees who lived at BPRC for 16 years, had blockaded several entrances. Six people were arrested for refusing police orders. BPRC has been the target of both public and covert actions by animal rights activists.

BPRC is the largest primate research center in Europe and experiments on 1,600 apes and monkeys, including chimps, marmosets, rhesus and Java monkeys. Both within and outside the medical world, BPRC has found many critics of its cruel accommodations and controversial experiments, including xenotransplantation.

Activists Arrested and Police Hurt in Protests Against HLS

On July 13, 29 activists in New Jersey were arrested as part of the ongoing campaign against Huntingdon Life Sciences

Northcoast Environmental Center Destroyed by Arson

Authorities are investigating arson as the possible cause of a July 25 fire that destroyed the headquarters of an environmental group in Arcata, California. The Arcata Fire Department declined to comment on rumors that the fire at the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC) might have been started by anti-environmentalists.

A longtime opponent of the logging industry, NEC recently joined with other environmental organizations to urge the US Senate to keep from funding timber cutting and roadbuilding in national forests. The center is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year and had only \$8,000 remaining on its mortgage.

Firefighters evacuated several buildings as they battled for nearly five hours to stop the blaze. The NEC office, a paint business, a nightclub and four apartments above it were completely destroyed. No one was injured.

Lost in the fire were the center's archives and reference library containing 9,500 books, 800 periodicals and other documents covering virtually every environmental issue in the Northwest in the past three decades. Computer equipment, the 4,500-member mailing list and recent donations of more than \$15,000 were also consumed by flames.

Connie Stewart, Arcata's mayor and the center's office manager, said, "The stuff that we lost is tragic, but the people are what made the Northcoast Environmental Center over the last 30 years a place that truly protects the environment. The energy of those people hasn't gone away. We'll be back and better than ever."



photos courtesy The Arcata Eye

Donations can be sent to [redacted] tion, POB 99, Bayside, CA [redacted] on NEC, visit www.necand

Frontlines

(HLS). HLS, with two contract animal testing laboratories in the United Kingdom and one in New Jersey, specializes in testing the toxicity of agrochemicals, GMOs, food colorings, adhesives and various pharmaceutical products (see *EF!* June-July 2001).

Activists traveled throughout New Jersey staging several demonstrations at the offices of pharmaceutical customers and financial supporters of HLS. Some of those targeted included the Bank of New York, Novartis and Morgan Stanley Dean Whitter. After a day of actions statewide, more than 75 activists converged at the home of Katherine Brower, director of Human Resources for HLS, for a boisterous demonstration.

In the United Kingdom, two police officers suffered minor injuries on August 11 as they monitored a 500-strong march to Yamanouchi Research Institute in Oxford. Yamanouchi, a customer of HLS which funds animal experiments, is a new target in the campaign organized by Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty.

Activists on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean have vowed that any number of arrests will not stop them until HLS is put out of business.

Animal Pirates Sink Yacht

On July 24, the Pirates for Animal Liberation claimed responsibility for sinking a Bank of New York (BNY) executive's yacht. Brian Rogan, BNY's president of capital markets, has been targeted before by animal rights protesters in Long Island, New York, because the bank provides financial services to Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS).

According to the communiqué, "Twenty holes were drilled in the right side of Rogan's 30-foot yacht, and one six-inch square hole was sawed through the right hull. Various workings of the boat were also tampered with. As the boat began to take on water, it was cut loose and pushed out to sea." The Pirates for Animal Liberation left messages on the dock denouncing BNY's connection to HLS.

This latest attack comes on the heels of several legal and illegal means of protest in Long Island against BNY. In mid-June, five Long Island bank branches were attacked by the Animal Liberation Front with several windows smashed, red paint thrown onto buildings and ATM machines glued. There was also a massive march in Huntington Village where more than 100 protesters demanded that BNY sever ties with HLS.

DRIVING BIOCENTRISM TO EXTINCTION

BY LONE WOLF CIRCLES

In the old days I had fun pushing cultural diversity in EF!, much to the chagrin of Mr. Foreman. The connection between social inequity and ecological destruction needed some illumination. Now with the Journal slanted so heavily the other way—in the direction of multi-issue political correctness—the little devil on my shoulder insists I again offer up some counter-measures. In the interest of balance, then, I offer the following in response to the Dear Comrade parody in the Litha issue.

Communiqué

Hola, Compañeras:

The inner circle of the Social Anarchista Liberation Front has determined that so-called "biocentrists" are bigots, racists and single-issue pawns of the insidious System. We hereby consense that said biocentrists are in opposition rather than alliance with the growing people's movement. Time and time again, they've put organization and results ahead of personal liberties and lifestyle issues, and they have made heroes out of charismatic leaders at the expense of the common activist. It is our duty to ostracize these elements, make examples of them in our gender circles, leave them off our fundraising compact discs, disrupt their campfire sing-alongs and lampoon them in our journal. Sisters and brothers, we should share neither our beds nor our beers with them, until our ranks are cleansed of their kind at last!

It is time to weed out those who insist on wearing camouflage and Texas instead of black t-shirts and Doc Martens, and those who live in the woods instead of in one of our interactive urban communities. How can one be an ecowarrior if they've never shopped clothes from the Gap for local street people, orga-

nized a hemp rally or clogged up traffic on a bicycle? We all have to do our part to protect the purity of the UTSR (United Theory of Social Relativism) from counter-revolutionaries: Those who think we need to have a relationship with the trees before we can be considered "in-



husbandry techniques of ancient indigenous people, and without natives there might never have been any old-growth forests. At the same time, the ecospiritualists have taken on the vocabulary of the oppressors (using words like "sacred"), evoking the authority figure of "Gaia" to replace the equally oppressive "God." We must be free of all woo-woo, hierarchy, order and responsibility so that we can be true activists for this century of liberation. Both the ecofascists and the ecospiritualist suse the term "deep ecology" to mask the continued subjugation of women and the third world by First World male Europeans, and it's up to us to put a stop to it!

It is time to look beyond the movement's shameful and divisive ecocentric past. Now in our own time we must find a social, human issue within everything we do, even when protesting the sufferings of laboratory frogs and ravaged corporate forests. How can anyone not see the connection between wage discrimination and endangered species, or how the inhumane treatment of one-legged sex-offenders leads directly to the eradication of tropical rainforests? If we are to evolve

as a movement, then certain biocentric trends must indeed go extinct. Remember: No compromise in defense of people in labor unions, poor people, handicapped people, gender-compromised people, people with chemical sensitivities, migrant people, leftist people, people of color (and redwood trees)! Oppressed Peoples (and the Earth) First!

formed of their needs." Those who insist there's anything about wilderness and nature that we can't understand by staying right here in the city trashing Starbucks. Those who fail to see the benefits of a rising population of poor and oppressed humans to the health of wild ecosystems.

The ecofascists who would restrict immigration and ask poor people to have less children are no different than the pilots who dropped the bomb on Hiroshima. They don't realize that the health of the wilderness depended on the special land

Viva solidarity!
Sympatico,

—COMMANDANTE SALLY
THE SOCIAL ANARCHISTA LIBERATION FRONT
CONCENSUS COUNCIL
—LAUGHING WOLF CIRCLES, SECRETARY

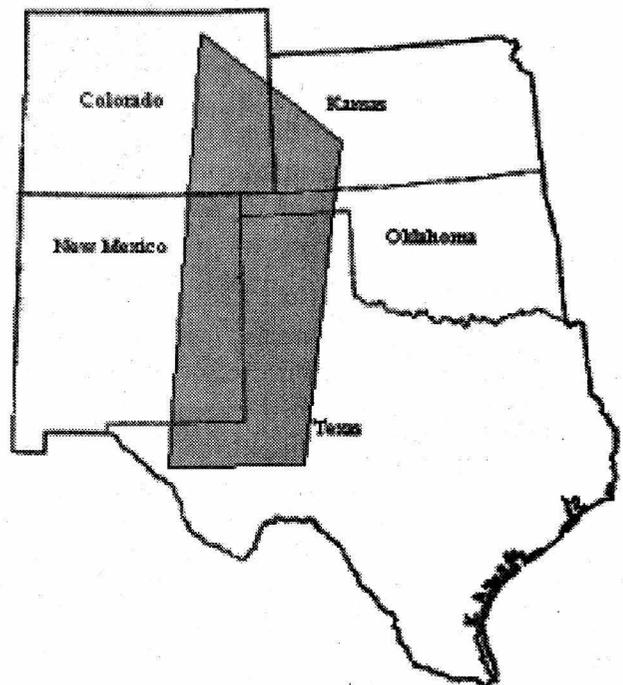


©Richard P. Reading

In Defense of the Southern Plains

In a land governed by cattle-ranching, unsustainable sod-busting farming, and yet more cattle-ranching, the adage that “no tyranny is permanent” is a guiding force for activism to re-wild the southern plains. The efforts of groups such as the Biodiversity Legal Foundation, Forest Guardians, Rocky Mountain Animal Defense, and the Southern Plains Land Trust are aimed at protecting and restoring the often-forgotten beauty and (potential) abundance of the southern half of America’s Serengeti.

The southern plains—located in Colorado, eastern New Mexico, western Kansas, western Oklahoma, and western Texas—contains rolling prairie grassland, juniper-forested canyons and buttes, and shinnery oak habitat. In the pre-European era, the southern plains boasted of astonishing natural abundance. A prairie dog colony in Texas stretched for 25,000 square miles and contained approximately 400 million prairie dogs. Tens of millions of bison and pronghorn roamed the landscape. Animals we now think of as forest creatures, including elk, grizzly bears, and wolves, were originally at home on the prairie. Native plants included grasses such as buffalograss, blue grama, western wheatgrass, and sideoats grama, which contained five-foot root systems literally holding the prairie in place. Grassland birds, frogs, and snakes enjoyed a mosaic of prairie habitats, from prairie dog colonies to areas with taller vegetation, to healthy streambanks.



Geographic focus on southern plains activism.

This paradise of flora and fauna has been relentlessly assaulted, as “settlers” converted native prairie to crops, and liquidated the prairie grassland with their cattle and sheep. The early colonizers exterminated wolves and grizzlies from the landscape, and elk were hunted down to near extinction in the plains. The large black-tailed

prairie dog colonies were annihilated, reducing total prairie dog acreage by 99% in the course of a government extermination campaign conducted at the behest of ranchers.

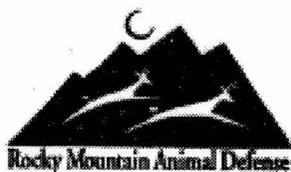
Payback came in the form of the Dust Bowl, which forced many ranchers and farmers out of the southern plains. Human populations in rural areas in the region have been declining ever since. The large landowners that remain tend to be intolerant of native wildlife—condemning various species as pests or predators worthy only of “control” efforts. Coyote bounties are still in place in some areas, rattlesnakes are killed on sight, and pronghorn and prairie dogs are seen as thieves of forage meant for cows. Many ranchers continue to rake up government subsidies and extend their contempt for wildlife to the “government pastures”—public lands—they call their own.

This tyranny by ranchers, like all other tyrannies throughout human history, is not permanent. Ready to take its place is a vision of the “Buffalo Commons”, where large herds of these woolly beasts will be justly restored to their former range. In our view, wolves, grizzlies, elk and other animals missing from the landscape must be restored. Native grassland must be protected, as must streams and wetlands so long-abused by cattle ranchers, but so capable of springing back.

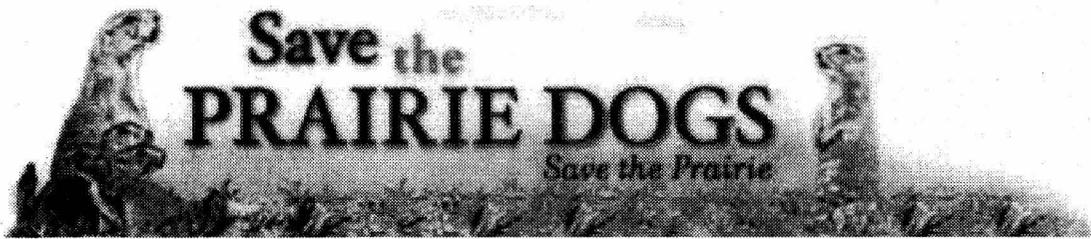
Momentum is building for the Buffalo Commons. The theme has re-emerged through the work of the Great Plains Restoration Council (GPRC). We support and are pleased by this project, but GPRC’s current focus is on the northern plains. The Buffalo Commons needs to take hold in the southern plains as much as up north, and voices on behalf of the wild lands and creatures of the southern plains need to grow louder.

Our organizations advocate vigilant and energetic efforts to protect the wild flora and fauna of the southern plains. We consider the Buffalo Commons project to be underway in our neck of the prairie, as we take steps to acquire land and protect the wild. In rural areas, the land is cheap, the people are leaving, and it’s time to re-wild the southern plains through a wide range of methods. In urban areas, the fight rages over who will prevail in this historic struggle—those who seek to convert natural areas to cash versus those who find beauty and solace in landscapes full of life and a sky graced by raptors. We side with the latter vision.

Protesting destruction...



Rocky Mountain Animal Defense (RMAD) has led the way in Colorado to fight for urban prairie dog colonies. Our focus is on black-tailed prairie dogs (*Cynomys ludovicianus*) due to their importance in providing a prey base, creating shelter via their extensive burrow systems, and providing a mosaic of vegetation through their clipping and grazing activities. Given their particular importance to the ecosystem, prairie dogs are considered by scientists to be a keystone species in short- and mixed-grass prairies and therefore deserve special attention.



Graphic from RMAD's very informative prairie dog website at: www.prairiedogs.org. Visit this website for an overview of the humble mammal partly responsible for shaping the Great Plains.

Over the past several years, the urban destruction machine has escalated in the quest to transform precious natural areas into strip malls and parking lots. In the process, prairie dogs colonies are destroyed by bulldozers and poisoned by open space managers more suited for managing golf courses. Prairie dogs are poisoned, crushed, and suffocated by the continued assault on nature. Also impacted are the many wildlife species, including raptors, coyotes, foxes, rattlesnakes, ground squirrels, and others, who rely on prairie dog towns to fetch a meal or seek cover. RMAD's weapons have been varied, but the goal has never wavered: defending individual prairie dogs and their communities from incursions by humans.

√ **Challenging prairie dog shooting.** Since RMAD was started in 1994, we have used protest and civil disobedience to draw attention to the plight of prairie dogs shot for sport. We have chained ourselves together to foil perverse shooting contests, where shooters make sport of "triples" (killing with one bullet three prairie dogs clinging to each other), "red mist" (using a high-powered rifle to literally explode a prairie dog), and "flipper" (causing a prairie dog to launch into the air with the force of a bullet). Due in part to our efforts, these contests have been severely restricted in Colorado, and prairie dog shooting is now illegal in the state (with a loophole for landowners) as of this month.

√ **Obstructing poisoning efforts.** RMAD has used protest and litigation to prevent prairie dog poisoning in urban areas. We are currently suing the state of Colorado over continued poisoning, arguing that it violates the state ban on traps, poisons, and snares. The Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado Governor Bill Owens, and other state agencies and officials have, at best, demonstrated an unwillingness to protect prairie dogs, and, at worst, openly shown their hostility to prairie dog protection. We have successfully prevented prairie dog poisonings from occurring on several occasions, through the use of litigation and protests. Our associates have also dug up poisoned burrows whenever possible to free prairie dogs and the myriad other species from human-created underground gas chambers. However, the poisoning continues at alarming rates, and we recorded the loss of 1 in 4 prairie dog colonies in the Boulder/Denver area over the past two years.

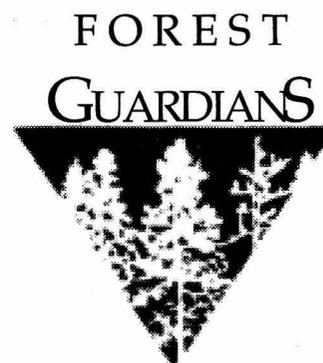
√ **Educating the public and policy-makers.** Through our efforts, we have made prairie dog protection a household issue in the Denver/Boulder area. Most Coloradans agree with wildlife protection and most urban human residents agree that prairie dogs should not be killed. It is our aim to translate the public will into policy, which is easier said than done. The struggle goes on, and includes demonstrations, extensive distribution of our Prairie Dog Action Packet (we'll happily send you one), consistent pressure on state and local officials to provide prairie dog protection, and an active and visible website.

√ **Building a coalition.** Largely as a result of the RMAD-hosted Colorado Prairie Dog Summit in March 2001, the Prairie Dog Coalition was formed. The Coalition is an effort to bring together individual activists, grassroots, and national organizations to recover black-tailed prairie dogs in northeastern Colorado, preserve colonies along the Front Range, and conduct broader advocacy of prairie dog ecosystems in the U.S. With a systematic and unified effort, the tide could turn for prairie dogs in urban Colorado. Visit the Prairie Dog Coalition website at: www.prairiedogcoalition.org.

Protecting species...



The Biodiversity Legal Foundation (BLF) and Forest Guardians are working to protect imperiled species through the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and other federal laws. We've focused on several species with the aim of ecosystem protection in shortgrass prairie and desert grasslands. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)



continues to be derelict in its duties of protecting these critical ecosystems by refusing to enforce the ESA. Continual litigation by our groups on behalf of imperiled species in the southern plains is therefore required.

√ **Northern Aplomado falcon** (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*). Historically a resident of northern Mexico, southern Texas, southern New Mexico, and southeastern Arizona, this regal falcon was eliminated in the U.S. on account of pesticide use and brush encroachment caused by livestock ranching. Encroachment by mesquite has been linked to early 20th century eradication of prairie dogs in many areas in the southwest U.S. The Aplomado is starting to sporadically appear in the U.S. portion of its range only because of intensive reintroduction efforts. However, despite its endangered status under the ESA, these reintroductions have not been coupled with any degree of protection from habitat destruction by agriculture and oil and gas extraction. Forest Guardians aims to correct this situation through assertive use of the ESA and other applicable federal laws.

