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Earth First!

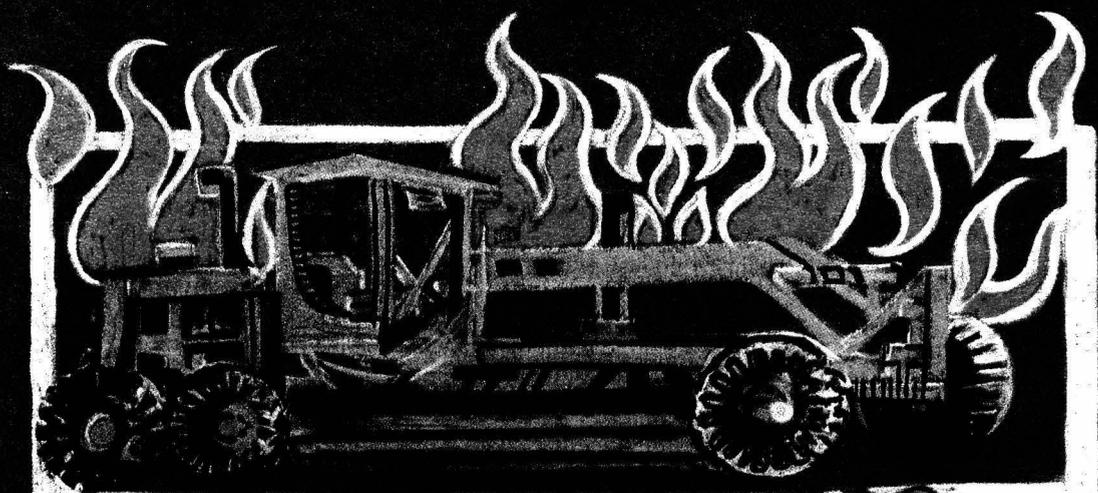
Samhain

November-December 2001

No Compromise in Defense
of Mother Earth

\$4.00 US \$6.00 Canada





BURNING GREED?

DON'T BURN LAND OR LIFE!

NO ★ GROWTH

I want you to

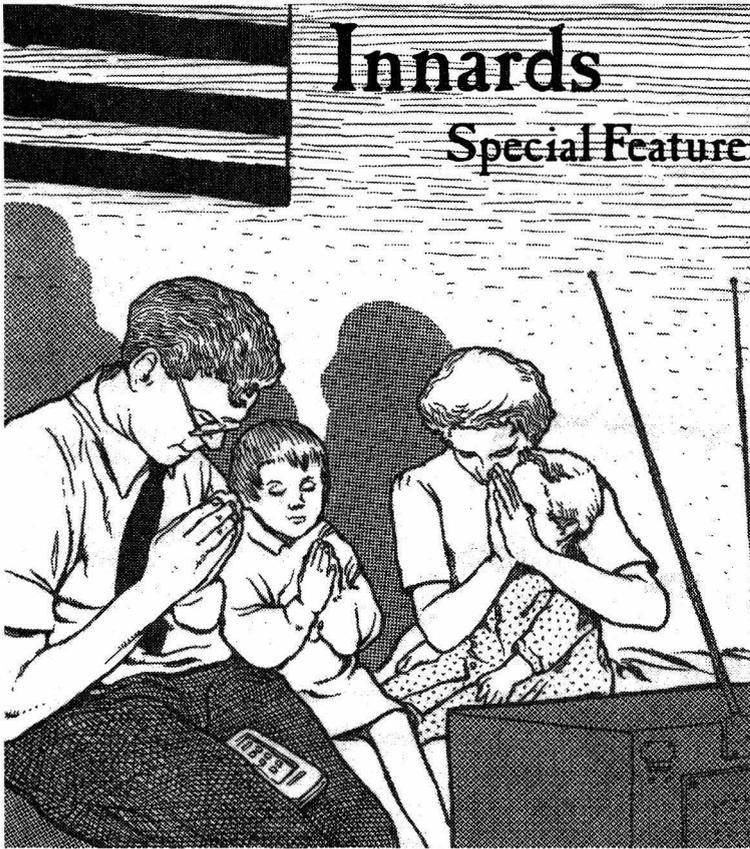


STOP

DEVELOPMENT

Earth First!

Samhain
November-December 2001



Innards

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The Radical Environmental Journal

The Bush Dark Age Begins

The world did not change on September 11. Only the impressions of things shifted. Like the shocked silence following a gunshot, for days we moved in a quiet that came from more than the absence of jet planes, the stock market, schools and traffic. In that ego-silence, more of us could hear the screaming warning, "Things ain't right. Is this the best there is?" There is a vacuum present—a hole in the fabric, a pattern torn, a matrix disintegrating.

If we don't pull direction and focus out of this shattered world (our minds), if we don't make the best use of this opening to manifest a new "sense of things" with utter confidence, then *nothing has changed*. The bodies, blood, ruins and the pain are simply *ashes to ashes* and toxic dust.

There was power released in New York on September 11. A power that *will* be used for good or for evil. We can all unite quickly in front of an impassioned, global "general strike" for sustainable peace and ecological sanity, or we can watch TV as our suicidal tendencies unfold and consume our very existence.

There are cycles and patterns in human history, and there are moments when forces converge and align. Some of us are drawn to roles at these times. George W. Bush and Osama bin Laden are puppets to powerful forces—will we remain sheep or will we risk everything?

Bush showed his mettle by pulling off two coups. First, the presidential election, and then the new millennium "Pearl Harbor" on "911." Bush knew that a big attack was coming to New York and did nothing despite several

public warnings by bin Laden. Bush is out to finish his dad's project: the re-creation of Southwest Asia for corporate profitability. Islamic fundamentalism threatens his plan.

The third Bush coup is now upon us: the military takeover of the world. The day that Pakistan falls, King Fahd is assassinated or a US nuclear power plant is destroyed, Bush will make his move and then everything *will* change.

We can prevent this, but there are dire risks. Every person who wants to be part of the solution has to convince, recruit and pester their friends, family and every organization they can find to join a global labor and consumption *general strike* for total, sustainable peace. The demands are simple: Economics have to change.

We all have to agree to live simply so that the planet can simply live. No more cars or airliners and much less long distance trade. Emulate Bangladesh or Ghandi—not Sweden or "Madonna." As Wendell Berry puts it, we can continue on with life in an increasingly repressive police state "or we can promote a decentralized world economy which would have the aim of assuring to every nation and region a local self-sufficiency in life-supporting goods. This is the surest, safest and cheapest way for the world to live. We cannot spend and consume endlessly. We need a new economy founded on thrift and care, on saving and conserving, not on excess and waste. We need a peaceable economy."

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Earth First! Journal Samhain

November 1, 2001
Vol. 22, No. 1

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Earth First! Journal is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

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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Errata

On page 27 of the Mabon issue, a photo obscured the address for sending donations to the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC). The full address is Humboldt Area Foundation, POB 99, Bayside, CA 95524. For more information on NEC, visit www.necandconews.to.

On page 56, the ad for the Earth Liberation Front video, *Igniting the Revolution*, had an incorrect address. The correct information for ordering this video is the North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office, POB 3673, Courtenay, BC V9N 7P1; (250) 703-6312; naalpo@tao.ca. The price of the video is \$10 US and \$12 elsewhere. The *Journal* collective regrets these errors.

Earth First! Journal is published eight times a year on the solstices, equinoxes and cross-quarter days on or about November 1, December 21 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 21 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 (Summer Solstice), August 1 and September 22 (Autumnal Equinox) by Daily Planet Publishing, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. US subscriptions are \$30. Outside the US, surface delivery is \$40 and airmail is \$50. See form, page 58. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *EF! Journal*, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Application to mail at Periodicals postage rates is pending at Tucson, AZ 85726-9653.

Upcoming deadlines: Yule-November 12/Brigid-January 2

Dear Shit fer Brains...



Dear Shit Fer Brains,

When I first heard that exploding jets had hit the World Trade Center and the Pentagon I was elated. A Palestinian group claimed responsibility and I burst out with, "Woo Hoo! Go Palestine!" Immediately the Palestinian claim proved to be false. Immediately I began to grapple with the reality of what had just happened revising my response to, "Oh Shit!"

Reports started coming in about hundreds of NYC firefighters being crushed to death while saving others. Stories of horror and heroism continued non-stop. George W. Bush vowed to "rid the world

of evil doers". I wondered, "Does this mean he is going to kill himself? Does getting rid of terrorism mean we will abolish the CIA?" For if ridding the world of evil is anything, it is an introspective process.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke about good and evil in a sermon that he gave just one month before his assassination. He said, "There is a tension at the heart of the universe between good and evil. Now not only is that struggle structured out somewhere in the external forces of the universe, it's structured in our own lives. And in every one of us this morning, there's a war going on. It's a civil war. I don't care who you are, I don't care where you live, there is a civil war going on in your life. Every time you set out to love, something keeps pulling on you, trying to get you to hate. There's a tension at the heart of human nature. And whenever we set out to dream our dreams and to build our temples, we must be honest enough to recognize it."

There have been many cinematic references to the events surrounding the Attack on America. People have said it

reminded them of the movies *Independence Day* or *Die Hard*. But the movie that came to my mind was *Ghostbusters*. The scene where Bill Murray and Dan Aykroyd battle to save New York City from the giant Pillsbury Doughboy that was spawned by their own imaginations seemed to me like the most apt metaphor for what had happened.

The other cinematic reference that I kept thinking about was the scene from *Return of the Jedi* where Luke Skywalker battles Darth Vader. Vader keeps trying to inspire hate in Luke whispering, "I can feel the hate" as he attempts to draw Luke to the dark side. Luke is in a state of confused consternation but keeps trying to remember what it means to be a good Jedi knight. George W. seems to be saying to me, "OK Peggy Sue, I know you hate me. I'm really scaring you now aren't I? Surrender to hate. Come over to the dark side". I have to steal myself to the complexities of living out a commitment to non-violence and try to grasp what that really means. Collectively as a nation or within our own hearts we can't win a battle against evil with more evil. The only weapon that will work is love.

I love you all,

—PEGGY SUE
continued on page 34

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.

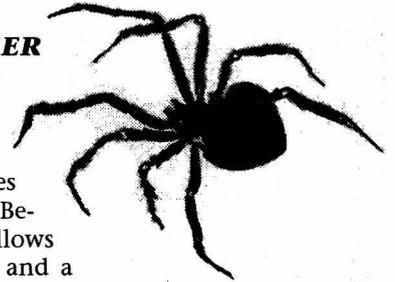
Cabala. *n.* an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

Male Australian redback spiders (*Latrodectus hasselti*) commit copulatory suicide. At most two percent of female mass, these diminutive spiders spend their few-month adult existence seeking to mate and rarely, if ever, eat. A successful male mates via penetration followed by a well-executed somersault which causes him to spend his moments of bliss with his abdomen pressed firmly against the jaws of his mate. If he's lucky, the female, who lives two years and has an assortment of males to choose from, will be preoccupied with slurping spider cider thus prolonging mating. This is adaptive for the

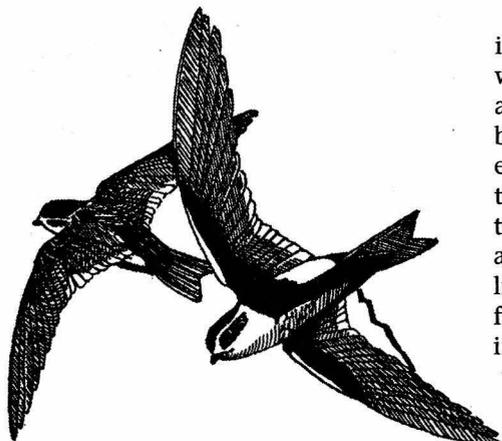
BY FAITH WALKER

male, since he'll father more spiderlings if she takes that cannibalistic nibble. Being eaten while mating allows more sperm to transfer, and a female who cannibalizes apparently can't stomach another mate.

If he's unlucky he'll survive the encounter but will have lost the tip of his penis, which breaks off inside the female, and will never mate again. Unlikely to become female fodder, since she prefers the somersault position, he'll hang out on her web until he perishes of old age. It's common in arthropods for a food gift to be presented by males to females during mating. The redback simply takes it a step further by offering his own belly jelly as a delicacy.



IN THE ABSENCE OF THE CONFUSION OF NOISE



BY KRIS MAENZ

Yesterday I sat on the porch and watched birds twittering away. They have discovered that the giant sunflower in the yard is almost dry enough for them to swoop by and grab seeds on the run. The squirrel in the neighboring tree has made the same discovery, so I suspect that the birds may not get as many delicious morsels as they expect. It was a strangely quiet day. There was less traffic than usual on the road, and everyone that came into the store was subdued. Which makes sense as the World Trade Center and Pentagon were attacked only two days ago.

But there was something else, something I couldn't quite put my finger on. Then I realized there were no airplanes. The sky was completely quiet. The only other time in my life that I have neither seen nor heard planes was when I was out on the deep ocean, far from airports and flight paths. I understand now that I ignore the drone and gray noise that is a constant invasion on my psyche. That I spend much too much time dwelling on the "big picture" and almost no time paying attention to my own space.