√ **Lesser prairie chicken** (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*). These unusual grassland birds are known for their showy breeding antics in which males strut, inflate their reddish-purple air sacs, and boom (emit a vocalization that resonates widely) to attract the attention of choosy females. The lesser prairie chicken's range has declined by over 90% over the past century due to habitat destruction by agriculture operations in the southern plains. As the prairie chicken requires taller grasses in sand sagebrush and shinnery oak habitats, the current primary threat is livestock overgrazing on public and private lands alike. The BLF petitioned for the chicken to be listed under the ESA in 1995 and FWS responded, predictably, with a warranted but precluded decision. Forest Guardians and the BLF will step up efforts to get the lesser prairie chicken listed.



Lesser prairie chicken
Courtesy of Vireo ©.

✓ **Black-tailed prairie dog.** As a keystone species in the short- and mixed-grass prairie, the black-tailed prairie dog (BTPD) deserves special attention. The BLF and Predator Conservation Alliance filed a petition for a threatened listing of this species of prairie dog under the ESA in August 1998. FWS unsurprisingly declined listing, citing a lack of resources, and designated the BTPD a candidate species. The real reason for not listing the species was the continued tendency by FWS to back down on protection of any species posing a threat to extractive industries such as ranching and "development." The purgatory of candidate status for the BTPD is not good news as it provides no protection and is a status from which few species escape. The Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, and states within the range of the BTPD are all conducting prairie dog planning, but the adequacy of these efforts is questionable. Forest Guardians and the BLF will push for aggressive protection of this keystone species in the southern plains alongside efforts in the northern plains, largely led by Predator Conservation Alliance.

✓ **Mountain plover** (*Charadrius montanus*). This grassland bird is closely associated with prairie dog colonies in its Great Plains breeding range, as it prefers the short-cropped grasses on prairie dog towns for foraging and nesting. In part due to the decreased availability of prairie dog acres, mountain plovers have declined by over 60% since 1966. The BLF petitioned for ESA listing of this species in 1997. Although the FWS admits the bird merits listing and has proposed it as a threatened species, the mountain plover has still not been protected. BLF continues to push for this bird's protection.

✓ **Other prairie species.** This list is not exhaustive, as there is a growing catalog of species imperiled in the southern plains. In fact, grassland birds are the most rapidly declining group of birds in the country. The prairie dog ecosystem, for its part, is teetering on the brink, and needs our vigilance and energy. The black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*) cannot survive without prairie dogs, who furnish ferrets with a prey base and habitat. The ferret continues to confront extinction due to the refusal of FWS and federal land managers to adopt the prairie dog protections necessary for full-scale restoration. The swift fox (*Vulpes velox*) is associated with prairie dogs in a large part of her range and is imperiled, but any hope for protection was destroyed last year when FWS removed the swift fox from ESA candidacy. The list of species imperiled in the Southern Plains is a growing one, and the usual culprits are livestock ranching and oil and gas activities on public and private lands. Forest Guardians and the BLF will continue to seek adequate protections for these species on the brink.

Why focus on prairie dogs?

✓ Over 200 wildlife species have been sighted on or near prairie dog towns. Some of these species benefit greatly from prairie dog-occupied acreage.

✓ Prairie dogs inhabit only 1% of their historic acreage.

✓ Grazing species are attracted to the succulent vegetation on prairie dog towns.

✓ Herptiles, mammals, burrowing owls, and others use prairie dog burrows for shelter.

✓ Prairie dogs provide an important prey base to raptors and mammalian predators.

✓ Prairie dog burrowing aerates the soil and may improve soil structure and fertility.

✓ Prairie dog clipping, grazing, and burrowing improves a colony's ability to absorb and contain water.

✓ Prairie dogs have been badly persecuted for over a century. They've been poisoned, gassed, burned, drowned, shot, and crushed. They have inherent value and the war on them must end.

Visit www.prairiedogs.org for a full list of citations.

Cattle are not bison

Federal land managers, ranchers, and even some environmentalists (!) argue that cattle can be a sustain-able part of prairie ecosystems, as they substitute for bison grazing. We disagree. Cows are very different than bison and do not belong in the southern plains.

√ Bison spend little time in fragile riparian areas, while cattle degrade such areas by defecating and loitering in streams and destroying streambanks, which causes erosion and stream disappearance.

√ Cattle dependence on water results in destroyed riparian areas, water developments, and groundwater pumping.

√ Bison behavior creates a vegetation mosaic across the landscape. In particular, bison wallows provide a refuge for specialized prairie flora. We can't say the same for cattle.

√ When free-roaming, bison don't return to grazed areas until the vegetation is rejuvenated, while cattle are more stationary.

√ Cattle seek refuge from the sun and snow by seeking woody draws and other shelter, while bison are more adapted for inclement prairie weather.

√ Cattle overgrazing has been linked with brush encroachment in the southern plains, while bison roaming and grazing patterns are a natural part of prairie ecology.

√ Making the range safe for cattle has entailed the stringing of "devil's rope" (barbed wire), which obstructs wildlife migration and causes direct mortality to wild animals.

√ Rangeland management for cattle continues to involve the ruthless extermination of any wildlife seen as a predator of cows or a competitor for forage.



Cow-burnt lesser prairie chicken habitat ©John Horning. Cattle grazing imperils a variety of prairie wildlife. A dramatic example is the habitat of the lesser prairie chicken. This bird's habitat is degraded by livestock production in several ways: elimination of shinnery oak habitat; depletion of cover for nests, thereby increasing chicken vulnerability to predation; destruction of desirable food plants; decreased water-holding capacity, causing declines in succulent vegetation and insects; trampling of nests and cover.

Restoring a homeland...

"We need another and a wiser and perhaps a more mythical concept of animals... They are not brothers, they are not underlings, they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendor and travail of the [E]arth." Henry Beston, *The Outermost House*, 1928

The Southern Plains Land Trust (SPLT) takes seriously the charge by Henry Beston in 1928 to view wildlife not as underlings or as brothers (and sisters) but as other nations. As other nations, the wildlife in the southern plains has suffered genocide. As other nations, they need a homeland. Rather, they need their homeland restored.



SPLT's aim is to do just that—give back to the wild plants and animals of this land a place where they can find safe refuge. The land SPLT acquires and protects is safeguarded from the ecological devastation wrought by livestock ranching. SPLT land is also protected from hunting, fishing, pesticide use, and motorized vehicles.

Thus far, SPLT has protected 2,600 acres. This is only the start. We deliberately established our reserve near the Comanche National Grassland in southeastern Colorado so that these public land



Black-tailed prairie dog. © Christopher Knight.

ranchers had thwarted attempts at prairie dog expansion onto the land through the use of poison. Prairie dog expansion onto Fresh Tracks is now occurring due to the end of that threat. In addition, Fresh Tracks contains many shale outcroppings where stands of echinacea can be found. Another area protected by SPLT contains several prairie dog colonies, one of which stretches for approximately 100 acres and where badgers, pronghorn, coyotes, rattlesnakes, and burrowing owls are regularly sighted. Our aim is to increase Fresh Tracks and other protected areas through steady acquisition and use of conservation easements.

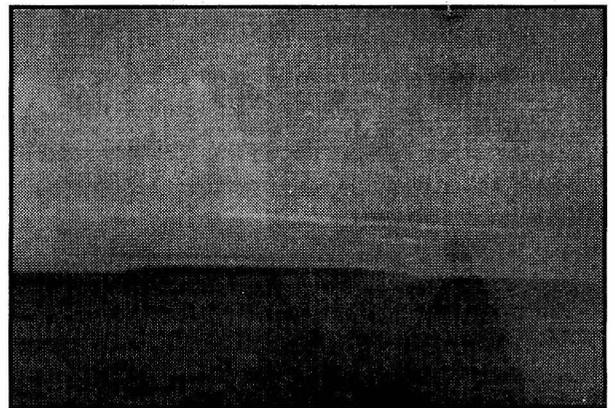
That goal is realistic, as land in southeastern Colorado retails for about \$150 an acre. We compare this to land near Denver retailing at over \$300,000 an acre. Land values in SPLT's area are low because of human depopulation since the Dust Bowl. People are leaving this area—especially young people—due to the unsustainability of the livestock industry.

SPLT's work also presents a challenge to the caricature of environmentalists as naïve, materialistic urbanites. Our office is rural and so are the volunteers monitoring our land. We ward off coyote hunters and cows, and we do this by living near and vigilantly safeguarding the refuge. Without a consistent presence in this rural area, cow and human trespass would likely be a regular occurrence. For us, the human quality of life is very high here, as one doesn't have to face the apocalyptic conditions of prairie destruction in Denver and Boulder.

If you'd like to visit, we can use your help in our continual quest to reduce the amount of barbed wire in the world and other restoration projects. We regularly patrol protected lands, although we minimize walks on the land to prevent disturbance of wildlife. We are constantly striving to increase the area protected by SPLT and see this as an essential formula for restoring a homeland for prairie wildlife.

(ill-) managed by the U.S. Forest Service will become part of a reserve stretching for half a million acres and more.

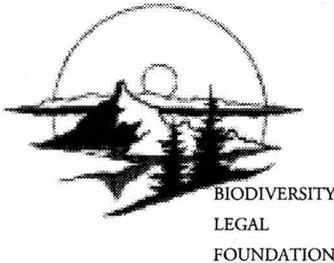
SPLT considers the black-tailed prairie dog to be a focal species in its reserve design, for the reasons discussed above. The prairie dog engineers an ecosystem—makes possible an extensive and varied community of life. SPLT's first acquisition was called "Fresh Tracks" due to the myriad of wildlife tracks spotted on the snow and muddy ground. Fresh Tracks is beautiful rolling grassland with stunning views of prairie buttes. For decades before SPLT acquired Fresh Tracks,



View from Fresh Tracks looking westward to a prairie butte several miles away. © Christopher Knight.

A collective effort on behalf of the prairie and its wildlife.

Through their individual initiative and as a collective effort, the organizations described in this section have worked to restore and protect the shortgrass prairie of the southern plains to its former beauty and richness. We will continue to employ an array of tools to combat human destruction of this region and to aspire towards the vision of a truly Wild West.



The Biodiversity Legal Foundation
P.O. Box 278
Louisville, CO 80027

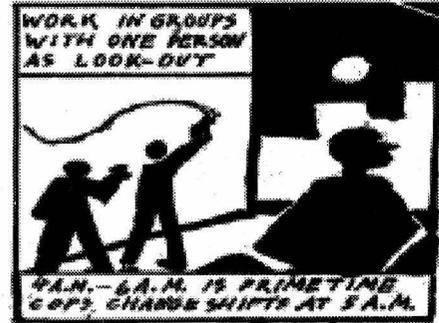
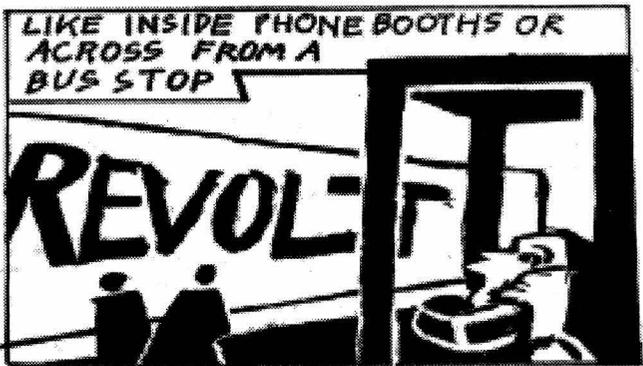
Forest Guardians
Southeast Colorado Office
P.O. Box 152
Pritchett, CO 81064
719-523-4123
www.fguardians.org
swwild@fguardians.org

Rocky Mountain Animal Defense
2525 Arapahoe, #E4-335
Boulder, CO 80302
303-449-4422
www.rmad.org
rmad@rmad.org
303-449-4422

Southern Plains Land Trust
P.O. Box 66
Pritchett, CO 81064
719-523-6296
www.southernplains.org
splt@southernplains.org

To learn more about efforts to protect the northern plains, contact **Predator Conservation Alliance** visit www.predatorconservation.org and the **Great Plains Restoration Council** www.gprc.org.

BEGINNERS
GRAFFITI-PROPAGANDA
 A HOW-TO FOR THE FIRST OFFENDER.



AT FIRST IT WILL SPRAY TOO THICK OR TOO THIN -

NOZZLES ARE INTERCHANGEABLE SOME SPRAY BETTER. SAVE THEM.

A STENCIL IS A PIECE OF BOARD WITH HOLES CUT IN IT. BY SPRAYING THROUGH THE HOLES AN IMAGE IS CREATED ON A SURFACE. THE STENCIL SHOULD BE TAPED TO THE SURFACE THE CAN, ABOUT 1 FT. AWAY.

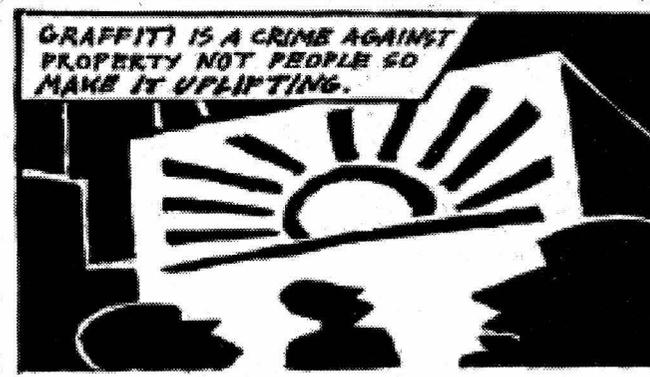
THE CHEAPEST WAY TO PRINT A SMALL # OF POSTERS IS XEROX. FOR ALARGE # USE OFFSET

GLUE ON WITH A SOLUTION OF WATER + ELMERS GLUE OR WATER & WHEAT PASTE

IF SOLUTION IS THIN ENOUGH YOU CAN SPRAY IT FROM A BOTTLE

COVER SURFACE WITH GLUE BEFORE YOU PUT ON POSTER.

STICK POSTER ON THEN SPRAY ON TOP OF IT TO SEAL IT.



artwork by Seth Tobocman, www.softskull.com

Dear Shit fer Brains...

continued from page 3

Shit fer brains,

Directly addressed to and at Yakir Osmoff, elfmustdie@hotmail.com which doesn't exist by the way.

Bite me you ignorant ass. You have no idea what you are contributing to, the destruction of our planet. GMO's have not been given enough time to show their fully detrimental effect on ecosystems. When shit starts getting really fucked up you'll know why it is fucked. There is one thing you don't understand and that is that what is alive and organic will never cease existence. We will never give up and allow our feelings, intuitions and love of Gaia to remain dormant and unaccounted for. We will take action no matter the persecution. You must not know of Christianity's underground existence during the roman rule. Nor the underground resistance to the nazi's in northern europe. Nor the underground railroad. These are all anthropocentric examples but you must not forget humans are creations of nature itself. We will never be able to deny our birth and creation, even after our own extinction. We direct activists believe in respecting our planet and stopping the death of it. So you, Yakir Osmoff, can forget your future *intifada* because you will never win. If you choose to proceed with your alleged plan, plan for a life long struggle you won't see complete at your death. We are the defenders of the free world, the living world, the truly democratic world, the starving world!

No compromise in defense of mother earth!

—BENJAMIN

Dear SFB,

The *Journal* has never looked better, no doubt. Besides the

creative layout, the articles have more zest and depth than we've seen in years. I do, however, find some of the content divisive, typical of the internecine gossip mill fractiousness that has beset EFi since '87. In particular, the article slamming Abbey and hero worship was incisive and made some good points, but someone needed to speak about what a powerful impact charismatic personas had on motivating new activists and winning new converts. Foreman would hate to admit it now, but his sermons were instrumental in getting me to devote those ten years to EFi roadshows.

Regardless of any human frailties, it was personalities like Bill Devall, Ed Abbey, Peg Millet, Mike Roselle and Mary Beth Nearing (to name a few) that provided the rapid growth of EFi, resulting in the largest *Journal* subscription base of any years before or since. It was wise to unhitch any despots and critique the movement's dogma, but it is foolhardy to devalue or dismiss its heroes, mentors, role models and inspirants. It is not only important wilderness issues that will suffer, but also the fabric of the community that supports them.

In service,

—LONE WOLF CIRCLES

Dear Friends:

I just received your newest issue. Among the many fine articles, is one of particular interest to me. *Not Fighting for the Holy Land* (See EFi August-September 2001) was of special concern to me as the writers saw fit to pose and mention the photograph's setting. The John Lennon Forest was a project with which I had devoted hours of energy and time in the 1980's. I am very very pleased to see that Allison and Shmuel Ofanansky saw fit to mention this diverse forested area.

During the many long hours of fund and awareness raising of this project I sometimes would envision that it could be a site or symbol for environmentalists both in Israel and worldwide. Glad to see it mentioned in your publication, instead of the usual Beatle publications. As no contact address/email was mentioned for the Ofanansky's, I hope you can pass on these comments and my name/address to them and/or to whoever else may have been helpful to their fine article. I would enjoy hearing from them and share ideas, further news of issues in the Galilee region of Israel.

Thank you,

—JOEL GLAZIER
JGLAZIE@AOL.COM

Hi-ho Journalistas!

Here's what happens: A delegation of biology professors representing the Union of Concerned Scientists (Boston, MA, near Harvard) visits Idaho to deliver a petition to the governor. They read it aloud while standing on the Statehouse steps. The petition denounces clearcutting as a major cause of global warming, and the media covers the "event."

Here's what happens next (as you well know): At least one publication will carry the blazing headline...

Ivy League Eco-Terrorists Invade Boise. Governor Declares Emergency

Eco-terrorism. The word has taken on a life of its own. If you burn an unoccupied building you're an eco-terrorist. If you set some mousies free you're an eco-terrorist. If you picket a furrier in Beverly Hills you're an eco-terrorist. I'm a terrorist. You're a terrorist. Hell, *Oprah's* a terrorist!