In fact, the bombing has reaffirmed in me how important it is to be an Earth First!er. It has reminded me that I need to look into my heart and see the beauty in nature. It has forced me to re-evaluate many things and to realize that I have become disillusioned with the politics of EF!—with the grandiose discussions of what we should do and how we can save the entire planet from the corruption of capital-

ism. I miss the days when the *Journal* was filled with articles about hunt sabs and whether spiking trees was good or bad. Those were times when I felt empowered and involved. I believed that I—little ol' me—could do something that would make a difference. I am not sure I ever did, but at least I felt like I could. As a frontlines activist I fought for the wilderness, small and insignificant as that seems compared to the global situation. I fought for the animals and trees in my backyard. Today I read that I was selfish, that I should have been fighting the multinational monster, that frontlines activism is passé and not exciting enough for EF!, that only big demonstrations and arson mean anything.

It is so difficult though, because I am not big. I am small and only one. And even when I am joined with others, we are still barely minute in the eyes of giants. I liked fighting with Joe hunter and Jack logger. I could sometimes even change their minds. A few even quit what they were doing, forever. They might have gone back to their small towns and changed their neighbors' minds too. I felt strong and involved. Unlike in Seattle when I felt

like a single grain in a huge ocean of sand, probably important, but who knows. It was difficult to gain strength rather than an overwhelming hopelessness from that experience.

Today there are no airplanes and the confusion of noise that has successfully clouded my attitude has cleared with the rubble of the settling towers. I can make a statement and a difference. I can do it without killing anyone, and I can change the world slowly by starting in my backyard. I am an Earth First!er. I do believe in putting the wild first. Before me and my petty attitudes and arguments. I have not lost the passion that drives us all to forsake luxury in order to make the planet a better place for nature.

Maybe I am not like the new people in the movement but that does not make me any lesser, it merely makes me different. I feel so old school, like the grouchy old codgers who write scathing letters to the paper about the newbies' ideas and philosophies. This weird quiet outside, the sadness of so many deaths and the changes that this will bring has made me acknowledge that I am an old schooler. It has also made me proud of that.

PLEASE HELP!

We joked that this issue of the *Journal* was cursed... As for the editorial collective: It started days after the last issue went to print. Turtle was in her second car accident this year, now she's trying hard to focus on healing. Al has had his own health problems and headed to the woods to do his own healing this issue. Dug had his medical emergency. And then Georgette was arrested for "rioting" as she was leaving the local Smash Columbus Day protest. Frog, Lisa and Sky were the stalwarts in the office. Then even the short term editor decided at the eleventh hour not to come and instead chose to focus her efforts on the growing anti-war movement. Thank goodness Almond appeared.

Still, with all of this thrown in our faces, in addition to the current global situation, this is without a doubt one of the best issues of the *Journal* yet. We continue to bring you eight hard-hitting issues a year no matter what obstacles cross our path. And as mainstream enviros are flocking away from the cause, we remain the most valuable media outlet for the radical environmental movement.

But we couldn't do it without your support. We need your help now more than ever. With more than 20 years under the *Journal's* belt, we have grown, changed and taken a stand to save our dying planet. For you that have grown with us, we need you to make a contribution at this time to keep the *Journal* going.

Please donate generously to our nonprofit sponsor, the Earth Defense Education Project (see ad page 58). Become a subscriber. Introduce us to a donor that may like what we do. Tell your friends about us. Most importantly, keep taking action in defense of the Earth.

—EF! Journal Collective

HOLD ON, HOLD ON, HOLD THE VISION, THAT'S BEING BORN

BY STARHAWK

The world has changed. An act of violence has cost the lives of thousands and shattered our plans and expectations for the future. We who have been working for global justice face an enormous challenge. Since Seattle, we've built and sustained a movement in spite of continually escalating police violence and attempts by the media to paint us as violent thugs. Genoa did not intimidate us and momentum was growing for the World Bank/IMF demonstrations in Washington, DC. Public opinion was shifting, and the whole edifice of corporate rule was losing legitimacy.

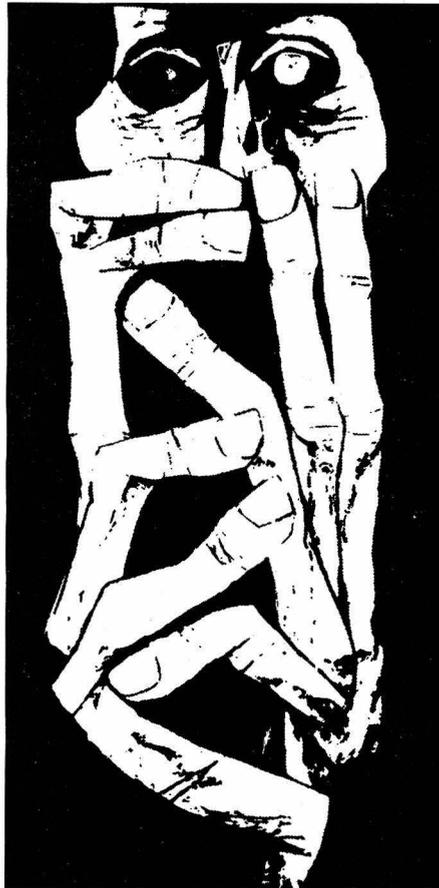
The attacks of September 11 could undermine all of our work, at least in the short term. They are the perfect excuse for the state to intensify its repression, restrict civil liberties and for anyone who speaks out against blind retaliation to be demonized. The mood of the country is ugly. People are scared. They're angry. Their sense of power and invulnerability has been badly shaken, and in the US, they're not used to it. They're grasping at anything which can restore their sense of power over their lives. In a violent society that means punishment, retaliation, war.

Many activists are also scared. I'm scared of the repression that might come, scared of being personally targeted, scared of the loss of our liberties, scared, yes, of further attacks. But most of all I'm scared for the movement, which I believe is crucial to our survival as a species.

And yet I also believe that the current crisis can be a great opportunity, if we can only see how to grasp it. Extraordinary times create extraordinary openings and possibilities. Our usual patterns and ways of thinking are shattered. When structures fall, something new can be built. To do that, we have to behave in extraordinary ways.

We need to acknowledge our fears, but not act out of fear. Fear leads to bad decisions and constricted vision,

just when we need to see most clearly. "Hold on, hold on, hold the vision, that's being born," our cluster chanted in Quebec City at the FTAA protests. It may be that the most radical thing we can do right now is to act from our vision, not our fear, and to believe in the possibility of its realization. Every force around us is pushing us to close down, insulate,



retreat. Instead, we need to advance, but in a different way. We're called to take a leap into the unknown.