At the recent RRR, a discussion ensued (during one of the very few moments when we were *not* talking about the friggin' Freddie permit) about deconstructing

the concept. After all, there have been other Grand Ideas during the past 1,000 years that have required the same treatment, such as:

A) The Divine Right of Kings (deconstruction complete)

B) Slavery (deconstruction complete)

C) The Corporation (deconstruction in process)

D) Eco-terrorism (deconstruction below)

Since the truth, allegedly, is in the details, I propose that the word itself must be deconned before the idea. Sort of like the Berlin Wall fell before Communism did. In this spirit I am announcing a contest: Using all the letters in the word ECO-TERRORISM! create a milder, gentler word or phrase. The winner (selected by a panel composed of me) will receive a one-year subscription to the *Earth First! Journal* or five warm bumperstickers ("Subvert The Dominant Paradigm!" being the wayest of the cool).

Here are two that are not eligible for the prize, partly because they're mine and partly because they tend to inflame, rather than mollify, the silly passions of, you should pardon the expression, "The Establishment." The first involves the very rich...

RE RECOS - ROT'EM!

The second involves the orgasmic joy when you see burning ski-lifts on TV...

O! RESORT-CRIME

Send your entries to me c/o the *Journal*. Hopefully, by the time they gather the thousands of submission I'll be safely back in Guatemala getting a tan and picking my toes. Eat your hearts out.

—UNCLE RAMON

Note Uncle Ramon is the nickname of a retired life insurance salesman named Robert Amon (Ramon, get it?). United States Prosecuting Attorneys insist on calling it an "alias."

Dear SFB,

To All my buddies and friends that have called me (at the *Pensacola News Journal*) about the truth on the shark attack here on Pensacola Beach, the truth is coming out! There is a reason that the "hero" of the attack that wrestled that 7 foot shark to shore is not giving any interviews, and is hard to find. There is a reason that this 7 foot shark was in 2 feet of water, and there is a reason that the family is "acting funny" about taking money from those that want to help... here it is... hard truth... Sit down...

The uncle that wrestled the shark ashore was fishing for sharks, had it on a line and had been fighting it for two hours plus.

The unidentified stranger that helped him also helped him fight the fish to shore. When the shark got into two feet of water, the kids all ran into the water in jubilation and the shark lunged from off the ground and hit Jessie Arbogast twice, took his arm off and bit into his leg!

The man had *chum* in the water, and heavy tackle built to fish for sharks.

His nephew got bit because the entire family went into the water trying to wrestle the fish to land. There is big money on a shark that size.

This is the Truth.

The press has suppressed the real truth, because they are afraid that it will affect the contributions for Jessie and the uncle is so filled with guilt, he has tried to commit suicide once already... Now it all makes sense. *No man* is going to wrestle a shark that large to shore in two feet of water, that is one powerful animal, and they had cut the cable, and hid the rods by the time the Medics got there.

The ranger that shot the shark testified that the shark

still had the hook in his mouth and "put up a big fight because his mouth was all bloody and torn up"... (that is why the shark had blood all over it's mouth in the TV photos, it was it's own blood!)

I am not lessening the horror of the event. Jessie did get an arm bit off and is going to recover, but I am tired of sharks taking the blame because of the "whole truth not being told"... The money, in my opinion would still come in, and the uncle will have to accept that it was a tragic accident and a mistake.

—SAM BOOHER



Dear SFB,
While I agree with the underlying frustrations of the radical individual espousing actions be taken against corporations, political institutions and others, his alternative ending sounds worse than the current world we live in. Universal love is great, but human nature and history tell us the real story: in a state of anarchy, the ones who have the biggest and most guns will rule. Others will be subject to their beliefs, or face stiff penalties. It has always been that way on this planet. Also, humans love to reproduce themselves—it has been engineered into the human G-nome over hundreds of thousands of years of evolution. It can't be stopped in the short term. As humans reproduce they will require habitat and displace wild animals. This is inevi-

table in our lifetime. Species will become extinct until ecosystem decay is stopped by governments directed by enlightened individuals—not a handful of individuals, without a plan, blowing up this and that to satisfy their pyrotechnic urges. We need politicians who believe what we believe. You can convince others to protect our wildlife areas, practice a sustainable lifestyle, educate their kids and others about are beliefs, run for Congress to change our country's direction, and above all else, enjoy life—it's too short to spend in prison for lighting a match at the wrong time.

—JOSEPH BINA

Dear SFB,
There are two very good reasons why

no one should ever send you E-mail encrypted with P.G.P. (Pretty good privacy). First, coded communications are a tip off to any one watching that there is a message worth monitoring. Second, the N.S.A. and the F.B.I. have the capacity and the authority to find out who you are, get your key, and read your message. Encrypted E-mail gives the users a false sense of security and might get someone in serious trouble so, if I were you I would can it.

—SPOOKY SPARROW

Dear SFB,

Ed Abbey once facetiously coined a term for a condition Forest Service employees develop from years behind their desks: office butt. While Cactus Ed was merely joking—maybe—it now seems that he was truly onto something. Recently, the American Medical

Association (AMA) announced a new disease and symptoms for Forest Service personnel called Large and Round Derriere (LARD). LARD symptoms include: expansion of the *gluteus maximus* at a rate far exceeding the general population; a reluctance to rise from chairs except for food; likely to conduct field work in front of a computer; respond to public inquiries with what amounts to verbal flatulence and; a tendency to break out into maniacal, hyena-like laughter at the mention of the Forest Service motto: Caring for the Land and Serving

People. Secondary symptoms include: Carpel Tunnel Syndrome; constipation; hemorrhoids; dullness of spirit and; a tendency to obfuscate, ignore and lie. LARD was discovered when the U.S. General Accounting Office red-flagged scores of orders from the Forest Service for larger and sturdier chairs. Reactions to the AMA LARD diagnosis Smokey-wide (har, har, har!) were varied. When confronted at a vending machine, still in a chair yet, one high-ranking Forest Service official retorted, "I don't know anything about it and I never will!" A Forest Service Range Conservation employee known to be afflicted with LARD shuffled away chanting, "We are stewards of the land and that's they way, uh-huh, uh-huh, we like it!" From Washington D.C., Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth promised to get to the bottom of the problem posthaste. "I'm gonna kick some butt!", "he vowed. Better bring your Vasque Sundowners (official boot of the Forest Service), Dale. You'll be scoring field goals for the Dallas Cowboys by the time you're done with this job.

—MARIPOSA

continued on next page

keep it under 300 words

More letters to the editor..

continued from previous page

Dear SFB,

I am addressing the elves who smashed Old Navy storefronts on Long Island (see *EF!* May-June 2001). First, Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC) is not clearcutting. If people want to protest logging fine—but there are companies who are logging more aggressively than MRC and who are not attempting any of the positive environmental stewardship or research that MRC is involved in—like the Mendocino Carbon Sequestration Pilot Project which I have developed with MRC through Carbon Trading & Trust (CT&T).

This MRC Carbon Pilot Project in Kaisen Gulch/Escuela has created an opportunity for trees to be valued as standing, living parts of a healthy forest ecosystem which stores up carbon and CT&T believes that such value is much greater than the timber value. When we prove this point, the profit hungry will be motivated to stop the chainsaws and move into the business of storing carbon in healthy forest ecosystems and they will end up employing the local community to walk the land and take measurements instead of trees.

We have pictures of beautiful redwood trees that were marked for cutting and remarked for saving under the Pilot Project so that they will stand for at least 70 years—more trees saved there than could have been saved by 100 treesitters—and yet, I read about the glory of elves smashing Old Navy stores. That does not make our work easier. It does not give those genuine individuals within MRC much credibility to keep promoting a project that is costing MRC cash now without solid future returns based on the mere prospect of get-

ting or selling carbon credits in the future.

I cannot make any promises—especially now that Kyoto is hamstrung further by US recalcitrance. However, Europe and most of the world is behind Kyoto and the US can drag its feet but cannot stick its head in the sand.

I propose that actions against Gap/Old Navy/Banana Republic stores be suspended while MRC works in good faith on this Pilot Project. There are plenty of targets—not just the easy, convenient ones located in a mall near you. Maybe protests can start against those timber companies who refuse to research carbon sequestration as a way of creating value for standing forests. Or protests can begin against the proposed dumping of liquid CO₂ in the deep Pacific Ocean which is, at best, benign and at worst destructive (see www.pacificwhale.org for info). But in my opinion, continued protests against these retail stores is just picking the low hanging fruit without giving any weight to MRC's positive work in the area.

I humbly ask that those readers of this who are also elves contemplate and meditate on this before taking further actions that may impede the positive environmental work in Mendocino.

Namaste,

—DAVID FRANKEL

Dearest mental constipation,

I want to respond to constant and ceaseless wordage about how this or that act of sabotage is not gaining public support for our cause. guess what... some tactics have nothing to do with public support! in fact that is what is meant by "direct action"! It is an act that has an effect regardless of what anyone thinks about it. what an amazing new concept.

we all know that gaining

public support can be very helpful, but let's not forget that there is a whole world of activism out there that can be effective *and* have nothing to do with its popularity.

In solidarity with all effective tactics,

—ANONYMOUS

Dear Cerebral Fertiliser,

After his last contribution to the *Journal* (Lugnasadh 2001, p. 35), I would like you to strongly consider blowing Darryl Cherney out your arse.

He gives two definitions of a political prisoner—acting from her/his politics and sentenced being lengthened as a result—and then concedes Ted Kaczynski fits one of his own definitions ("He... happens to have a political opinion") and unless you count six life sentences as "light" punishment, the second too. Or is Cherney advocating the death penalty for those he disagrees with, for all his flannel otherwise?

He uncritically repeats FBI smears that Ted's "deranged" and targeted unjustifiably, as if airlines, cyberneticians, genetic engineers, Green-washers and clearcutters weren't justifiable targets. Aping Pontius Pilate, Cherney pathetically asks "Who is the arbiter...?", as if we don't know who's killing the Earth. As to "violence provoking violence", Darryl should know *effectiveness* provokes State violence, not resistance to it. He pretends to speak for Leonard Peltier—as if AIM were ever pacifists or saw any reason to be after centuries of genocide. Most offensive and disingenuous was Cherney's claim Ted is "fascist" without the slightest justification. Ted was principally influenced by *The Technological Society* by Jacques Ellul, an active *anti-fascist* French Resistance fighter. Or was Ellul "fascist" too as he practically distinguished between the violence

of oppressor and oppressed? How contemptible: the Feds baselessly smear EF! as "fascist" and Cherney repeats this lie when it comes to Ted.

Cherney's cynicism is as staggering as his counter-revolutionary incoherence: he's trying to make Ted an issue as the current *Journal* is really "reflecting movement opinion"—and the urgency of the current crisis—rather than *his* opinion. Nonviolent—if authentically *direct*—action is as much his target as Ted-style "monkeywrenching".

Yours, for the destruction of Civilisation,

—JOHN CONNOR
GREEN ANARCHIST

Dear *EF!*,

This is directed toward Darryl Cherney, regarding your desire to remove Kaczynski's name from the political prisoners list. While I too was surprised the first time I saw his name there. I feel strongly that you, Darryl, should kick back. I've read his manifesto and I didn't find the ideas of a deranged person there. I have met him also and while he has limited social development he is far from deranged.

OK, you have been bombed and I understand. Kaczynski may be a murderer yes, but the people who bombed you are far different creatures entirely.

Plus, who are you? You are not some innocent victim! Nothing happens to you without your consent. We are here voluntarily to learn, grow, experience and work. Life is about suffering.

Just because you don't pull the trigger doesn't mean you're not a killer too. If you pay taxes, you are a murderer. If you own a car, you are a murderer. Use electricity, killer! Eat, take meds, own stock, etc...

We exist in a predatory universe. Life feeds on life. Why value human life over



animals, plants? All are conscious and alive and feel. Honor that awareness, recognize what you've learned from your violent experiences and pain. Thank your torturers as well as your lovers.

I know you are conscious Darryl. Know it and live it. Leave blame alone.

Love and Namastè,

—WHITE PLANETARY WIZARD

Dear *Journal*,

I was delighted to receive the new *Journal* in the mail earlier today. It seems that the *Journal* has taken a real turn in a more radical direction and I appreciate it.

That being said, I have to address the reactionary opinions expressed by Darryl Cherney in his letter. I guess Darryl thinks he can throw a fit (like he did at the 1999 Rendezvous by blocking a competent Journalista) and everyone will just succumb. The suggestion that Ted Kaczynski should be removed from the EF! prisoner page is as absurd as it is typical of Northcoast pacifism. Darryl bases his argument on some slippery premises:

1) that TK is not a political prisoner based on his (Darryl's) strict definition of a political prisoner (i.e. "solely for his/her politics"...) 2) that TK is an implementer of the death penalty (which Darryl morally condemns as wrong).

Darryl blathers on with some insults ("fascist killer") and blames the *Journal* for

insulting Leonard Peltier by including TK. Basically, his points are weak and indicative of the authoritarian and reactionary tendencies that exist in careerists (whether they are enviros or industry-types).

First off, who is Darryl to define what a political prisoner is? *All prisoners are political!* I suppose engaging in symbolic and ineffective civil disobedience gives one the time and experience to criticize people who take real, direct action in defense of the wild.

Secondly, Darryl takes the simplistic position that killing someone is wrong. I refuse, as a first world person, to condemn the movements of past and present who kill others to stop oppression or destruction of the environment. I stand in solidarity with the Free Papua Movement, the Basque separatists, the Irish Republican Army, the EZLN and the many other movements that dare to fight back. To equate the imposition of a governmental death penalty by the state with courageous resistance is lame and pretty lazy thinking.

I think Darryl and all the other reactionary elements of EF! should ponder what they mean by "No compromise in defense of Mother Earth" and ask themselves why they don't support Ted Kaczynski.

Darryl, the FBI bombed you, not Ted.

Thank you *Journal* for printing this letter.

Revoltingly,

—RABID

Dear everyday heroes in defense of the planet!,

Congratulations on the destruction of property we always read about in defense of the wild and of the animals. I support your efforts vocally and forcefully every time I hear people criticize the destruction of a lab, etc. Recently, I was in Winthrop, North Cascades, Washington... and people in a restaurant were talking about what a shame it was that some heavy machinery (I think to remove mudslides or snow) were destroyed. I educate forcefully in my little corner of the world, but we all know it's already too late for the critical mass to change. We all know that Earth cannot be restored to former glory until the top of the food chain is lopped off... which only makes your efforts that much heroic.

If I were young and healthy... instead of old and seriously ill, I would be out there with you in the trees! Rare are those who would put their lives and liberty in jeopardy in defense of *anything!* It is my sincere wish that your recompense will come on some other plane of existence, since it will not come on this one. It is my fantasy that those who are good stewards of the Earth (especially the kamikaze heroes who endanger life and limb) will find themselves, in another lifetime, living on another gloriously beautiful planet, living in peace and

harmony with nature... in a place where higher consciousness makes brothers of us all. If that model proves not true... then I know you believe, as I do, that it is enough to have lived (and perhaps given) ones life in defense of the wilderness.

With the utmost respect, gratitude and admiration,

—NIRAKARA

Howdy, Journalistas!

Can't not express my anger about M.M. Smith's letter in the Lugnasadh issue...

Okay, since when did EF! ever stand for protecting the racial purity of der fatherland? The name is *Earth First!*, not Amerikka Über Alles!

There, I feel better now.

Thanks!

I might be sending you an "open letter" to the so-called "riot tourists" of the world, suggesting they *think* globally and act *locally*.

Finally, although I'm excited to see a newly forming "Green Anarchist Movement", I wonder about all the anarchist debating in the *Journal's* pages. I doubt a huge percent of EF!ers are anarchists and I don't want them to feel alienated from EF! Yeah, this is an odd thing for me to be saying, but we need allies across a broad spectrum of society, and people shouldn't feel they have to "convert" to anarchism. Having said that, I thought David Orton's piece about being anarchist or environmentalist was *stoopeed!* This kind of dualistic, iconoclastic thinking has no place in a chaotic, varied, verdant world.

There, I gotta go to chow now. It's actually something *good* today! Take care and keep up the great work!

EF! we'll liberate the other planets if we ever get around to it!

—ROB LOS RICOS

SFBs under 300 words

ARMED WITH VISIONS

DESERT REBELLION

Cracked and rough crusty cottonwood bark at
a Mojave desert spring!
Trickle, bubble.
New fence. COWS OUT! Finally.
No more stomp-chomp bovine dancing in here.
Thriving springlife riparian natives.
Next up: Gearheads. Ban the 2 stroke buzz.
Offroaders: Crash, Burn and Die! Motorizedscum.
Such destructive "fun", may they all run
out of fuel now. Suckerchumps.
Rad knarled trees hanging with dead brown leaves
in the late southern California autumn.
Birds love it. Evolution overdrive.
Rain today. Thanks to the universal forces.

Glorious water from the sky down to the drylands.
Birds are tweeting on the high of the day at 4:23 PM
The Honda buzz has passed.
Maybe the motor burned up?
Maybe he went off a cliff? Barbed wire decapitation?
Word! Smells like clean living down here.
There goes a jet up high. Probably the man spending
billions on readiness. For what?
Defense of the oily fatcats: They're all gonna go down!
Build knowledge, not bombers! Nature not bombs!
Food not bombs! Bombs for radicals! Lovebombs!
Nothing but peace all around me here.
Bugs flying in triangles and Z's.
Skin, earth, wind, sun, water, roots. That old Boom Bap!
Next to the desert spring, in the shade, I kiss her.

—Daniel Patterson

THE DESERT SAYS ITS NAME

The desert says its name slowly
as quartz and granite
are broken into sand.
The tortoise crawls away
into an ancient home.
His shell is as big as the world,
painted with pictures of the past.
The rattlesnake drinks the sun,
then curls and coils
to a resting spot
beneath a spring flowering
mesquite canopy
to listen to the music
of thousands of solitary bees.

—Mavis Muller

WHEN THE GRANDE AND SALADO COMETOMIND

If I could explain the hole
filled by space
then maybe I'd settle for walls,
but for now I need the solitude.
Matters not what latitude
let me be in the absence of what matters here
for much of what means most
is found on the ledge of unknown canyons
where no one ever sat.
Sing me a trail that cuts the base
of pink sandstone stratigraphies
cross-bedded between my dreams.
Why be low when I can go deeper into the heights
where isolation exists only in those who ignore the
raven.
There's a bush near Boquillas I'll burn to keep
warm,
Holy crosses in Colorado cliffs,
Holes in the Rock where prophets trod
and the beckoning arms of Joshua gone crazy.
A season or two in traffic to go
I'll manage, as I imagine the Lomaki ghosts
dining on petrified corn in Del Muerto
where centuries hunger
to remember coyote ages,
days of sage and salt flat
before the first horseshoe prints dried in the mud.

—Tom Gill

**CLEAR AS CUT GLASS
&
JUST AS DANGEROUS**

SELDOM SEEN AND HIS MACHO CREW

They say the river can't be run,
The water's down—It can't be done.
But if anyone can shoot it through,
It's old Seldom Seen and his macho crew.
So load on the Coors, lash it down!
Might as well be happy if we're going to drown!
Roll up the bow line! Push out the boat!
With all this beer it may not float.

But the boats stay up! We're on our way!
Will we see Houserock by the end of day?
At Badger Rapids the boatmen curse,
The rocks stick up and it couldn't be worse.
So they walk the bank, and they rant and swear,
They shake their heads and they tear their hair.
Then they jump in their boats and bounce on through.
But one hangs up! Now what'll we do?

We push and shove and heave on rope.
The water pours in—there's not much hope.
We pull and tug 'til the boat's unstuck
With a little work, and a lot of luck!
Next we come to old Soap Creek,
The boats they bounce and the oarlocks squeak.
The boys row hard and make the run,
But the sun hangs low, the day most done.

There were Kim and Mark—the Crumbo two,
A couple of Bobs, and a guy called Stu
Making up that macho crew.
And a kid named "Coke" was swamping.

On we push to old Houserock,
Everyone climbs out, and it's quite a shock.
The boatmen say, "We need time to think.
Let's stop here for a night to drink."
Early in the morning to the boatmen's despair
The water's still low and rapid's still there.
So they ponder and study and fret and stew,
Then climb in their boats and row right through!

The days they pass, and the going's slow.
The wind is up and the water's low.
We stop at the Little Colorado to take a swim,
Our time's half gone and it's looking grim.
At Carbon Creek we feed the pet raven, Sam,
While we curse the Bureau and we curse the dam.
Swamper throws a mudball at that old black crow
Stuart says, "Now we're jinxed for down below."

Shove off next morning with mileage to make,
But the Bureau is stingy—won't give us a break.
We're way behind schedule, but little is said
Until someone yells, "There's a rapid ahead!"
Mark goes first, rowing right on track,
Then he turns around and he shouts back,
"To the right of the standing wave, then take it straight!"
But the skipper goes aground, and the problem's great.

There were Kim and Mark,—the Crumbo two,
A couple of Bobs, and a guy called Stu
Making up that macho crew.
And a kid named "Coke" was swamping.

The boatmen row back and the going's tough.
The rocks are big and the water's rough.
They all pitch in and they tie on rope.
The boat swings free—once more there's hope.
Six days gone, we're still at Hance
The people swear, there's not a chance,
But the boatmen do it, possible or not—
Shoot their eight-foot boats through a six-foot slot!

Eight days gone and the girls get prettier.
The beer tastes better and the men are wittier.
But time's running out, and the food is low,
I'm beginning to think it's time to go.
Old Seldom climbs out, and so do I.
Left before sun-up without saying goodbye,
Climbed the walls of that canyon grand,
Left the people sleeping there in the sand.

What happened to the people down below?
I can't say and I may never know.
They might have pushed right on through,
In the able hands of that macho crew,
Or might be they stranded way up high,
Top of a rock where the water rushed by,
And sitting there, I greatly fear,
They slowly perished for want of beer.

There were Kim and Mark—the Crumbo two,
A couple of Bobs, and a guy named Stu
Making up that macho team,
That rowed the boats for Seldom Seen.

—Vaughn Short

**Send poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
P. O. Box 14501
Berkeley CA 94712-5501**

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continued from page 11

COBAS was marching with other anarchist groups, including an anarcho-feminist group in purple and black and a valiant Black Bloc. This day started calm, however tense. I joined in the angry cries of "assessini!" whenever we spotted *Carabinieri* in the distance, the helicopter flew overhead.

The predictable occurred on this poorly conceived march. As the front reached the destination of the Piazza Kennedy, I saw *Carabinieri* come down the one major side street, Corso Torino, intersecting the route to cut the march in two. There were reports of teargas in the rear. I moved to the front and up to a high vantage point to see the intersection defended by protesters with barricades, including a burning car. The troops quickly cleared the intersection, bombarding the front of the march (which, remember, was made up of the pacifists including elderly and handicapped groups) with a downpour of teargas canisters. Quickly following, a tank rammed through the burning car and others parked on the side.

I witnessed some serious injuries and quickly realized that the various segments of the march were trapped and under siege, apparently with no real provocation. I escaped while I could. I'm still not clear on precisely what happened afterward, but I know some groups escaped and were pursued throughout the city—some deciding on the way to burn a few more banks. Pillars of gray smoke spiraled into the blue sky. I made my way to the Independent Media Center (IMC) to rest and gather information.

Later that night I left the schoolhouse Diaz, which was filled with all sorts of protesters and located across from the IMC, making my way back to the space where I was staying. Just as I arrived, the radio was describing how the IMC and schoolhouse were being raided by the *Carabinieri*.

The following morning I found one friend who had made it out.

Although planning to stay in the schoolhouse, seemingly one of the few safe places left in Genoa, she

happened to be in the IMC building when the street was suddenly flooded with police in riot gear. Forcing their way into both buildings, they destroyed media materials in the IMC building before being stopped by a female government official. Stopped from confronting the police by GSF organizers, my friend was forced to passively witness what happened across the street. Inside, some 50 sleeping and defenseless people were savagely beaten. Unconscious and bloody people were carried in stretchers to ambulances. Then came what everyone perceived to be body bags, followed by cries of shock and outrage.

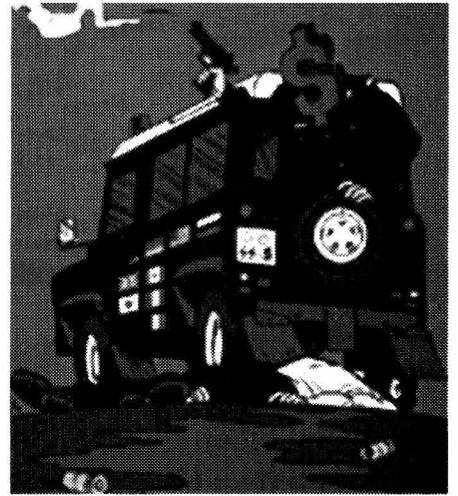
After the police had gone, she forced herself to enter the schoolhouse. The scene inside was gruesome, obviously the result of a one-sided fight. She walked through, memorizing every pool of blood and splatter on the wall—every chunk of hair and scalp, scratch mark, bloody drag mark. This act of state terror was meant to frighten a movement, but she knew it would only strengthen it. Some may be

As someone who identifies as a revolutionary anti-authoritarian, I quickly realized my place in the protests, which have come to feel more like spectacles than strategic resistance.

scared off, but for the true revolutionaries, the image of a comrade's shed blood cannot be forgotten nor go unavenged.

I felt then as strongly as ever that real change comes through dedicated struggles, networks and actions in your own community, not through mass events in foreign environments. Many in Genoa would have preferred resistance business as usual. For good or bad, certain elements ruined their *fiesta* and handed the forces of corporate globalization a \$45 million bill. The worldwide anti-globalization movement is gaining momentum, with the movement in the global North gaining most of the attention. There is a sense of urgency emerging. We are becoming aware of a situation so grave that it is no longer only those directly struggling for survival who rise up in revolt. Comrade, see you behind the barricades!

Por todos nuestros muertos, ni un minuto de silencio. Toda una vida de lucha. To honor our dead, not a minute of silence. A whole life of struggle.



CARLO'S WAY

BY MUMIA ABU-JAMAL

The recent police shooting of 23-year-old Carlo Giuliani in the riotous streets of Genoa has sent shock waves around the globe.

Giuliani, son of a Rome labor leader, was one of tens of thousands of anti-globalist demonstrators who fell on the latest place where politicians and corporate representatives gathered to ensure their continued dominance of the world's economy. Carlo was part of a growing movement, uniting the youth of many so-called First World countries with the aspirations of many in the so-called Third World. It was this movement that shook Seattle, and made the acronym, WTO, known throughout the Earth.

For opposing the rule of capital, for opposing the Empire of Wealth, Carlo Giuliani was shot by the hitmen of capital, and as if this were not enough, a police vehicle rolled over his prone, wounded body.

With the brutal state slaughter of Carlo Giuliani, the message goes forth that anti-globalism is a capital crime. This is but the latest escalation by the armed forces of capital, which has utilized increasing levels of state violence to intimidate the swelling hordes of anti-globalists.

The blood on the asphalt of Genoa did not begin when a cop pointed his semi-automatic into the face of a masked Roman anarchist. The blood of Genoa flows from the streets of Goteborg, Sweden, when the European Union was holding its summit meeting. There, police fired live rounds at protesters, wounding three, and one seriously.

Now, an anarchist, anti-globalist lies dead.

As soon as the news hit the wire, came the words of the Irish playwright, George Bernard Shaw, who once quipped, "Anarchism is a game at which the police can beat you." Shaw, an ardent socialist, would perhaps amend his comments in light of recent events.

What is most telling is how the representatives of the state and their propaganda arm, the media, has reacted to this vicious tragedy.

While politicians uniformly spoke with forked tongues about the "tragedy," not a single syllable was uttered in criticism of the police, was it?

For the media, however, a different game was played. In virtually every report, the coverage told of violent protesters—and suggested that they were uninformed or simply stupid for daring to care about the poor in Africa, Asia or Latin America. Examine their biased, corporate-centered coverage, and ask yourself one simple question:

What would they have written if a Genoan cop had been shot and run over with a Land Rover driven by anarchists? Every corporate outlet would've blared about how "vicious" and "violent" the anti-globalist "terrorists" were. Of this, there is no question!

Instead, a muted silence.

Silence, when the terrorists are the cops.

Silence, when the killers are the cops.

Silence, when the hitmen for the corporations act out.

You hear the fractured lectures of politicians talking about "as-

saults on the democratic process" and the like.

Yet, how democratic is the G8 (Group of 8)?

This group, which is self-selected, is seven of the wealthiest nations on Earth (plus Russia).

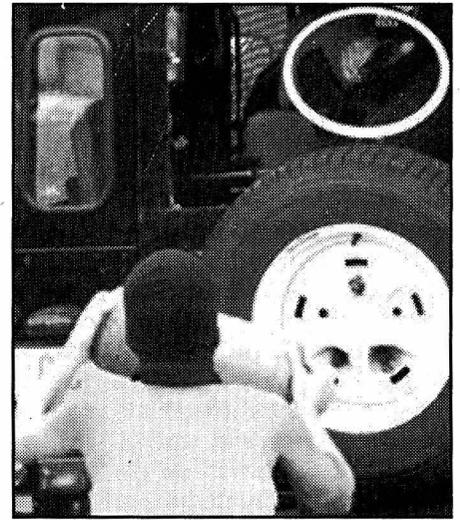
If there are 193 nations in the world, what's "democratic" about four percent of that number making all of the rules governing the rest of the world's economy?

Look at it another way: The G8 consists of representatives for Canada, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, the US and Russia. If you were to count all of the people in each nation and add them up, you'd come up with around 824 million people. That's a lot of folks. But there are more than six billion people on Earth!

How can 14 percent of the world's population set down the rules for 86 percent of the people in the world?

Carlo Giuliani wasn't "assaulting the democratic process." He was protesting a profoundly anti-democratic process.

He was fighting on behalf of most of the people in the world.



all photos courtesy la haine, lahaine-2/Internacional/secgenova_eng.htm



ANTI-GLOBALIZATION AND ITS VIOLENT ENCOUNTERS

We remember the people who have died because they rejected globalization, industrialization and "progress." It's not time to mourn... it's time to organize! We need not fear globalization's so-called "power." We will not submit to their intimidation tactics. We'll analyze our tactics, re-evaluate our strategy and work from there. What we won't do is be intimidated by violence and oppression.

Will the death of these protesters be forgotten as casualties of violence and greed, or will they fuel the fires and ignite the revolution?

Death in Papua New Guinea

On June 26, Papua New Guinea (PNG) police tear-gassed and fired upon students protesting against the IMF and World Bank, killing three and wounding 17. The five-day, peaceful sit-in was attended by up to 3,000 University of PNG students, workers and unemployed people outside the office of the prime minister. The demonstrators presented a petition to the government calling for: suspension of the entire privatization scheme; complete severance of ties between the government of PNG and the World Bank and IMF; and scrapping of the customary land registration scheme if the above were not implemented. The protesters remained on site to get a response from the government. However, after the crowd had dwindled to several hundred, police closed in and tried to disperse the crowd. When protesters refused to leave, police resorted to tear gas, shotguns and automatic weapons.

Ten Days that Shook Ecuador

In December 2000, Ecuadorian President Gustavo Noboa implemented IMF-recommended auster-

ity measures to reduce inflation and debt incurred by the Ecuadorian government. As a result, bus fares were raised by 75 percent (busses are the main mode of transportation for Ecuadorians). In response,

organizations signed an agreement that included concrete economic relief for Ecuador. The government also agreed to free the protesters arrested during the demonstrations and pay damages to the wounded and the families of those who were killed. Thousands marched through the streets of Quito, Ecuador, in victory. However, the uprising had taken its toll. Four people were dead, 80 more wounded and 910 had been arrested.

Police Kill Three Anti-Mining Protesters

On December 16, 2000, three anti-mining protesters were killed at a peaceful meeting in Maikanch, India. Abhilas Jhodia, Raghu Jodhis, and Jamudhar Jhodia were part of a group of about 40,000 people from 15 villages who were planning to blockade the entrance to lands being used by multinational companies exploring for bauxite.

The communities, led by a grassroots anti-mining move-

ments, known as *Prakrutika Sampada Suraksha Pardshad* and *Bapalimali Surakhaya Samiti*, had been successful in the past at denying company surveyors access to the area and shutting down government offices. The government of India told the demonstrators to vacate the land as it had already transferred ownership to the companies.

However, on December 16, two platoons of police descended on an anti-mining meeting causing terrified villagers to flee for the hills. According to one witness, the police stated that they had orders to fire and were to spare neither woman nor child if the men were not to appear before them. The result of the confrontation was three people killed and several wounded.



three Ecuadorian organizations—*Conaie*, *Fenocin* and *Feine*—forged an alliance and mobilized tens of thousands of protesters. Protesters demanded a repeal of the price increases, the implementation of a national currency, investment in social services, the dismantling of the austerity measures and called for autonomy for indigenous communities.

A first attempt to negotiate failed when the government declined to meet directly with Noboa. Protesters began a hunger strike, and confrontations with the police became more violent. On February 5, a clash between protesters and the military in the Amazonian community of Tena, Ecuador, left four people dead and several others wounded. On February 7, the government and indigenous

Blood Spilled for Oil in the Niger Delta

At least a dozen people from the town of Odi in the Bayelsa state of Nigeria, Africa, were murdered by Nigerian Soldiers in November 1999. Some sources report the death toll as high as 100 civilians.

Odi is close to the heart of the Ijaw territory where civil disobedience has shut down much of Nigeria's oil production in the last few years. At least 300 soldiers were sent into Odi to occupy the town.

Odi has at least three oil wells owned by Shell. Other Niger Delta communities currently being ransacked include Ogbogbene, Smoothgbene, Tenigbene, Sandfield, Mila Waterside and Makiva Waterside. All supply Shell's oil production and house wells.

Violence has already claimed hundreds of lives in the past two years and threatens the oil exports which Africa relies upon for its hopes of reconstruction after 15 years of crippling military rule.

U'wa Supporters Murdered in Colombia

Three indigenous rights activists from the US—Terence Freitas, Ingrid Washinawatok and Lahe'ena'e Gay—were killed in Colombia on March 4, 1999 (see *EF!* May–June 1999). The activists were working on a solidarity mission with the U'wa people.

Terence Freitas worked with Project Underground in 1998, as part of the U'wa Defense Working Group to support

the U'wa struggle against plans by Occidental Petroleum to drill for oil on their lands. He had been working directly with the U'wa traditional authority in Cubara, Colombia. Ingrid Washinawatok was the executive director of the Fund for Four Directions in New York City, which supports indigenous organizing and advocacy. Lahe'ena'e Gay was the founder and director of Pacific Cultural Conservancy International of Hawaii.

The activists spent a week visiting the U'wa to help explore options for a school and other programs for cultural preservation and community development. As the activists attempted to return to the US, they were taken hostage by the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC).

A farmer discovered the bodies: Both of the women had been shot four times while Terence was shot six times. The identity of the murderers was initially unknown, until the FARC claimed responsibility, saying that a junior field commander had ordered the killings without full authority.

We can clearly see that the amount of blood shed is significant. If humans are being killed for rejecting the evils of "progress," imagine the amount of destruction done to non-human life. Now is the time to demand the justice that is supposed to exist. Lets remember that blood has spilled for standing against the commodification of all aspects of life and against corporate control. No more injustice, no more destruction!

WASHINGTON ON FIRE?



Whatever takes place,
we are going to keep
control of these streets,
and Washington, DC,
is not going to burn.

—POLICE CHIEF CHARLES RAMSEY
(WASHINGTON, DC)

The IMF/World Bank meetings are being held in early October in Washington, DC. Help to shut down these meetings, visit www.abolishthebank.org.

The force of environmental extremism won't be happy until the White House looks like a bird's nest.

—RONALD REAGAN, MARCH 1983

Showdown with the Biotech Industry in San Diego

BY ROCKY NEPTUN

Despite police threats of violence, near hysteria by the city and a campaign of fear by the media, more than 1,000 people marched on June 24 at the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) convention in San Diego, California.