As a movement, we've often been accused of lacking a clear vision of the world we want. I think we do have a vision, it includes diversity and rejects uniform, dogmatic formulations. Within all its varied forms there's a clear common ground: We want a world of liberty and justice for all. It sounds downright patriotic, but if you think about its ramifications, they are

revolutionary. We also want a world in which no one has to fear violence, which is the ultimate violation of freedom.

This is the moment to reinvent our approach, our strategies and our tactics, to believe in the possibility of moving people to act from hope, to act in the service of what they love. What would this look like? It would mean embodying the world we want to create in our own movement and in our actions. Times of grief and anguish can strengthen our bonds.

Our solidarity must go deeper than we've ever known before. Solidarity means listening to each other with respect, and it means being willing to protect and support people with whom we may disagree on many levels, or who might simply irritate us. Solidarity means strengthening our practice of direct democracy, our openness and communication with each other, our willingness to bring everyone to the table and give everyone affected by a decision a voice in making it. It means putting aside our usual internal politicking and treating each other with openness and trust. This is not simple to do. But in a moment when the ordinary patterns of life around us have been shattered, shifting our own patterns of behavior may actually be easier. Perspectives change, and the issues that last week seemed so important may now seem trivial.

We have to ask ourselves, what makes the most sense? What is most visionary? I'd like to see whatever we do involve some kind of process of mutual discussion and education around our visions of alternatives. And I'd like to see us take that vision outside of our groups and to bring in voices from the community to teach us about their issues and concerns. That could be a teach-in, or maybe a learn-in, where we go out into the community and ask people how issues of power and inequality affect their lives, or what their visions are of the world they want.

continued on page 40

ARE YOU A PATRIOT OR A TERRORIST?

INTENSIFYING DOMESTIC REPRESSION

BY WARCRY

The "Death Star" is fully operational.

It's been more than a month since the September 11 (9/11) attacks. When the wind blows your way in lower Manhattan you can still smell the putrid mix of concrete dust and corpses. As the rubble continues to smoke at ground zero, US bombs have started dropping on Afghanistan.

Civilian casualties in Afghanistan are estimated by international sources to range between several dozen to upward of 200. With a press blackout imposed by the Bush administration, accurate information is difficult to access. Americans may not have to live with a rain of cluster bombs in a relentless, round the clock bombing campaign but what Americans will have to live with is the rapid intensification of our own police state. Although Osama bin Laden has been portrayed as the terrorist poster boy of the century, the question we need to ask isn't simply who did this, but rather who benefits from these attacks?

As traumatized people and a shocked nation attempt to comprehend and recover from the terrorist attacks of 9/11, in New York and Washington, DC—the Bush administration shows no sign of hesitation or doubt as it takes full political advantage of these stunning developments to ram its agenda through Congress.

Provide Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (PATRIOT) a.k.a. The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2001

This proposed legislation is consistent with the decades-long pattern of militarizing domestic policing and crushing internal unrest.

The libertarian CATO Institute harshly criticized the Anti-Terrorist Act, saying, "Everything that terrorists do is already illegal. Current laws already provide ample authority for investigations of potential terrorists. The sensational threat of terrorism should not be used as a pretext for

stripping fundamental freedoms from the American people. Public safety in the long run is best protected by vigorous enforcement of the Constitution, not by giving more power to federal agencies that abuse the powers they already have."

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) criticizes provisions of the bill that should be carefully reviewed for "their due process and privacy implications" including proposals to eliminate the statute of limitations in terrorism offenses as well as increasing all terrorism penalties to possible life sentences. The bill also seeks to expand Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO), which worries the ACLU. The RICO statute is broad and creates First Amendment concerns by prosecuting people on the basis of guilt by association.

Press Blackout

As usual, the media is playing the role of cheerleader for state propaganda. Bush himself has introduced an information blackout on upcoming military operations. On September 27, Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR) issued an alert "Nightly News Glosses Over Anti-Terrorism Act." The report states that "despite the magnitude of the changes the bill proposes, a search of the Nexis database of news transcripts shows that neither *CBS Evening News* nor *NBC Nightly News* has aired a single report exploring the legislation's potential impact. *ABC World News Tonight* has aired one report, going so far as to state as fact the idea that security concerns will necessitate a loss of civil liberties. Introducing a related report about the newly established Office of Homeland Security, anchor Tom Brokaw said that the office's name "sounds like something out of a totalitarian regime," but nonetheless "the attacks proved that something in America has to change." NBC's Andrea Mitchell went on to report that "no one really knows how much authority the new security czar will really have"—suggesting that to stay safe, Americans must surrender liberties without even pausing to ask which ones."



Threats to Direct Action Movements

A statement made before the House Judiciary Committee by Rachel King, legislative counsel to the ACLU on the Anti-terrorism Act of 2001, identifies "significant civil liberties problems. It is our strong belief that other provisions go far beyond addressing the events of 9/11."

Of great concern to direct action movements is that "the definition of terrorism under current law is already broad enough to include certain acts of civil disobedience. This bill would expand the already broad definition. For example, people involved in the demonstrations at the World Bank or protesting the bombing missions near Vieques Island, may fall within the definition of terrorism," according to King.

King offered the following hypothetical situation—that a college student could be charged under the federal terrorism statute for damaging a federal building during a demonstration by breaking a window. The government would be authorized to obtain a sample of the person's DNA, eliminate the statute of limitations, release secret grand jury evidence to military, intelligence or immigration authorities, use RICO to investigate anyone who has ever attended a meeting with the defendant, or sentence the person to life in prison.

PATRIOT descriptions of terrorism include minor property destruction, with a protester receiving a sentence of life in prison. Eric Sterling, president of the Criminal Justice Policy Foundation, says, "Even kids carrying Boy Scout knives who vandalize traffic signs can be labeled terrorists." Any use or threat to use a weapon against person or property "other than for mere personal monetary gain" would constitute terrorism.

As proposed, PATRIOT would allow prosecution of people who "support" the activities of "terrorist organizations," even if those organizations were not considered "terrorist" when the support was given. For example, a legal alien could be deported today for having lawfully contributed in the past to an organization such as the African National Congress, which used both military and nonviolent tactics. That means a financial donation to your favorite campaign could be considered "support" for terrorists.

Roving Wiretaps and Electronic Surveillance

Law enforcement officials would be able to track the addresses of email messages sent and received by "suspected terrorists" without a search warrant, as they can now obtain telephone numbers called by suspects. The Anti-Terrorism Act would also make it easier for the government to seize educational records.

Officials would be able to obtain a court order to wiretap the telephone of a specific suspect rather than just a specific telephone, eliminating the need to get new wiretap authority each time a "suspect" changes telephones, pay phones, friends' houses, etc. Attorney General John Ashcroft wants Congress to let police use wiretaps more freely, arrest and deport people without warrants or hearings. Allowing the seizure of email and voicemail would encourage greater cooperation between the CIA and FBI, possibly leading to CIA operations inside the US, which is currently barred under US law.