Under banners that read "We want real food" and "Perverts out of our genes," protesters marched a gauntlet of armed law enforcement officers.

Organizers of the protest were shocked by the smooth ability of the police and media to create a scenario of impending disorder and violence, portraying hordes of outside agitators descending on the city as "professional protesters" and anarchists committed to violent property destruction.

Citing this as the most militarized city in the world, locals were not surprised as the police moved against small groups of young people as they arrived. Many were picked up and transported to conservative, redneck areas where their attire alone brought menacing reactions. Students and other young people who traveled in groups (particularly multi-ethnic groups), those wearing black and those carrying large backpacks were patted down and threatened two or three times an hour as they moved about the city. Others had their signs taken apart so the stick part could be considered a "weapon" and were arrested.

The vanguard of the nation's radical youth stayed away. Perhaps they

sensed the duty of the San Diego police was to protect the 216 biotech research companies and 161 more that make medical devices. Employing more than 32,000 people, San Diego has the third largest concentration of biotech companies in the US.

The police mobilization for intimidation began days before the protest, as convoys of highway patrol cars and police cruisers raced through city streets while platoons of helmeted officers marched about in mock war games. Many people were so frightened they stayed indoors, while others missed work.

On that hot Sunday in June, amid the display of armed might, many



courageous people marched; mothers pushing strollers, students from many campuses, senior citizens, greens and reds, organic farmers and homeless advocates, Zapatistas from Tijuana and members of the Peace Resource Center, Quakers and Buddhists, maids and professors, all took to the streets to hold up the hope

Last year, US biotechnology companies generated \$22.3 billion in revenue and won government approval for 32 new drugs or existing drugs with new uses.

In June, nearly 15,000 biotech executives attended BIO2001 in San Diego, a four-day conference in which US biotech firms strived to present their best corporate face.

and possibility of a just and sustainable world.

The largest gathering of the BIO to date brought executives, ad people, lawyers, corporate-owned scientists, money grubbers and assorted snake oil peddlers to promote an ideology that says all life forms are commodities, products that can be owned, tinkered with and hoarded for personal greed.

Praised, pampered and protected by the power of the local elite, the BIO convention attendees strolled through the city like conquistadors, soldiers in a new age of conquest.

Biodevastation Warns of the Dangers

Activists held a two-day conference prior to the march where international scientists, professors, journalists, indigenous leaders and farmers shared information on the corporate misuse of bioengineering technology, challenges to agriculture and the environment, lack of government regulations and global biopiracy.

Dr. Martha Crouch, a scientist and retired professor of biology at Indiana University, offered chilling testimony. She presented biotechnology as a "junk science" and warned that unlike chemical pollution, biological contamination cannot be as easily contained. "Genes do not stay put, they move throughout the environment, adapting, responding to their environment, mutating, changing, reacting to stresses like heat or cold or virus," so that there is never any guarantee of results or safety.

She spoke of her colleagues, scientists tethered to a corporate leash, who are rushing to create ways of controlling the evolution of all life forms. "All living organisms are a product of their relationships, a network of interactions,"

she said. "The arrogance of molecular biologists is that while DNA is a tiny bit of knowledge of how life works, they base the foundation of the technology of genetic engineering on the assumption that genes control everything."

Dr. Ricarda Stienbrecher, a genetic scientist from England, called for a holistic approach to genetic research, warning that there are far too many "gaps" in the research to proceed.

She called on the scientific community to climb above "the fragmentation and isolation of their individual disciplines, to understand their participation in a new ideology—a perverted interpretation of nature that seeks to commodify all living forms, leading toward the complete corporate enclosure of all organic activity."

She gave the example of a company in Europe that is seeking a patent to inject pregnant, poor women in the Third World with a bioengineered gene that will produce a pharmaceutical product from their breast milk, introducing a new form of exploitation—human body farming.

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, a member of the indigenous Kankana-ey-Igorot in the Philippines, lashed out at corporate biopiracy. "These companies are scouring the Earth, taking blood cells of indigenous people, samples of the communities' plants and bioorganisms, patenting the specimens and claiming ownership of the substances of life."

Bribing relief and medical missions as well as local public health departments, corporations are rushing to patent and control the biological resources of entire nations, she warned, calling it a form of colonialism unsurpassed in history and tragic in its implications. "These companies will control not only the processes of life but even the potential of life."

"This is why your government, using its control of the World Trade Organization, is fighting so hard for international intellectual property rules, to aid the biotech industry in the patenting and ownership of the world's living organisms and genetic sequences." She reported that the ge-

nome data from the entire population of Iceland has already been privatized.

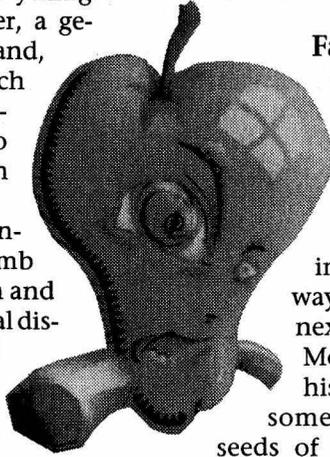
Unlike the US, many nations are struggling to resist the transnational corporations by enacting laws criminalizing biopiracy.

Family Farms Destroyed

Twice the crowd was brought to a standing ovation for Percy Schmeiser. Schmeiser had been growing canola in Canada for 53 years, always saving the seeds for the next year's crop. In 1998, Monsanto descended onto his farm and found that some genetically modified seeds of the "Roundup Ready" brand had blown onto his land and cross-pollinated with the seeds he had spent decades developing.

The polluter sued the victim for using their patented property without a license. A judge later ruled against Schmeiser, saying it doesn't matter how the product got there, it's patented and he owes more than \$100,000.

Schmeiser has appealed as well as counter-sued, but the legal battles have taken his family's life savings. He says



that he has a responsibility to his children and grandchildren to leave them the land unpolluted and a decent community in which to live.

He spoke of how Monsanto was tearing apart the social fabric of farming communities by pitting neighbor against neighbor as contaminated seeds blow around in the strong Canadian winds, secret raids are executed by the veggie cops, huge television and radio ad campaigns preach and extortion letters get mailed to all farmers.

Bill Christison, a Missouri farmer, spoke of the pressure to use unnecessary chemicals supplied by transnationals like Monsanto. Also, regulations outlining government subsidies require farmers to buy more chemicals, even though chemicals are the second largest expense farmers face.

Dr. Vandana Shiva raged against the biological and agricultural imperialism of transnational corporations, saying, "Patents of life are a moral outrage and should be resisted."

Shiva, author of *Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply*, blasted the biotech industry's claim that it seeks to feed and cure the world.

She said that hunger is not scarcity but poverty and inequality.

continued on next page

Biohazard-clad Protesters Cause Ruckus at Chicago Grocery Giant

On June 26, Earth Firsters, members of the Chicago-based group GeneWise and other activists united in opposition to genetically modified organisms (GMOs) at the grocery giant Jewel Foods. The action was in solidarity with large-scale protests occurring in San Diego.

Twenty participants swarmed the entrance to the food chain wearing all-white biohazard suits with the slogan "GMOs + Our Food = Consumer Threat!" Some went inside and began handing out information to help consumers understand which foods contained biotech ingredients. Activists engaged the public by giving away hundreds of "consumer warning" cards. After receiving a warning to not distribute information inside the store, one of the participants was asked to leave by Jewel's management though they "sympathized with what was happening." Some protesters remained inside talking with customers, yet no one was arrested.

The protest focused on the fact that:

- Seventy percent of processed foods in the US now contain GMOs,
- Genetically engineered foods are not labeled in the US and
- The world's malnourished peoples are being manipulated as spokespersons for these Frankenfoods.

Traffic at the Jewel was brisk. The sidewalk, dotted with activists, became a focal point for bystanders curious about all the activity. "We're just getting started," stated a biohazard-clad protester. "If they can get this biotrash out of the food chain in Europe, then we can do it here!"

For more information, contact (773) 258-0575; www.genewise.org.

Spotlight on Monsanto in Canada, Australia and the US

Monsanto Tangles with Canadian Farmers

Fresh from its battle with Percy Schmeiser, Monsanto is set to tangle in court with another Saskatchewan farmer who it alleges has illegally grown Roundup Ready canola.

The agricultural giant says it is prepared to take on a number of concurrent actions against farmers to stop patent infringement of the gene it has licensed to seed companies and thousands of farmers.

Monsanto filed a lawsuit in mid-July seeking an injunction to stop Yorkton-area farmer Kelly Ryczak from growing canola varieties that include a patented gene that makes the canola resistant to the herbicide Roundup or other generic glyphosate sprays.

Last year, Monsanto took on farmer Percy Schmeiser, who is now appealing a Federal Court of Canada decision that he violated the Monsanto patent on its canola gene. Schmeiser maintained his fields must have become contaminated from seed which blew off trucks or from cross-pollination.

"We did have a number of people waiting in the queue,

but (Schmeiser) was the first case where we attempted to find out if the patent was valid," said Monsanto Canada spokeswoman Trish Jordan.

Jordan said Yorkton has tended to be a "hot area" for Monsanto investigators. She said it isn't a surprise that some farmers still attempt to grow the crop without paying Monsanto the \$150-an-acre technology fee.

"We've been more than aware there are a number of blatant violators," she said, adding that this annoys customers who pay the fee and who provide many of the tips about potential violators to Monsanto.

Monsanto Rejects Decision to Reveal GM Crop Locations

Monsanto plans to appeal against a decision forcing it to reveal the locations of its genetically modified (GM) crop trials in Australia. The Gene Technology Regulator has rejected applications by Monsanto, Glaxo SmithKline and other groups to keep the locations of their crop trials a secret.

The sites of more than 600 crop trials are already publicly available, and there is a one-month appeal period before the regulator will disclose the remaining 87 trials.

Monsanto's Brian Arnst says farmers asked the company to make an appeal.

"Confidentiality's important to them because they have concerns about trespass and property damage, particularly in some of the regions where there is I guess quite a lot of anti feeling about these trials," he said.

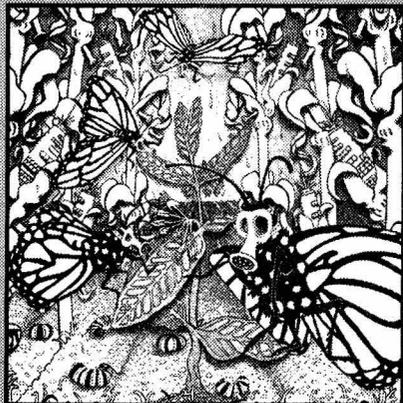
Monsanto Subsidiary to Pay \$40 Million

In Anniston, Alabama, a company accused of poisoning the community with toxic chemicals for decades and covering it up has agreed to pay \$40 million to settle a lawsuit brought by 1,600 residents.

The chemical contamination was allegedly spread by Monsanto, which manufactured PCBs in Anniston until 1972. Monsanto's chemical business now operates as Solutia Inc.

Solutia also agreed to pay \$2.5 million for residents who live close to the chemical plant to relocate and \$3.5 million to a charitable foundation to assist those exposed to PCBs.

The residents claimed that company documents show Monsanto knew that the chemical was hazardous in the 1960s but continued to manufacture it without safeguards. Solutia didn't deny the chemical escaped from the plant to the water supply.



Biodevastation in San Diego continued

continued from previous page

This was echoed by Peter Rosset, director of the Institute for Food and Development Policy and co-author of *World Hunger: Twelve Myths*.

"The world today produces more food per inhabitant than ever before. Enough is available to provide four pounds to every person every day; two and a half pounds of grain, beans and nuts, about a pound of meat, milk and eggs and another of fruits and vegetables—more than anyone could ever eat."

Food is Personal and Political

Rosset reports that the biotechnology industry is posed to spend \$250 million in the next five years on a media blitz that says, "Trust us with your food, you don't need to know what's in it or how it is produced."

Many feel the campaign will backfire. Food is personal, something that becomes intimate, part of ourselves, and while the American public may be preoccupied, overworked and tired, they are not as stupid as they seem.

To most San Diego activists, the rally and march to the convention center was a rite of baptism. In the shadow of the greatest mass of armed force this city has ever seen, our mobilization showed that, in spite of the media's organized campaign of fearmongering, a movement is alive and growing.

One thousand people of conscience had the courage to stand in the bright San Diego sunlight, surrounded by so many weapons, and offer a new vision to a dying, sick society held captive by corporate perverts—holding up the possibility of an alternative to a world where corporations control the forms and substance of our foods, determine genetic destiny and own all life forms.

Ecocide in Colombia

BY BRANDEN WILSON

Home to 10 percent of the world's biodiversity, Colombia has become a biological warfare testing ground as the US prepares to unleash biological weapons into this fragile environment.

Biological weapons technology developed during the Cold War is being revived for battle in today's drug war. At a research lab in Fort Detrick, Maryland, a pathogenic plant virus was recently thawed out for opium poppy eradication in Colombia. The virus, called D-437, has been frozen in the lab since 1969 when Richard Nixon officially stopped the US program to develop offensive biological weapons.

In the 1980s, a Cold War biological weapons program in the former Soviet republic of Uzbekistan developed *Pleospora papveraceae*, a fungus that attacks opium poppies. The Soviet program was intended to develop biological weapons that would attack enemy food crops, but after the collapse of the Soviet Union the drug war came to the rescue of the military-biological complex. The project was funded by the US and UK governments for eventual use by the United Nations Drug Control Program. Britain has since backed out and the UN General Assembly has refused to support the plan.

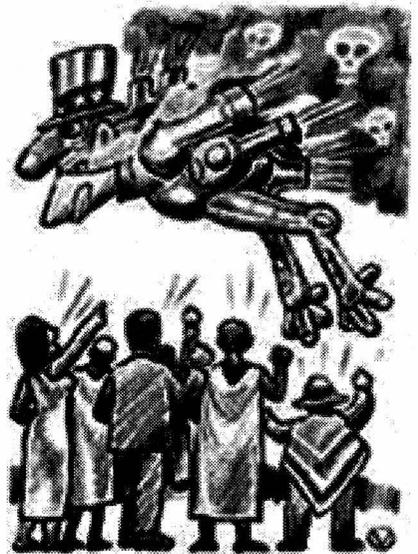
To develop a more effective coca killer, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) developed a genetically modified strain of *Fusarium oxysporum* called EN4 in US military labs. Despite massive resistance from Colombian civil society and other Andean nations, the US is pushing Colombia to use EN4 for coca and cannabis eradication.

USDA research has been myopically devoted to developing the most effective

coca and poppy killers possible with no concern for biosafety. Even in the limited tests that were performed, supposedly host-specific varieties attacked both related and unrelated species. In one experiment, the EN4 killed two unrelated species. There are more than 250 species in coca's genus, four of which are endangered, and EN4 has not been tested on any species in this genus besides the two species used in cocaine production. Similarly, *Pleospora papveraceae* has not been tested on species related to the opium poppy.

Any plant pathogen affecting the plants of the coca genus will have an impact on the *Agrias* butterfly because coca relatives are the sole plants on which the larvae feed and mature. The butterfly is centered in the Putomayo region of Colombia where the main offensive against coca cultivation is directed. Strains of *Fusarium oxysporum* produce mycotoxins, which reduce growth rate, decrease immune function and cause neurological disease, fatty liver syndrome and death in many animals. Birds that feed on contaminated plant seeds are particularly vulnerable to poisoning. In a letter to the environmental ombudsman of Colombia, biologist Martha Lucia Guardiola wrote, "The introduction and increase of *Fusarium oxysporum* would bring modifications, not yet measurable on all the forests' live populations including soil and aerial micro-organisms, birds, arthropods, etc."

Once released, these pathogens could not be recalled nor could their spread be checked or contained. Researchers were unable to even control it in the laboratory. The biologist who developed EN4 says it "was highly aggressive and was disseminated rapidly throughout the original infested



field... containment of the fungus proved challenging."

According to Dr. Raul Moscoso, an Ecuadorian magistrate, fumigation violates the Cartagena Agreement of Andean Nations; the UN Convention on Biological Diversity; and the Convention on Prohibiting the Development, Production and Storage of Bacteriological, Biological and Chemical Weapons. The Biological and Chemical Weapons Convention, signed by 143 nations including the US, states that all countries "agree not to develop, produce, store or in any form acquire or retain, under any circumstances, microbial agents or other biological agents or toxins, regardless of their origin or mode of production, in kinds or quantities that are not justified for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful ends."

David Olson, the director of conservation science at the World Wildlife Fund, says "If and when our species matures, we will rightly view such practices as abominations, crimes against our planet and ourselves." For Colombia this recognition can't come too soon.

Six Arrested Protesting Monsanto

More than 80 people peacefully demonstrated outside the headquarters of Monsanto Corporation in St. Louis, Missouri, on June 25 to protest fumigation in Colombia. Monsanto produces the herbicide glyphosate, or "Roundup Ultra," that is being sprayed in deadly quantities over Colombia. The herbicide, intended to eradicate coca plants, is destroying food crops, water sources

and wildlife in Colombia.

Six protesters were arrested for attempting to cross a security line at the company's front entrance to turn over a petition with roughly 2,500 signatures. The petition asked Monsanto to take responsibility for its role in poisoning Colombia. The fumigation is part of a US-backed effort at eradicating the leaf to make cocaine.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Cloned Tree Landmarks

George Washington built his plantation on the Potomac River amid soaring trees, many centuries old. Now, plans are in the works to replenish the woods of Mount Vernon, Virginia, with genetic copies of trees that were alive when he was president.

It's part of a campaign by the Michigan-based Champion Tree Project International to grow clones of the largest, hardiest trees around the country.

"What better place to have champion trees than at the home of our founding father and the final resting place for America's veterans," said George Cates, executive director of the National Tree Trust.

Five years ago, nurseryman David Milarch and his son, Jared, established the Champion Tree Project. They say forests are suffering from pollution, overharvesting and disease, and that ancient giants' DNA may be their salvation.

"In the botanical world, they're the heroes and the survivors," Milarch said. "They have withstood everything man could throw at them for centuries."