Secret Searches

Other provisions that worry the ACLU include "Sneak and Peak" searches. This means that the government could enter your house or office with a search warrant when you are away, conduct a search, seize or copy things such as your computer hard drive and not tell you until months later. According to King, ACLU is, "The Administration is not seeking this power for the limited purpose of investigating serious crimes of terrorism, but is asking to expand it to every single search warrant for any criminal case."

Expanding the DNA Database

Speaking of unreasonable searches and seizures, the federal government will be able to raid your body for "evidence" as well. The ACLU points out that "there are no provisions for destroying DNA samples once they

are no longer needed, which means that the government will have access to highly personal information that is unrelated to criminal investigations."

Once again, King stresses, "The above-listed provisions are not necessary to prosecute serious cases of terrorism because the law already covers those cases. Where these provisions will be applied is in the less serious cases that are prosecuted under the terrorism statute."

Grand Juries

"Under current law, information obtained during a grand jury is secret and only disclosed in limited circumstances to attorneys and law enforcement officers working on the case," said King, adding that "our country has long prohibited the military from investigating civilian criminal cases." Sharing information from criminal cases with intelligence, military and immigration authorities blurs the functions of the various organizations and risks violating the constitutional principle of keeping the military out of civilian law enforcement. Many persons investigated by the grand jury are not indicted. Keeping the proceedings secret safeguards reputations from being damaged by unfounded accusations.

Conspiracy Laws

According to King, another alarming section of PATRIOT "would make the crime of attempted terrorism or conspiracy to commit terrorism punishable to the same degree as the underlying offense of terrorism. One could also interpret this provision as a back-door attempt to expand the death penalty." King continued, "Another reading of this provision would require anyone convicted of attempt or conspiracy to be punished as if he or she had completed the offense. This expansion could create some very unjust results.

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A Look at Environmental Issues During Wartime

BY JAMES BELL

"We're the most bombed nation on Earth," proclaimed Chief Raymond Yowell of the Western Shoshone National Council at a 1997 protest against nuclear testing in Nevada. In terms of environmental damage from America's historic war efforts, the US has at times suffered worse than many of our enemies. Two nuclear bombs fell on Japan, but more than 900 have been detonated in Nevada—the homeland of the Western Shoshone. Wartime takes its toll directly on many human lives, but it also indirectly impacts millions more as the effects of wartime exercises, research and combat ripple through the environment and our communities. Only in the last century has the world begun to understand the environmental impacts of war.

I lived with the Western Shoshone for four years and saw how nuclear research has impacted not just them, but scores of Nevada's "downwinders." Western Shoshone elder Carrie Dann recounted a tale of the Shoshone families who were never informed of the nuclear experiments in their backyard. They witnessed the first mushroom cloud on the horizon and hid in ditches along the road thinking the world was ending. Considering the number of Shoshone and others who contracted cancer and ultimately died, the thought has come frighteningly true for many.

I spent much of my 1970s childhood in the forests of Palos Park just south of Chicago. Red Gate Woods was a place to picnic and explore. Little did I know that years earlier it was the secret birthplace of the atomic bomb. Red Gate Woods was a legally protected area for preservation purposes under the Illinois Forest Preserve District Act of 1913. This statute of the Forest Preserve District strictly forbade transfer of the land for any other use—unless of course the US needed a place to secretly research the effects of radiation on animals while building an atomic

bomb. Wartime priorities were used for appropriation of wildlands for war-related research and experiments, as well as an excuse to open national forests for intensive commodity extraction.

If you hike in Red Gate Woods today, all that remains from this period are a couple of large stone markers. This is where the world's first two nuclear reactors, built by physicist Enrico Fermi in 1942 and 1943, are buried. In compliance with the "friendly condemnation procedures of the Department of War," the Cook County's Argonne Forest Commission agreed to lease the forest preserves to the federal government for the duration of war pursuits. The Chicago Pile-1 nuclear reactor birthed the first controlled chain reaction under the bleachers of the University of Chicago's Stagg Field. It later was moved and buried next to the second reactor, Chicago Pile-2, that was developed solely in Red Gate Woods. Plot M is nearby and identified by a large "tombstone"—it is believed to be the Earth's first nuclear waste dump.

The Chicago wilderness and Nevada's Great Basin are only a few of war's environmental casualties. When World War II began, the Department of War intensified its research into chemical warfare and decided against conducting tests in populated areas. Utah's Dugway Proving Ground was born. I hiked near this isolated place only a few years ago. The high winds and sand dunes stand in stark contrast to Salt Lake City some 85 miles to the northeast. I tried to block out of my mind the experiments that took place here and instead focused on the beautiful ghostly environment. Dugway was where biological warfare research on animals took place, where flame-throwers and other implements of war were developed. While Nazi Germany carried out its holocaust, wartime in the US brought a holocaust to the wild.

Dugway continued operations through the Korean and Vietnam wars.