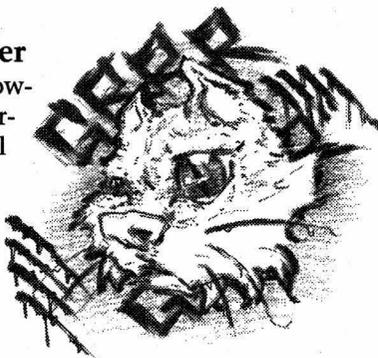
Opinions are mixed about whether the gold medalists' size and longevity result from superior genes or good luck.

Cat Attacks Man and Parrot in Shower

An elderly Canadian man is recovering following an attack by his cat, which drew four carloads of police, two ambulances and an animal control officer.

Eighty-year-old, Gerard Daigle, lost a pint of blood and required stitches after his cat *Touti*, roughly meaning "Tiny," launched a frenzied attack after Daigle, who was giving his parrot a shower, inadvertently sprayed the cat with water.

The animal control officer said Daigle was saved by his 81-year-old wife who wrestled the cat away, only to have it turn on her. The couple managed to chase the cat into the bedroom and slam the door. It is not known why Daigle was giving his parrot a shower.



Scientists Combine Rat Genes with Lettuce

Scientists at Virginia Tech University managed to introduce rat genes into the genetic material of lettuce, causing the greens to increase production of vitamins by 700 percent.

Craig Nessler, who led the research, says he does not expect to see the genetically engineered lettuce for sale any time soon. "We are aware that vegetables containing rat genes would not meet the customer's taste."

Rats were selected because they produce vitamin C themselves. Humans have lost this ability in the course of evolution.

Monkey Kills Man with Coconut

A Malaysian man was killed when a trained macaque dropped a coconut on his head. Mammate Kinder, 59, was killed instantly in the accident, which occurred at his coconut plantation in a village in northeastern Kelantan state.

The *New Straits Times* said Mammate had gone to his small plantation to gather coconuts when he was hit. He had earlier hired the monkey from its owner to pluck the coconuts—a common practice among Malaysian villagers.

Rob the Rich

BY ROB LOS RICOS

A
Don't sell your future for a lifestyle
G
designed by men in suits/
A
Don't waste your life creating profits
G
for industrial society/
A G A
Turn away while you still can. Their
G
economics are ecocide/
A
With the whole world poisoned,
G
no place to hide/
A G
Not to fight back is suicide/
G D G A
We're gonna stand and fight/
G D G A
We're gonna rise in the night/
G D G A
And toss aside our chains/
G D G A
We have the world to gain/
Corporate rulers, the New World
Order, have no interest in you/
They flood the world with lethal
toxins and feed their poison to you/
There's no relief in the legal system/
No one wants you to see the truth/
Government lies, media repents them/
We come together, we're gassed
and beaten/
So now it can't be denied/
There's only us on our side/
No other option to choose/
There's nothing for us to lose/
We've been made to feel helpless,
dependent on the reign/
Of economic policies and genocidal
gains/
And we've forgotten the Earth
provides/
For everything we need/
The wealth and power taken from us/
Is only make believe/
Our love of life makes us strong/
The path ahead is unknown/
Together we'll find the way/
The world belongs to the brave

Artwork by Eric Droecker

Flying Folk Army Unleashes Massive Folk Fist to the Man

A Musical Reconnaissance of the Album

BY HOOT OWL

The packed pub would need a new floor, it was that simple. I laughed out loud at the thought, but my guffaw was quickly swallowed up by the din. The floorboards hummed underneath the thunderous stomping of our feet in time to the raucous music. My first night in Vancouver, British Columbia, and I had the good fortune to be introduced to the musical mayhem of the Flying Folk Army.

Combine an eight-person band of skilled accordion, upright bass, fiddle, banjos, guitars, tin whistles, clarinet, harmonica, spoons and bodhran with musical styles from Celtic to rockabilly; then stir in a feisty sense of struggle, and you have... well, an army. These flying folksters not only bring down the house at their gigs, they venture into the fray to provide musical backup at protest actions and riotous street demonstrations.

And now the Canadian band has self-produced its long-awaited first album: *Massive Folk Fist to the Man*. In what most aptly can be described as "roots" music, *Massive Folk Fist* covers as many political issues of our time as it does musical genres. The album contains 15 songs that manage to hold a common thread: a do-it-yourself, symphonic subversion not afraid to laugh or cry at itself.

Opening with an upbeat and hilarious anti-war tune, *Uncle Sam*, the group pokes fun at the genocidal foreign policy of the US, singing "Whoopie, we're all going to die!" The ecological and social debacle of genetic engineering is served hoe-down-style with *Roundup Ready Round-up*. In *Gingerbread Man*, global warming is seen through the eyes of the sweet treat about to be tossed in the metaphorical oven. *Hands Off* fights back at the fascist police. The release also includes their arrangement of *Kolamyka*, a 19th century, traditional Ukrainian freedom song with beautiful and haunting harmonies.

One of my favorite tunes of the lot is *The Reservoir*, especially timely amid the current crackdown against our burgeoning ecodefense (see *EF!* August-September 2001, "The Criminalization of Ecology"). The lyrics are a wake-up slap to the face, necessary and stinging:

They say the truthtellers are the misfits
If they can't make them disappear
Do you know who reaps the benefits
When the public buys the smear
Well they have no names or faces



They have wiretaps and the video
And you who disagree at all
There are laws passed to divide you...
There is a large untapped reservoir of anger
Underneath the surface here
Maybe now more than ever...

The band minces no words about the predicaments facing us today. "For us, the eco-struggle is the social justice struggle, the struggle for freedom and against capitalism in all forms. The destruction of the planet's natural resources is inextricably linked with the oppression and exploitation of the planet's population. It's the same handful of bosses who control not only the forests, the waters, the fields—but control the lives of the indigenous peoples throughout the world, the workers, the poor," explains Megan, the group's fiddler.

Bandmate Sean describes their outlook on fame: "Being successful for us is about being able to jam with people from all over the place who are converging to share and to struggle. It's about hearing our songs played by people we've never met around a campfire."

continued on next page

Massive Folk Fist continued

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I wholeheartedly recommend that you get your hands on *Massive Folk Fist to the Man*; as well as their less-polished, untitled demo album of a couple of years ago. My only criticism of *Massive Folk Fist* is that it doesn't quite capture the raw revelry of the band's live performances, but no recording is ever as good as the real thing. The Flying Folk Army is at its best up close and in person. Music is meant for the making, not passive listening; for action, not audience; for dancing, singing and hanging out. That making of something more than just melody is what gives the Flying Folk Army its oomph!

But it may be awhile before you get to stomp your feet to one of their live shows. The Flying Folk Army played their first two US shows just this year, one at a border demo and another at this summer's Northwest Folklife Festival in Seattle. So let's start clamoring for a US tour!

Meanwhile, *Massive Folk Fist to the Man* is available for \$15 from the *Earth First! Journal*, and folks can find the



photo by Darren Thurston

Flying Folk Army plays at the Under the Volcano Festival 1999.

lyrics and guitar chords to several songs from the album in the *Hootenanny Songbook*, also available from the *Journal*.

We need musicians like the Flying Folk Army as inspiration during these conflicting times of bitter despair and immense possibility, because there is a large, untapped reservoir of anger—maybe now more than ever.

NYC's Wetlands Preserve Forced to Close

BY ADAM WEISSMAN

After 13 years at 161 Hudson Street in Manhattan, New York, Wetlands Preserve, the landmark live music venue and radical activism center, will be closing. The gentrification of Manhattan caught up with the venerable club, and the building is being turned into residential condos and office space.

Wetlands was founded as both a watering hole for activists and a center for environmental activity. The intention was to open a nightclub and use revenue from the club to support activist work by running the in-house Activism Center.

Within the nightclub, a display space featured publications, petitions, colorful educational displays and a bulletin board detailing upcoming events. This was the primary outreach tool for

club patrons, many of whom came to Wetlands with no idea of the club's activism connection.

Wetlands worked to build a united front against all oppression. Activists recognized that the Activism Center's four campaign areas—rainforests, human rights, North American wilderness and animal rights—are inextricably intertwined.

Wetlands embraced radicalism and nonviolent militancy, proudly proclaiming its EF! affiliation. The Activism Center has organized numerous lockdowns, occupations, banner drops and blockades. Openly supporting the Earth and Animal Liberation Fronts, the Activism Center recently launched a regional ELF/ALF support group.

Every Tuesday, the nightclub's downstairs lounge has been the host of eco-saloons—educational forums designed

to inspire action on critical issues. Over the years, guest speakers have included Paul Watson, the McLibel 2, Julia Butterfly, members of MOVE, Judi Bari, William Kunstler, Allen Ginsberg and countless others in a broad range of environmental and social change movements. EF! roadshows have also been a frequent feature.

An institution among musicians and fans, the club booked jam, rock, punk, hardcore, hip hop, reggae, ska, funk, jazz, electronic music and EF! musicians. Some of the most prominent bands in contemporary music have played the 500-person capacity club early in their careers. While progressive politics were never a requirement to play at Wetlands, many radical musicians have also taken the stage.

The current Wetlands nightclub management team is looking for new space to call home in Manhattan. However, with real estate prices soaring and live music clubs closing left and right, Wetlands' future is uncertain. In addition, the Activism Center is searching for Manhattan office space so that it can continue its work regardless of whether the club is able to re-open.

For more information, contact Wetlands Preserve, POB 150566, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

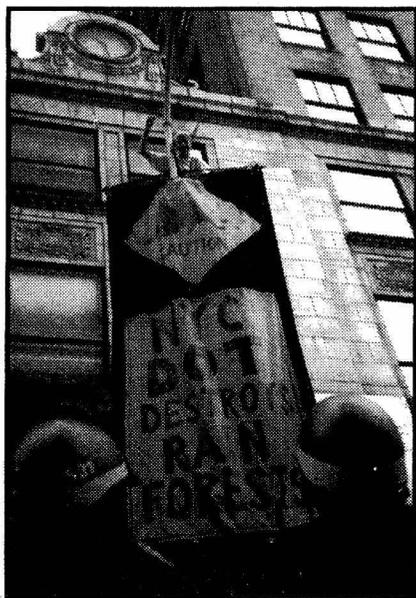


photo by Brad

The Activism Center regularly organizes demonstrations to protect rainforests.

If an Agent Knocks

What is political intelligence? Do I have to talk to the FBI? What rights do I have? Find out the answers to these and many more questions in this 30-page booklet. English/Spanish—\$1



Earth First!

NEW!

Trinkets and Snake Oil



New ORGANIC t-shirts

Star w/ Fist—green & white on black/blue shirt S, M, L, XL—\$15

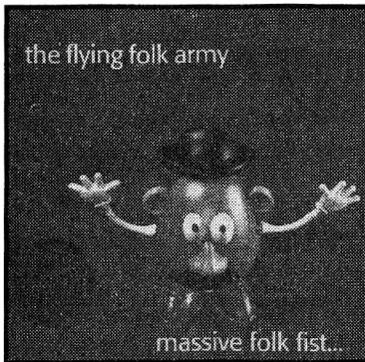
Skull & Crossed Tools—red & tan on black/blue shirt S, M, L, XL—\$15

Rattlesnake-Don't Tread on Me—4-color earth tones on black/blue shirt S, M, L, XL—\$15

pickAxe

Fists rise above the battlements. Hands share food in a dark meal, wrists adorned with bracelets of chain and dangling carabiners. Mist shrouds a yellow highway sign announcing "Protesters in roadway." Camo-clad militants stand in a prayerful circle, holding hands. A man swings a pickaxe with all his love for the land, ripping and biting into Forest Service Road 2408 in Oregon's Willamette National Forest, the road which was occupied for 11 months in 1995-96 to protect the charred and unscarred forest in the Cornpatch Roadless Area known as Warner Creek.

This movie shows the whole story of Warner Creek—from the October 1991 arson fire and the efforts to fight it to the arrests of four women at the Free State in 1996, the jail-house riot that followed and the joyous release of the Warner Four. In between are the stories of other western Oregon sales released under the notorious "Salvage Rider," a 79-day hunger strike, a wedding, folks around the wood stove in a tipi and a mycology lesson interspersed with shots of heart-rending forest destruction. VHS video, 94 minutes—\$15



The Flying Folk Army

Massive Folk Fist to the Man

Combine an eight-person band of skilled accordion, upright bass, fiddle, banjos, guitars, tin whistles, clarinet, harmonica, spoons and bodhran with musical styles from Celtic to rockabilly; then stir in a feisty sense of struggle, and you have... well, an army. These flying folksters not only bring down the house at their gigs, they venture into the fray to provide a musical backup at protest actions and riotous street demonstrations. CD—\$15

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all prices include shipping! foreign orders add 15%

Total

CREDIT CARD ORDERS
VISA/MC (CIRCLE ONE)
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EXP. DATE (MONTH/YEAR) _____

Mail to: EF! Merchandise, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Activist Videos

...creating our own media...

Igniting the Revolution: An Introduction to the Earth Liberation Front

The first video produced to discuss the ideology of the ELF and the logic and necessity of using covert direct action to protect life on Earth. Produced by the North American ELF Press Office. Twenty minutes. VHS format only.

Igniting the Revolution can be ordered for \$10 postage paid within the US and \$12 elsewhere. Make checks or money orders payable to *Resistance*, POB 4783, Portland, OR 97208.

A Year in the Streets

From WTO Seattle to the Bush inauguration protests, *A Year in the Streets* crisscrosses the world, providing a street-level view of the clash between activists and a state apparatus engaged in the widespread repression of free speech and assembly. Eighty-five minutes.

To order, send a check or money order for \$18 payable to Cascadia Media Collective, POB 703, Eugene, OR 97440. For more information, visit www.cascadiamedia.org.

pickAxe

The film story of the campaign to save Warner Creek—*pickAxe*—is going back on the road. This autumn, co-director/producer Tim Ream will screen *pickAxe* and speak in 35 cities across the US. Each screening is a benefit for the local sponsoring group. *pickAxe* will be on the East Coast from October 6—late October, then through the Midwest and West until November 18. To schedule a screening, contact Shelly at (541) 484-2997; porkpie3@hotmail.com.



Resources for Radicals

The third edition of *Resources for Radicals*, a bibliography of print resources covering environmental and social change movements, is now available.

Resources for Radicals grew out of workshops in non-violence conducted by Toronto Action for Social Change. Topics include meeting facilitation, community gardening, civil disobedience, union organizing, feminism, animal rights, ecology and the peace movement.

Resources for Radicals is available for \$13 US, \$12 Canada and \$15 elsewhere (US checks only). Checks should be made payable to Toronto Action for Social Change, POB 73620, 509 St. Clair Ave West, Toronto, Ontario, M6C 1C0, Canada; (416) 651-5800; tasc@web.ca.

Now it is our time to make a mark for indigenous freedom, liberation and for our future generations. We intend to dismantle ongoing racism and colonialism against first nation peoples, and we intend to destroy the foundation first.

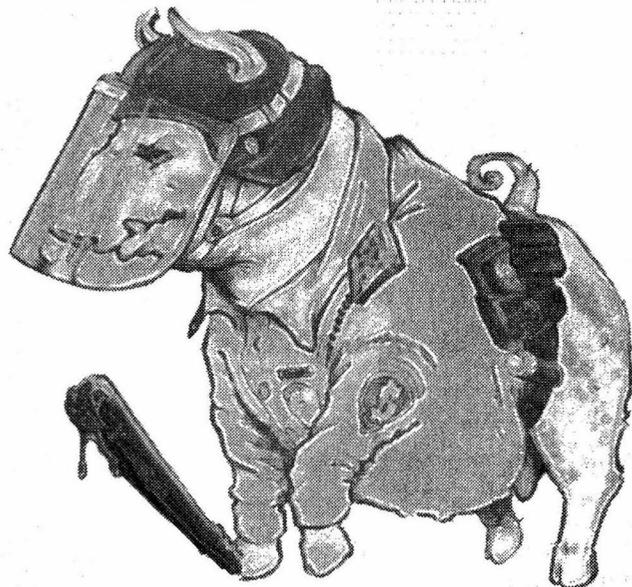
COLUMBUS DAY 2001
www.transformcolumbusday.org



END COLUMBUS DAY
October 5-8 denver, colorado

Create the icons of the movement

Photograph, digital, paint, sketch



Submit your work to the
Earth First! Journal
Include a Self Addressed Stamped
Envelope to have your work
returned
POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702

Cover art submissions must be 8 1/2 x 11

National Forest Protection Alliance Third Annual Convention

October 11-14—Cedar Mountain, North Carolina



Join grassroots activists from across the US as we build upon our vision for the permanent protection of our national forests. Once

a year, the National Forest Protection Alliance (NFPA) network gathers to review and revise our strategy to end the commercial logging program on public lands. The convention will be held at Camp High Rocks in a beautiful Appalachian Mountain setting.

The NFPA Convention registration is \$60 and includes vegetarian meals and lodging. One day registration is \$20 and includes three meals/lodging. Pre-registration is required. Limited scholarships are available.

Mail registration and payment by October 1 to NFPA, POB 8264, Missoula, MT 59807. For more information, contact NFPA at (406) 542-7565; nfpa@wildrockies.org.

New York City Anti-WTO Call to Action *October 31–November 9*

Come to New York City for a convergence on Halloween and stay until the November 9 opening of the WTO ministerial—and the invasion of the financial district on Wall Street. A day of action is being planned against the criminal injustice system, a day of focus on sweatshops in NYC and a day of action devoted to the Earth.

In the most diverse city in the US, there will be a diversity of tactics to demonstrate the breadth of our movement against corporate exploitation and for a sustainable planet.

In November, let's slice open the belly of the beast and expose the rot within.

A broad coalition, Global Solidarity, has formed to help facilitate actions, teach-ins, convergence and a true global summit to propose alternatives.

Contact Global Solidarity, POB 193, New York, NY 10276; (212) 502-8548; nycwto@ureach.com; www.noWTO.org.



International Day of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space

October 13, 2001

Join us by organizing a local action at a military base, aerospace corporation or federal building. Stop Star Wars research and development!