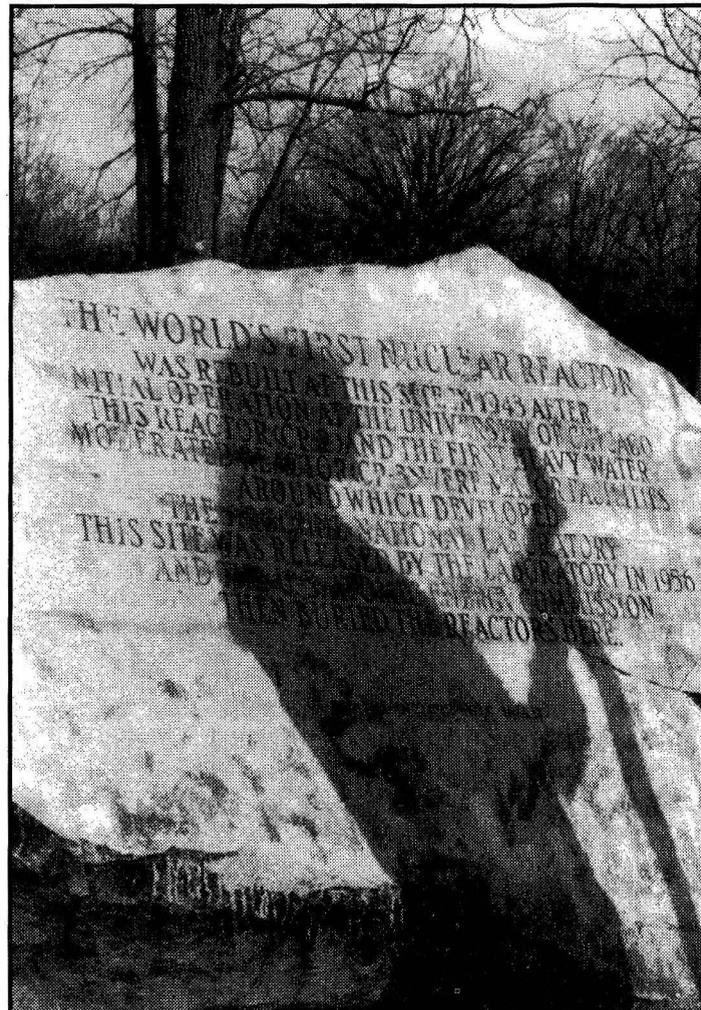


Photo by James Bell

Radioactive waste burial sites from the government's Manhattan Project

In March 1968, 6,400 sheep were killed just outside Dugway in Skull Valley, their deaths linked to a deadly nerve agent called VX. The incident caused international uproar and coincided with the birth of the modern environmental movement. Still, Dugway survived and in the 1990s was modernized out of concern to stay abreast of toxic agents being developed in Iraq, Southeast Asia and Afghanistan.

Chemical warfare experiments have been carried out on many of our wildlands. Places with low human populations, like Utah, Nevada and Alaska, have been hit hardest. Nerve and mustard gas rockets, as well as germ and gas-laden artillery, were literally forgotten for years—with some “stored” on top of a frozen lake in Alaska. President Eisenhower understood the contradictions of war when he proclaimed in 1958, “The problem

with defense is how far you can go without destroying from within what you are trying to protect from without.”

War research and experiments continue to exact a toll on the planet’s environment. Actual warfare remains the most visible form of environmental destruction. The aerial bombing of Yugoslavia by NATO created significant environmental damage, including the destruction of a chemical factory in Pancevo. For the first time, the environmental damage caused by war received an unprecedented level of international attention. Similarly, when Iraq set fire to Kuwait’s oil fields at the end of the Persian Gulf War, the environmental damage was discussed worldwide.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and its aftermath resulted in the adoption of a resolution in 1992 by the United Nations General Assembly on “the protection of the environment in time of conflict.” The resolution stated that “destruction of the environment not justified by military necessity and carried out wantonly is clearly contrary to international law.” Then in 1993 and 1994 the International Committee of the Red Cross prepared guidelines for the protection of the environment during armed conflict that have since been included in military manuals.

In the wake of the Gulf War, 13 countries submitted environmental claims totaling \$48 billion to the United Nations. The United Nations Security Council is now processing the claims with the help of leading environmental experts. The Iraqi government will have to pay the bill, but it is unclear whether they will be able to submit a counter claim against America’s unprecedented carpet-

bombing of their country. This is the first time an international entity was ever charged with the assessment and valuation of environmental damage from war.

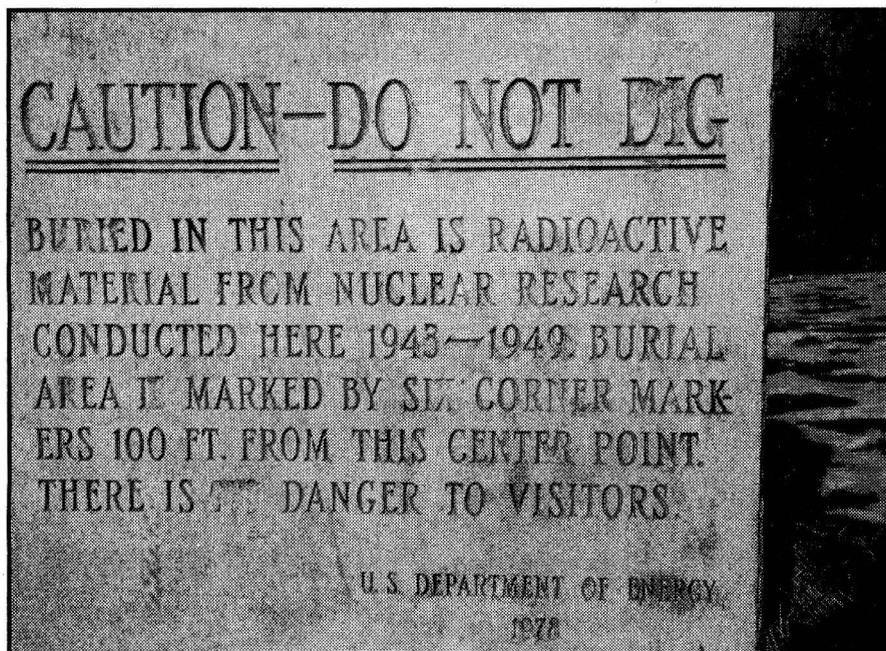
The greatest environmental threat that current conflicts pose will be how they accelerate development of new technology without regard to precautions like extensive safety testing. Many technologies currently under development like biotech vaccinations,

nanotech weapons and robotic warriors could see deployment ahead of any considerations for their lasting impact on the planet. The world could repeat the mistakes it made in the past with nuclear proliferation—only this time the unprecedented power of advanced self-replicating technologies could cause even wider destruction.

The sentiment in the US today is directed more at retribution and less on caution. The terrorist attacks of September 11 have sparked outrage, but also a national reflection on why the US is so disliked in the world. One should remember that today’s movements for social and environmental justice are global.

While the current political climate may make it difficult for activists in the US to be critical of the Bush administration’s environmental policies, other countries are not so hampered.

The times ahead present many challenges, but they also offer opportunities to work internationally on these and other issues. The world may, for the first time in history, see the rise of a popular global peace, environmental and social justice movement that spans issues, cultures and borders. If good can come from war, then this will be it.



World’s first nuclear waste dump “Plot M,” Red Gate Woods, Palos Park, Illinois

Photo by James Bell

When things go wrong, we seldom put the blame in the right place, we just find a convenient scapegoat. We just like to kill things when we are frustrated over problems that seem to be getting out of control. Why do we stick so stubbornly to the mistaken faith that there is no problem we create that we cannot solve in a painless way—a way that involves plenty of power and no sacrifice? This dreadful misconception is at the heart of all the troubles that now afflict our civilization, including our self-destructive relationship to the rest of nature, our self-destructive technology and our self-destructive economic system.

—DAVID EHRENFIELD SPEAKING ON THE PLEIGHT OF ENDANGERED SONGBIRDS AT A US MILITARY BASE IN TEXAS

AMERICA'S GREENS RALLY TO FLAG

BY ALEXANDER COCKBURN
AND JEFFREY ST. CLAIR

Hot to present themselves as staunch flag-waggers, some of America's premier environmental organizations have disgracefully ditched their principles.

The Sierra Club, America's oldest green group, has abruptly turned off its campaign against the anti-environmental program of the Bush administration.

"In response to the attacks on America," an internal memo goes, "we are shifting our communications strategy for the immediate future. We have taken all of our ads off of the air; halted our phone banks; removed any material from the web that people could perceive as anti-Bush, and we are taking steps to prevent the Sierra Club from being perceived as controversial during this crisis. For now we are going to stop aggressively pushing our agenda and will cease bashing President Bush."

The memo then instructs club staffers on how to respond to the press: "If you are asked about what this terrorism does to the Sierra Club's agenda, please respond simply by saying that right now the public needs to focus on comforting each other and strengthening our national security to deal with the crisis at hand."

Imagine if this craven posture spreads across the public interest movement. We could expect First Amendment defenders to say that they were abandoning efforts to protect the Bill of Rights. We could expect groups defending immigrants to say that henceforth the Immigration and Naturalization Service should be given free rein. Fortunately,

First Amendment defenders and defenders of immigrants have stronger spines and principles than the supposed defenders of the environment at the Sierra Club. Are we now to expect the Sierra Club to endorse drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as necessary "for national security?"

The Berkeley-based International Rivers Network (IRN), which has been the main bulwark against the Three Gorges dam in China, announced that it was suspending its planned nation-

the safety of all, we will refrain from participating in activities surrounding the planned World Bank/IMF meetings. We are also sharing our concerns with the leading organizations responsible for planning and coordinating these activities."

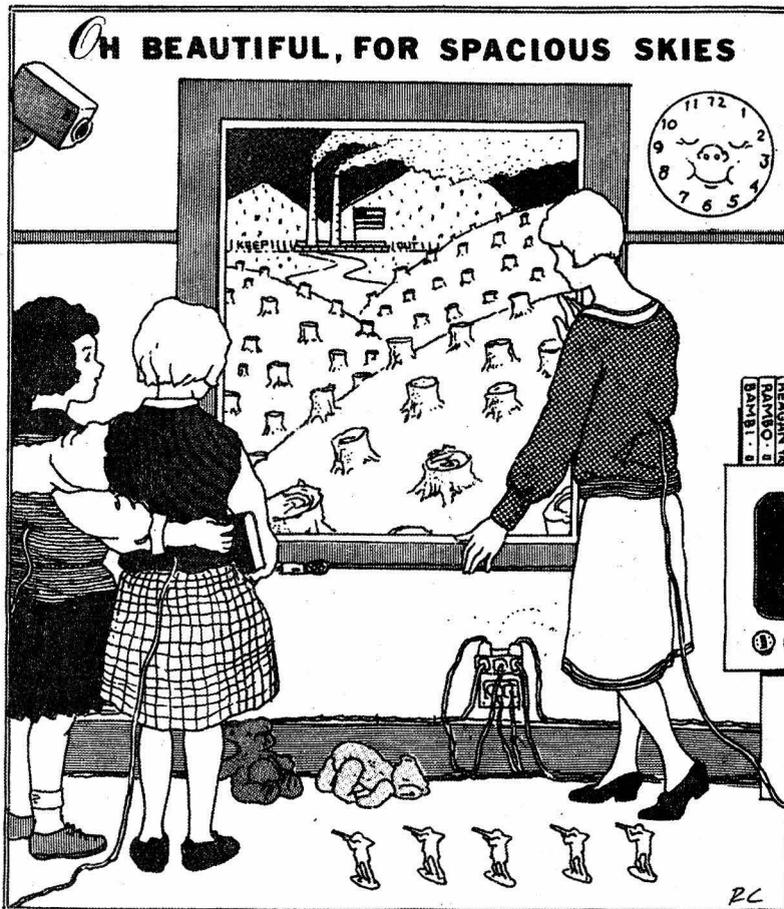
The Ruckus Society, the direct action training group involved in many demonstrations against the World Trade Organization announced that it was canceling its training camp, to be held in Middleburgh, Virginia—

scheduled as preparation for the next World Bank meeting. This camp was to be cosponsored by the Institute for Policy Studies, Jobs with Justice and Global Exchange. All of these organizations backed out, saying that now is not the time for such activity.

The Rainforest Action Network, based in San Francisco, called for the cancellation of the protest and said that in the event it were to go forward it would not participate.

Let's get this straight. If all resisters to Bush's political program were to follow this shameful exhibition by these green groups, we would see peace groups declining to protest against nuclear attacks on Iraq and armed invasion of Afghanistan. We would see civil rights activists sitting

on their hands as racial and religious profiling is used to persecute people of Middle Eastern descent. Defenders of Palestinian rights would say that for the time being they wouldn't protest the use of US Apache helicopters against civilians in West Bank towns and villages. What nonsense! Principles are never more important than when it is inconvenient or dangerous to stand up for them.



artwork by R. Crenitis

AND RUN FOR COVER

Big Oil's Kamikaze

Representative Don Young, the wild man from Alaska, was one of the few members of Congress who didn't completely buy into the notion of Osama bin Laden as the mastermind of the attacks on the World Trade complex and the Pentagon. There's some possibility, Young told the *Alaska Daily News*, that the attacks are linked to the protests against the World Trade Organization. "If you watched what happened (at past protests) in Genoa, Italy and even in Seattle,

rescue workers mulling through the rubble at the World Trade Center complex may well be in the whirlwind of a toxic event, which has received little media attention and almost no precautionary aid from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Early reports from the Environmental Protection Agency described the destruction of the World Trade complex "an environmental catastrophe." The air of Manhattan is clotted with asbestos, dioxin and other

poisons. Yet, rescue workers find themselves with little more than surgical masks between their lungs and the poisons emanating from the smoldering ruins.

For years, the Pentagon and other terror pundits had been warning of the vulnerability of American cities

Are we now to expect the Sierra Club to endorse drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as necessary for national security?... Principles are never more important than when it is inconvenient or dangerous to stand up for them.

there's some expertise in that field," Young said. "I'm not sure they're that dedicated, but ecoterrorists—which are really based in Seattle—there's a strong possibility that could be one of the groups."

Young doesn't believe any of this. But he smells weakness in the environmental movement and, like the old fur trapper that he is, he is poised to exploit it. Young is not beneath using the carnage of the World Trade Center as a launching ground for his own agenda: oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, logging in the Tongass rainforest, passing laws against environmental protest and construction of new missile bases in the Alaska tundra and on the Aleutian Islands.