Global Network Against Weapons
& Nuclear Power In Space
PO Box 90083, Gainesville, FL 32607
globalnet@mindspring.com
(352) 337-9274 • www.space4peace.org

Earth First! Organizers' Conference and Winter Rendezvous 2002

EF! North America organizes two gatherings a year: the summer Round River Rendezvous, which is more of a jamboree and orientation to EF!, and the Organizers' Conference and Winter Rendezvous—a strategy and organizing event. We hope that folks from different regions and struggles around the world will join us this year in Southern Arizona for the Organizers' Conference.

Agenda to be announced: Please send ideas, position papers and suggestions (assume all correspondence is monitored). A full article with site directions and a proposed agenda will be printed in the Yule edition of the *EF! Journal*.

Setup February 13—A day where folks who would like to participate will hammer out the rest of the agenda and make camp.

Strategy Session February 14-16—Please start thinking about what you would like to accomplish in these meetings.

Night to Howl! February 16 (evening)—The Warrior Poets Society will kick-off the Winter Rendezvous. EF! performers, poets, dancers, musicians, etc. are welcome to entertain us. If you don't, we'll demand it!

Winter Rendezvous February 17-18—A time for action planning, campaign discussions, workshops, campfire music, rejuvenating, hiking and other illicit activities.

New Orleans Mardi Gras Style Costume Party February 17—Dance party with hip hop DJ! (No costume, no attendance...)

Tucson Benefit February 19—Pack up, cleanup, and sum-rad-kinda'-action day. The *Earth First! Journal* invites you to come to Tucson for a benefit concert Tuesday night.

For more info., contact EF!OC, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702; efororganize@yahoo.com.

earthfirst!organizers'conference 2002



celebrate, relax, plan our attacks!!!
feb. 13-19 • southern arizona, turtle island, planet earth

OCTOBER 27-29

SMASH Stephens Inc.!

WHO IS STEPHENS INC?

The Little Rock, Arkansas, investment firm Stephens Inc. is the number one investor in Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) and is responsible for the senseless deaths of 500 animals every day. HLS is one of the largest animal testing laboratories in the world—areas of research include testing the toxicity of food colorings, household products and genetically modified organisms.

COME TO LITTLE ROCK

On October 27-29, join activists as they converge on Stephens' hometown for what will be one of the largest and most important demonstrations in the history of the animal rights movement.

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Once in Little Rock, there will be numerous events to network with activists, educate yourself on the issues and put the pressure on Stephens Inc.



Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty
PO Box 22398 Philadelphia PA 19110
1.888.354.2435

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Green Anarchy #6

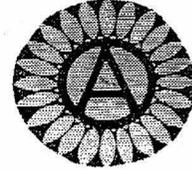
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The Decolonization of Colonial Descent

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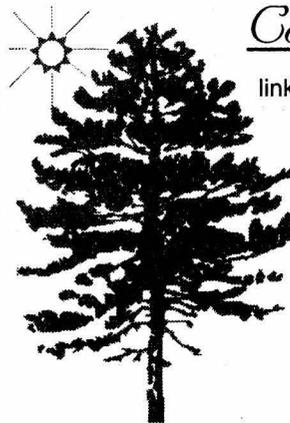
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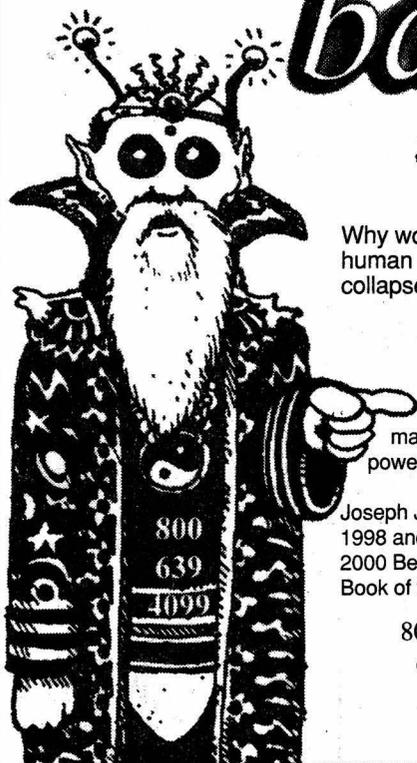
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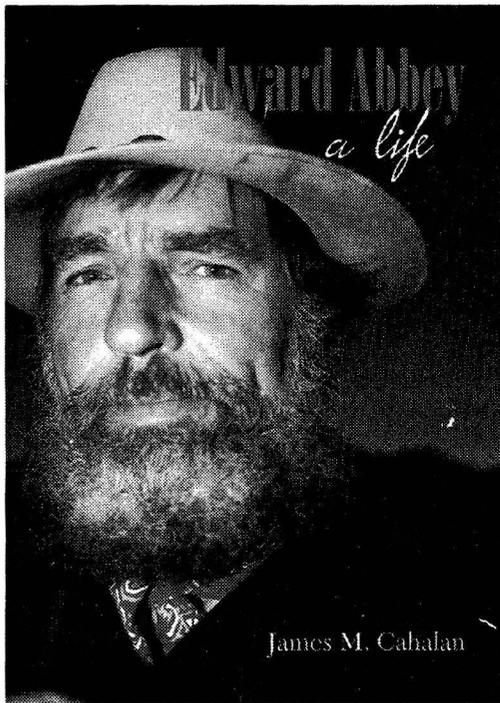
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Prisoner Support: They Are in There for Us

Ecodefense

•Jeremiah Rush Bowen, #108016, DCC, 1140 East 10 Road, Delta, CO 81416. Serving two years for the arson of a townhouse in Boulder, Colorado, in the summer of 2000. Due to be released in December.

•Josh Raisler Cohn, #90274-020, Federal Prison Camp, POB 6000, Sheridan, OR 97378; joshinjail@riseup.net. Six months for an action against the School of the Americas. He can be reached by email.

•Corey Mascio, #20035, Gallatin County Detention Center, 611 South 16th, Bozeman, MT 59715. He was arrested last winter for trespassing on national forest land where the Department of Livestock set up one of their buffalo traps.

•Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, Two Rivers Correctional Institute, 82911 Beach Access Road, Umatilla, OR 97882. Sentenced to 22 years for 13 charges relating to two arsons in Eugene, Oregon.

•Craig "Crittter" Marshall, #13797662, EOCL, 2500 Westgate, Pendleton, OR 97801. Serving a five-and-a-half-year sentence for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of unlawful devices.

•Ted Kaczynski, #04475-046, US Pen—Admin Max Facility, POB 8500, Florence, CO 81226.

•Helen Woodson, #03231-045, FMC Carswell, Admin Max Unit, POB 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127. Serving 27 years for robbing a bank and setting the money on fire while reading a statement denouncing greed, capitalism and the destruction of the environment.

•Marco Camenish, Viale dei Tigli, 14 13900, Biella, Italy. Serving 12 years for a number of eco-bombings in Italy. Also, Switzerland wants to extradite Marco so he can serve a 10-year sentence there for eco-bombings. Marco can read French, German, Spanish and Italian.

•Ioaki Garcia Koch, Centro Penitenciario "Villa Hieros," Mansilla de Mulas, 24210, Leon, Spain. Serving just under five years for cutting cables on the construction site of the Itoiz dam.

•Nikos Maziotis, c/o Dafni Vaganou, Ozortz 3, 10689, Athens, Greece. Sentenced to five years for bombing the Greek Ministry of Industry in protest of TVX-Gold's plan to build a factory in Strymonikos Bay.

•Silvano Pellissero, Com. Mastroliero, Via Ferrerinioli no 2, Sanponso, 10080 Torino, Italy. Serving six years and eight months for sabotaging a rail line construction site in the Northern Italian Alps. Silvano can read Spanish, Italian and French.

Animal Liberation

•Mel Broughton, #DJ8216, HMP the Mount, Molyneux Avenue, Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 0NZ, England. Serving four years for conspiracy to cause explosions.

•Barry Horne, #VC2141, HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London, SE28 0EB, England. Serving 18 years for various anti-vivisection arsons.

•Dave Blenkinsop, #EM7899, HMP Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1EA, England. Sentenced to three years for committing grievous bodily harm against the managing director of Huntingdon Life Sciences.

Anti-globalization

•Robert Thaxton, #12112716, 2605 State Street, Salem, OR 97310. Rob threw a rock at a cop in self-defense at the 1999 Eugene J18 Reclaim the Streets action and received a seven-year "mandatory minimum" sentence.

•Garfield Gabbard, #FT9062, HMP Camp Hill, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5PB, England. Eighteen months for setting fire to a riot van during the N30 protests in London. Hoping for release on October 28.

•Paul Robinson, Goteburg Remand Centre (Haktet), Goteburg Polis Headquarters (Polis Huset), Box 429, 40129, Goteburg, Sweden. One year imprisonment for rioting.

Indigenous

•Eric Wildcat Hall, #BL-5355, Unit I/A 10745 Route 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002. Serving 35-75 years for helping to ship arms to Central American resisters.

•Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048. An American Indian Movement (AIM) activist, serving two life sentences, having been framed for the murder of two FBI agents.

•Robert Wilson, #640289, Estelle Prison, 264 FM 3478, Huntsville, TX 77320-3322. In 1978, Robert (a.k.a. Standing Deer) exposed a government plot to assassinate Leonard Peltier. The US government punished him with life in prison.

•Lenny Chavez, POB 28703, Oakland, CA 94694. An AIM activist who defended himself and his family from an armed racist. Lenny disarmed his attacker by stabbing him with a penknife and was jailed for attempted murder.

MOVE

Some of the MOVE prisoners are listed together because they are at the same prison address. However, they must be written to separately, not as a group.

•Debbie Simms Africa (#006307), Janet Holloway Africa (#006308), Janine Phillips Africa (#006309), SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238.

•Michael Davis Africa (#AM4973), Charles Simms Africa (#AM4975), SCI Grateford, POB 244, Grateford, PA 19426-0244.

•Edward Goodman Africa, #AM4974, SCI Camp Hill, PA 17011-0200.

•William Phillips Africa (#AM4984), Delbert Orr Africa (#AM4985), SCI Dallas, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612.

Prisoner Support Groups

- UK Earth Lib. Prisoners Support Network, 16 Sholebrooke Avenue, Chapelton, Leeds, LS7 3HB; earthlibprisoner@mail.com.
- Anarchist Prisoner Legal Aid Network, 818 SW 3rd Avenue, PMB 354, Portland, OR 97204; aplan@tao.ca.
- North American Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network, POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440; naelpsn@yahoo.com.

International EF! Directory

There is an international Earth First! web page at: www.snet.co.uk/ef/

AUSTRALIA

EF! Australia
POB 1059, Maleney, Qld 4552
efoz@earthfirst.org.au
Rainforest Information Centre
POB 368, Lismore, NSW 2480
(066) 21-85-05

CANADA

EF! Montreal & Diffusion Notre
c/o Librairie Alternative
2035 St. Laurent, 2 e étage
Montréal, Quebec H2X 2T3
Elaho EF!

(604) 682-3269 x.6144;
earth_first@ziplip.com

CURACAO

EF! Curaçao
POB 4893, Willemstad, Curaçao,
Netherlands Antilles
599-9-4616256 (fax);
falcone@fiberia.com

CZECH REPUBLIC

Zeme Predevsim
POB 237, 16041 Prague 6
Car Busters Magazine & Resource Center
Kratka 26, 100 00 Praha 10
(420) 2781-0849; 781-67-27 (fax);
carbusters@ecn.cz

EIRE

An Talamh Glas c/o Robert
robatg@hotmail.com

ENGLAND

More than 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
POB 487 Norwich NR2 3AL, 0160-3219811
efactionupdate@bigfoot.com
Manchester EF!
A30, c/o Dept.29, 255 Wilmslow Road,
Manchester M14 5LW
0161-226-6814;
mancef@nematode.freemove.co.uk
Leeds EF! c/o CRC
16 Sholebroke Ave, Leeds LS7
3HB
0113-262-9365; leedsef@ukf.net

Do or Die

c/o Prior House, 6 Tilbury
Place, Brighton, East Sussex,
BN2 2GY doordtp@yahoo.co.uk

FRANCE

Les Eco-guerriers
71 Av. Jean Jaurès, 92140
Clamart
01-40-95-09-06; contact@earth-first.org

GERMANY

EF! Germany c/o Avalon
Friedrich-Ebert Str 24, 45127
Essen
**EF! Germany c/o Manuel
Lindinger**
Europahaus, Rheingut Str 40/
40, 78462 Konstanz
manuel.lindinger@uni-konstanz.de

INDIA

Anand Skaria
POB #14, Cochin 682001, Kerala
(009) 484-25435
Bander Bagicha
Near Maurya Lok PATNA-800 001 Bihar,
POB 229

ISRAEL

Green Action Israel
POB 4611, Tel-Aviv, 61046
972 (0) 3 516 2349

THE NETHERLANDS

Groene Front!
Postbus 85069, 3508 AB, Utrecht
tel/fax 31-84-8666018; groenfr@dds.nl

PHILIPPINES

Ariel Betan, Green Forum
3rd Floor, Liberty Building
Pasay Road, Makati, Metro Manila
(2) 816-0986, 851-110, 818-3207

Volunteers for Earth Defense

189 San Antonio Ext. SFDM
1105 Quezon City
EF! Campaign East M. Mla.
POB 176, Tagig Central PO
1632 Tagig, M. Mla.

POLAND

Workshop for All Beings
POB 40, 43-304 Bielsko, Biala 4
tel/fax 48-33 (8)183153

In Defense of the Earth
Towarzystwo Ekologiczne
"W Obronieziemi" Domonika Baryla
ul. Limanowskiego 138/42
91-038, Lodz

48-42-653-38-16
goral@tevoz.most.org.pl

RUSSIA

ECODEFENSE!
POB 1477, 236000 Kaliningrad, Russia
7 (0112) 44-84-43;
ecodefense@online.ru

Rainbow Keepers (10 local groups)

POB 14, Nizhni Novgorod, 603082
(8312) 34-32-80

Rainbow Keepers (Moscow)

(095) 954-91-93
Rainbow Keepers
POB 52, Kasimov, 391330
7 (09131) 4-5-14; rk@lavrik.ryazan.ru

SCOTLAND

Glasgow EF!
POB 180, Glasgow G4 9AB
44 (0)41 636 1924/339-8009
424 3688 (fax); scotree@gn.apc.org

Fife EF!

c/o 91 South Street, St. Andrews,
Fife KY16 9Q, 01334-477411

SLOVAKIA

Slobodná Alternativa
Staromestská 6/D, 811 03 Bratislava

SOUTH AFRICA

Earth Action!
POB 181034, Dalbridge, Durban 6016

SOUTH KOREA

Green Korea United
110-740 #605 Korean Ecumenical Bldg. 136-56
Younji-Dong, Jongro-Gu, Seoul
82-2-747-8500; 82-2-766-4180 (fax);
greenkorea@greenkorea.org

SPAIN

Environmental Workshop
IES Xelmirez I, 15701 Santiago,
manoelantonio@lettera.net

SWEDEN

Morgan Larsson
Lagmansgaten 9C, 46-37 Vänersborg
Action For Social Ecology
POB 34089, 10026 Stockholm
46-70-7560195

UKRAINE

Rainbow Keepers (5 local groups)
POB 322, Kiev 252187
7 38 (044) 265-7628; 550-6068 (fax);
rk@cci.glasnet.ru

WALES

Gwynedd & Mon EF!
The Greenhouse, 1, Trevelyan Terrace
Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 1AX
01248-355821





Earth First! Directory

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University of Alabama EF!
POB 860997, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486
ua-earthfirst@antisocial.com

ALASKA

Alaska Action Center
(907) 56-EARTH
akaction@alaska.com

ARIZONA

Arizona Wildlands Museum
POB 24988, Tempe, AZ 85285
Tucson EF!
POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722
az_earth_first@hotmail.com
Ponderosa Wingnuts
2155 E. Maple #17, Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(520) 774-6542

Wildfire Infoshop

POB 23552, Flagstaff, AZ 86002
wildfireinfoshop@yahoo.com

Phoenix EF!

POB 1601, Scottsdale, AZ 85252
phoenixef@excite.com

CALIFORNIA

Northcoast EF!
POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518
(707) 825-6598;
ncef@humboldt1.com
Sierra EF!
228 Commercial St, Dept. #174
Nevada City, CA 95959

Fairfax Action Team

POB 393, Lagunitas, CA 94938
Sonoma County EF!
POB 7544, Santa Rosa, CA 93107
(707) 523-1229

Bay Area EF!

POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516
(510) 848-8724
Santa Cruz EF!/EF! Radio
POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061
(831) 425-3205; cruzef@cruzio.com

Sequoia EF!

POB 1108, Exeter, CA 93221
exetrade@aol.com
Santa Barbara EF!
POB 12799, Santa Barbara, CA 93107

Action Resource Center

POB 2104, Venice, CA 90294
(310) 396-3254; 392-9965 (fax);
arcla@enviroweb.org

Mojave EF!

POB 492, Lancaster, CA 93584
(805) 948-6291

Peninsular Ranges EF!

POB 4738, Irvine, CA 92616-4738
Southcoast EF!
POB 1463, Fullerton, CA 92836

COLORADO

San Juan EF!
POB 3204, Durango, CO 81302
Wilderness Defense!
www.wildernessdefense.com

Art Goodtimes

POB 1008, Telluride, CO 81435

Tim Haugen

POB 81, Gulnare, CO 81042

Gunnison Basin EF!

POB 592, Crested Butte, CO 81224

Culebra EF!

POB 762, San Luis, CO 81152

afr@amigo.net

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Big Bend EF!

POB 20582, Tallahassee, FL 32316
(904) 421-1559

Clearwater EF!

POB 17838, Clearwater, FL 33762
(727) 538-9050;

clearwaterEF@juno.com

Gainesville/Ichetucknee EF!

c/o CMC 1021 W. University Ave,
Gainesville, FL 32601

(352) 373-0010;

gainesvilleEF@ziplip.com

Alachua EF!

POB 1638, Alachua, FL 32616

(904) 462-3374

Lake Worth EF!

POB 961, Lake Worth, FL 33460

littleprince1@juno.com

Stone Soup Collective

1020 S. Orange Ave, Orlando, FL 32806

(407) 999-7700

GEORGIA

Katúah Foothills EF!

POB 608, Athens, GA 30603

foothills@katuah.org

HAWAII

Oceandream Media Foundation

POB 1440, Hanalei, HI 96714

(808) 826-1711

IDAHO

Cove/Mallard Coalition

POB 8968, Moscow, ID 83843

ILLINOIS

Red Gate EF!

3400 W. 111th St #154, Chicago, IL 60655

friends@enteract.com

Shawnee EF!

913 S. Illinois, Carbondale, IL 62901

(618) 351-0312

The Brokedowns/Elgin Food Not

Bombs

308 South St., #15, Elgin, IL 60123

(847) 931-9054;

thebrokedowns@thebrokedowns.com

INDIANA

Buffalo Trace EF!

POB 3503, Bloomington, IN 47403

IOWA

Prairie Fire EF!

POB 1284, Dubuque, IA 52004-1284
(913) 461-8583

KANSAS

Tornado Alley Resistance

tyezart@yahoo.com

LOUISIANA

New Orleans EF!

(504) 561-8182;

vedanta28@hotmail.com

MAINE

Maine EF!

5089 Fox Hill Rd, Athens, ME 04912

MASSACHUSETTS

Mass EF!

POB 35, Montague, MA 01351

Mass Direct Action

POB 484, Somerset, MA 02726

Jon Chance

72 Peterborough St, Apt. 31,

Boston, MA 02215

(617) 859-8155

MICHIGAN

Huron River Valley EF!

POB 1735, Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Popular Power

POB 374, Traverse City, MI 49685

MINNESOTA

Forest Ecosystems Action Group

2441 Lyndale Ave S, Mpls, MN 55405

(612) 450-9178; paarise@mtn.org

Church of Deep Ecology

POB 580407, Mpls, MN 55458

(612) 362-3387;

churchofdeepecology@hotmail.com

Wilderness First!

POB 16075, St. Paul, MN 55116

wdurness@aol.com

Boundary Waters EF!

7908 Minnetonka Blvd,

St. Louis Park, MN 55426

(612) 719-7000; smgbecker@aol.com

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Ray O. McCall

Rt 1 Box 89, Mtn. Grove, MO 65711

Pink Planarians

POB 7653, Columbia, MO 65205

(573) 443-6832

Chinquapin Resistance/Confluence

POB 63232, St. Louis, MO 63163

(314) 773-2842

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Wild Rockies EF!/Wild Rockies

Review

POB 1742, Missoula, MT 59806

(406) 721-3494; wref@wildrockies.org

Yellowstone EF!

POB 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715

NEBRASKA

Environmental Resource Center

370 Bordeaux Rd, Chadron, NE 69337

(308) 432-3458



NEVADA

Western Shoshone Defense Project
POB 211106, Crescent Valley,
NV 89821

(702) 468-0230; wsdp@igc.org

NEW JERSEY

Green Vigilance

46 E. Monroe, Mt Holly, NJ 08060

(609) 265-0392

North Jersey EF!

58 Warren Road, West Orange, NJ
07052

(973) 731-2162; dlstraught@aol.com

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Direct Action

POB 452, Las Vegas, NM 87701

actionnm@yahoo.com

NEW YORK

Wetlands Preserve c/o Rainforest Relief

POB 150566, Brooklyn, NY 11215

adam@wetlands-preserve.org

Foghorn

POB 889, Westhampton

Beach, NY 11978

(516) 288-2688

Love Canal EF!

(716) 282-7777

OFF!

SUNY, Binghamton, NY, 13902-6000

(607) 777-2050;

offeditor@hotmail.com

Vegan Noise

paralipsis@crosswinds.net

Project Harmony

216 W. 122 St, NY, NY 10027

(212) 662-2878; haja216@aol.com

Natural Island Eco-collective

POB 237, East Setauket, NY 11733

NORTH CAROLINA

Katúah EF!

POB 1485, Asheville, NC 28802

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mountainfaction@cs.com

Rustic Revolt

112 Barricuda St, Moyock, NC 27958

(252) 662-2878

Uwharrie Earth First!

POB 516, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

(919) 942-5205; bison12@hotmail.com

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Cleveland EF!

17305 Grovewood Ave, Cleveland,

OH 44119

(216) 383-9985

Oberlin EF!

Wilder Box 76, Oberlin, OH 44074

oearthfirst@oberlin.edu

Lake Erie EF!

2233 Parkwood, Toledo, OH 43620

Hock-Hocking EF!

c/o Acme Co-op, 23 Elliott St,

Athens, OH 45701

(740) 592-2581; home@frognet.net

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Cascadia Forest Alliance

POB 4946, Portland, OR 97208

(503) 241-4879;

pseudotsuga@earthlink.net

Cascadia Forest Defenders

POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440

(541) 684-8977; mickey@efn.org

Canopy Action Network

POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440

(541) 684-8977;

greencanopy@popmail.com

Blue Mtns. Biodiversity Project

HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830

Blue Heron Earth First!

Student Action Office, Reed College,

Portland, OR 97202

(503) 771-1112 x7875

Kalmiopsis EF!

POB 2093, Cave Junction, OR 97523

(541) 592-3386; lukas@cdsnet.net

PENNSYLVANIA

Allegheny EF!

POB 81011, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Antoinette Dwinga

102 Third St, Apt 2, Carnegie, PA 15106

Allegheny Defense Project

POB 245, Clarion, PA 16214

(814) 223-4996; 223-4997 (fax);

adp@envirolink.org

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Katúah EF!/Tennessee Valley Faction

POB 281, Chattanooga, TN 37401

(423) 949-5922; johnjef@bledsoe.net

French's Lick EF!

200 Creekwood Dr, Whitehouse, TN 37188

Katúah EF!/River Faction

POB 16242, Knoxville, TN 37996

(865) 633-8483;

kropotkin@hushmail.com

TEXAS

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Wild Wasatch Front

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Biodiversity Liberation Front

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sea-ef@scn.org

Direct Action Network

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Olympia EF!/Cascadia Defense Network

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wild.cascadia@yahoo.com

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The 2002 Winter Games

A TRIUMPH OF GLOBALIZATION

A diverse Olympic crowd, surrounded by a landscape of commodities and corporate media marketers, is coming to Salt Lake City to celebrate capitalism and sports. Whether the 2002 Winter Games showcases the triumph of globalization or the crude hand of corporate greed is up to us.

The international anti-globalization movement has been late in realizing the relationship the Olympics has to globalization. Meanwhile, the transformation of Utah into a product for the benefit of elite multinational corporate culture has already begun its course. Whether it is selling "the greatest snow on Earth" or marketing the sublime grandeur of "America's redrock wilderness," Utah has become the latest commodity within the merger of global capitalism and professional athleticism.

Anticipating opposition, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) declared that the environment is now "the third dimension of Olympism" after sport and culture. In 1994, IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch emphasized that "the necessity of respecting the environment must figure among the Fundamental Principles of the Olympic Charter."

A simple analysis reveals the greenwash behind these claims. First, the Olympics have become one of the world's largest ongoing development projects, never visiting permanent venues and requiring the rapid development of potential host cities wishing to appear prepared for the games. In Salt Lake City, this includes infrastructure developments such as the 17-mile interstate highway reconstruction and the development of light rail. "Improvements" such as the conversion of a mountainside in Park City, Utah, into a massive ski jump facility are declared benefits to the community, regardless of the fact that in the two years since its opening it has shown little practical value.

Despite claims that it would "leave the environment of Utah in a better condition than it found it," the Salt Lake Olympic Committee (SLOC)

committed less than one percent of its budget to environmental programs and protection. On Earth Day, SLOC and its corporate sponsors celebrated how many trees they had planted in Utah, though they had previously released data showing no substantive headway in mitigating the short and long-term environmental impacts of the games.

In addition, the Olympics freely subsidizes itself with money from corporate sponsors such as Coca-Cola, McDonald's and Texaco, who are eager to capitalize upon the Olympic image.

Coca-Cola's advertising director stated, "Sports more than any other activity connects with consumers



directly in the stem of the brain, rather than in the front lobe where reasoning and calculation take place." Coca-Cola spent more than \$350 million for sponsorship, advertising and marketing at the 1996 Atlanta games alone. The Olympics have become a venue from which multinational exploiters can strut out their benign public citizenship and then easily greenwash their destructive behavior.

Prior to the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles, corporate sponsorship did not exist. Instead, more than 300 businesses and individuals funded the Olympics. Such funding was not sponsorship but support, whereby the individual or business donated for the good of amateur sports rather than to make money.

After the LA games, this all changed.

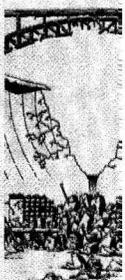
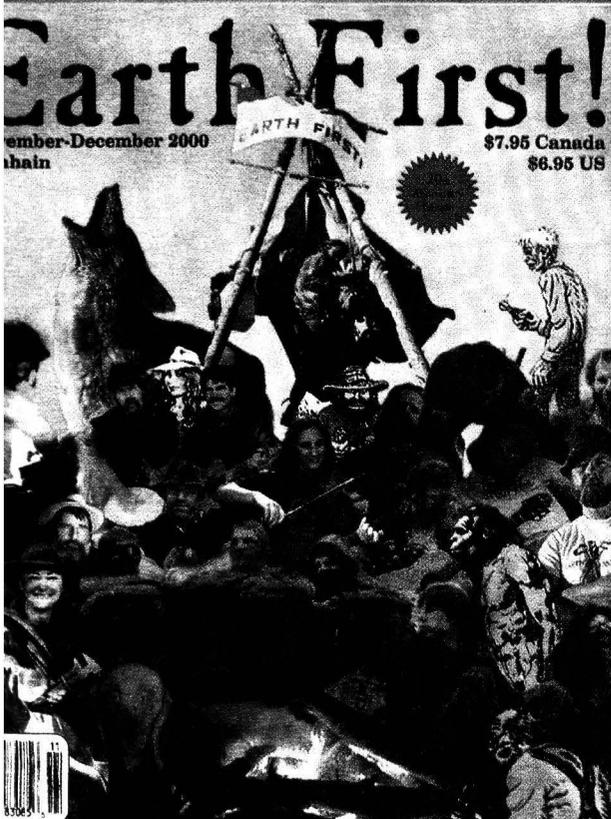
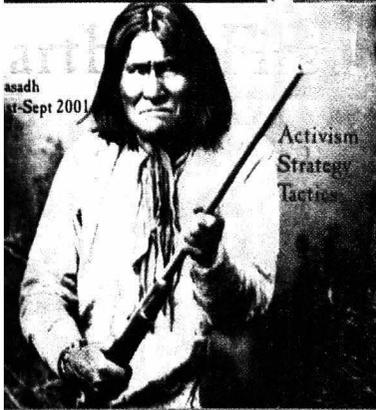
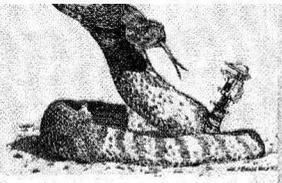
Since then, the Olympics have operated as a for-profit venture, promoting the opening of local economies to the world market rather than amateurism and the pursuit of athleticism. Instead of empowering the individual, it commodifies them. Athletes become machines whose performance rests on how much money is invested by government and corporate sponsors. The games have become breeding grounds for those elite who are willing to go all the way to become the world's best.

For the anti-globalization movement to fully develop, it must transcend its reactionary approach to the forces of global greed. Not only should the movement demonstrate opposition to the changing political atmosphere via protesting the WTO, IMF, World Bank and FTAA meetings, it must also directly challenge the events which continually indoctrinate the public with greenwashed messages of corporate responsibility. The Olympics embody these messages and something more—it is a circus of nationalism and a glorification of "healthy" cut-throat competition.

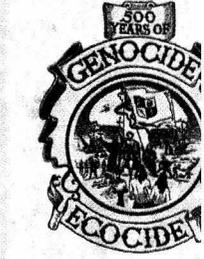
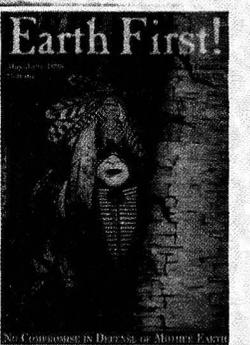
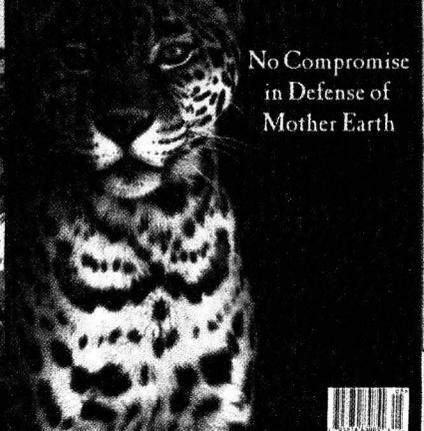
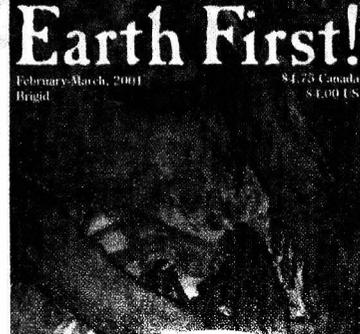
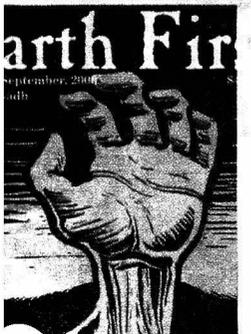
The 2002 Winter Olympics, like those in Sydney, Australia, will draw protesters merely because the global media will be in attendance. Without discrediting the important indigenous and environmental messages of the protests in Sydney, we can hope that the upcoming Olympic protests will embody broader themes. Perhaps activists can come together and fight the Olympics—not solely for being sponsored by corporations or for causing environmental damage, but also for the ideology created and the nationalist world of global capital they inspire. With the momentum this movement has already created, making the Olympics the next point of confrontation will be a step toward bringing the issues of globalization to a head.

Shut down the Winter Olympics... Steal the torch!

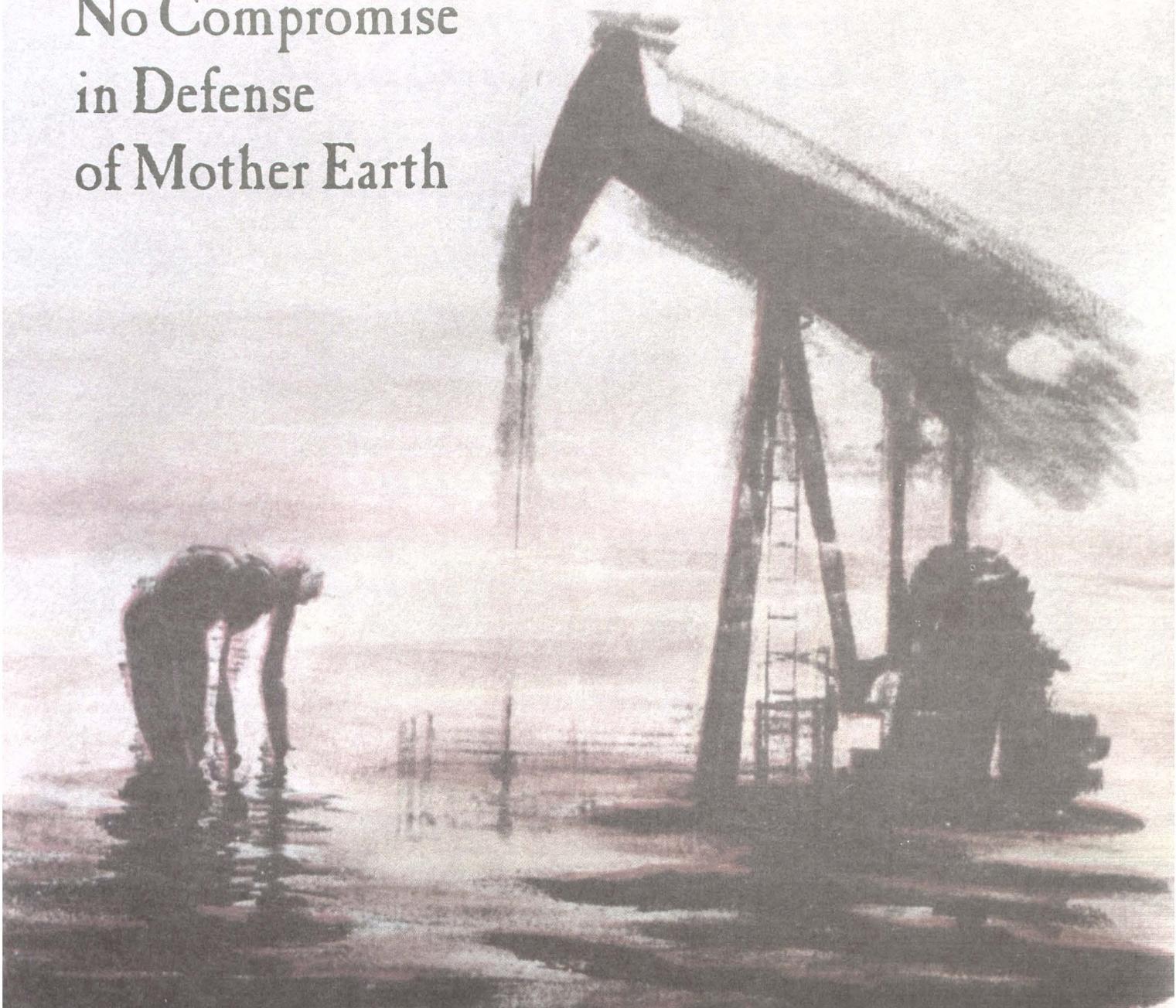
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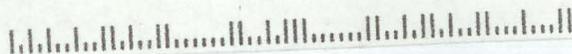
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