Chemical War in Manhattan

As environmentalists are putting themselves into a state of suspended animation, the citizens of Manhattan and the thousands of volunteer

to attack by biological and chemical weapons, the so-called asymmetrical warfare. These apocalyptic scenarios held that terrorist groups would unleash anthrax or sarin gas attacks in subways, water supplies or mega-office buildings, such as the World Trade towers. It turns out that the attackers didn't need to pack any chemicals, the buildings themselves proved to be quite toxic enough. The attackers used American planes as missiles and the buildings as chemical weapons.

Built during the height of the asbestos boom, the guts of the World Trade Center may have been one of the world's largest repositories of the carcinogenic fiber, used as insulation in the giant towers.

Underneath the rubble, thousands of tires continue to burn, sending plumes of pitch black smoke down the canyons of Manhattan. This smoke is contaminated with dioxins and assorted other poisons of the petrochemical age.

BARE BONES

ELF Subpoenaed by Congressional Committee

Colorado Representative Scott McInnis announced October 3 that he will hold a hearing next February to probe the threat of eco-terrorism and hear testimony from the subpoenaed Craig Rosebraugh. The hearing will take place in the House Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health.

"In probing the threat of terrorism, it only stands to reason that Congress should probe the threat of eco-terrorism as well," McInnis said. "It is crucial that we hear the voice of someone who has the most intimate understanding and deepest sympathy for the work of these underground eco-terrorist organizations like ELF."

In September the House Resources Committee agreed to issue a subpoena to ELF spokesman Craig Rosebraugh, who had rejected an invitation in July asking him to testify. Rosebraugh said he had no desire to cooperate "with the same state that is directly responsible for the ongoing murder and exploitation of life both within this country and internationally."

"This is the appropriate time and venue for this hearing because, in many instances, the national forests have been ground zero for eco-terrorist groups," McInnis said. "Terrorist attacks have had a dramatic impact on America... ELF's attacks have had an appreciable impact on the decision making climate surrounding the management of the National Forests."

Earth Liberation Front Press Officers Resign

Craig Rosebraugh and Leslie James Pickering stepped down from their duties as press officers for the North American Earth Liberation Front on September 5. The two stated that if the Earth Liberation Front is to be a viable movement, public concentrations of support must not be centered on one or two people. The independent website www.earthliberationfront.com will continue to report on ELF actions worldwide.

Anti-Columbus Day Protest Disrupted by Police Violence

Indictment Served to University to Stop Mt. Graham Desecration

BY ROGER FEATHERSTONE

About four dozen defenders of the Earth meet on a school playground. They come in all shapes and sizes and most colors. We've heard "President" Bush's pleas for citizens to return to their normal routines and remain calm. Being the upstanding folks that we are, we readily comply with our "president's" wishes.

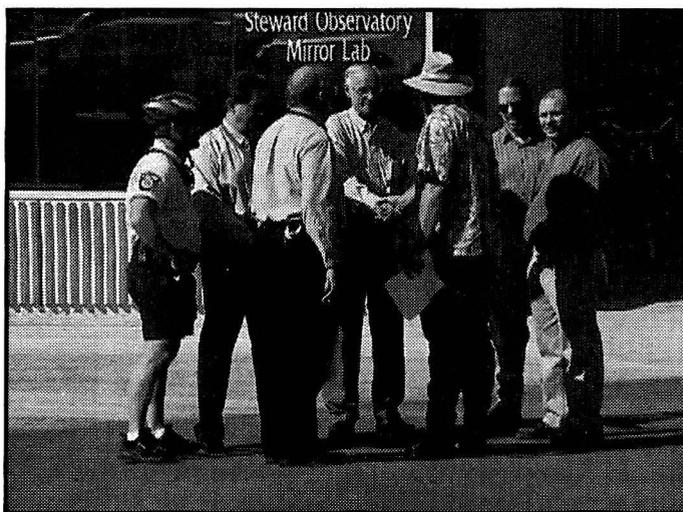
It's Columbus Day and the anniversary of 509 years of terrorist activities against North America's First Nations and its other inhabitants (you know: the rocks, trees, waters and other living things). A plan is hatched, and we are ready.

We are headed to the University of Arizona (UA) campus in Tucson to deliver a criminal indictment to UA personnel responsible for desecrating Mount Graham in a pitiful attempt to make money and feel important. The telescope project on Mount Graham is the epitome of what Columbus Day represents. The indictment charges UA and known perpetrators—Steward Observatory Associate Director Buddy Powell, Peter Stritmatter, Michael Cusanovich, Father George Coyne, Father Charles Polzer and former UA employee and all around bad guy Steve Emerine—with crimes against the Earth, the Apache, Yaqui and all indigenous peoples. It orders them to "adhere to all environmental, cultural and religious freedom laws previously violated and to cease and desist all construction on *Dzil nchaa si an* and vacate all surrounding areas immediately."

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The plan is peaceful. We are to walk to the Steward Observatory Mirror Lab, where mirrors are being made for the Columbus telescope on Mount Graham, serve the indictment to at least one of the perpetrators, chant, sing, get our point across and then leave. No one plans to do anything to risk arrest.

Some of the group decide to wear bandannas over their faces. If you know anything about the Mount Graham story, you know that UA does not



Buddy Powell receives the indictment.

conduct itself in the manner an institution of higher learning is supposed to—unless universities are supposed to routinely commit the seven deadly sins, that is! We have the usual assortment of signs and banners, including some attached to poles donated from someone's garden. Standard fare, no big deal.

The group looks for a volunteer who knows at least a little about the issue to serve the indictment. Since I don't duck quickly enough and fit the bill, I



Activists from several Native tribes, as well as non-native activists, pay a visit to the UA Mirror Lab. The flag reads, "Occupied States of America."

am selected. This is a bit of a deviation from my original plan to join the festivities, take a few photos and otherwise occupy the sidelines. However, it's been a long time since I've been back in this saddle and as we begin our walk to the Mirror Lab, I'm starting to feel pumped about the whole affair.

We get to the Mirror Lab and walk in the front door. None of our indictees are visible and as the inside door is open, some continue the search. Mirror Lab personnel get excited and begin shoving folks back through the door. The scene is tense for a minute or two until the Mirror Lab folks calm down. Drums are beating, whistles are blowing, folks are chanting and everything seems cool. Then the UA police show up and ask us to leave. We comply. Not fast enough it seems as the UA police push us out the door. We regroup on the street as reinforcements from the Tucson Police Department (TPD) show up.

Buddy Powell arrives with a police escort, and I serve Buddy with the indictment and engage in a little polite banter. This wears thin quickly and after taking a rain check on his offer of sitting down to have a cup of coffee to discuss his concept of what real science is, I rejoin the rest of the group.

The cops are getting restless and order us to leave the vicinity of the Mirror Lab. They tell us that we can go to the UA Mall and have our say in an area designated for free speech. Again,

photo courtesy SkyGraph

photo courtesy SkyGraph

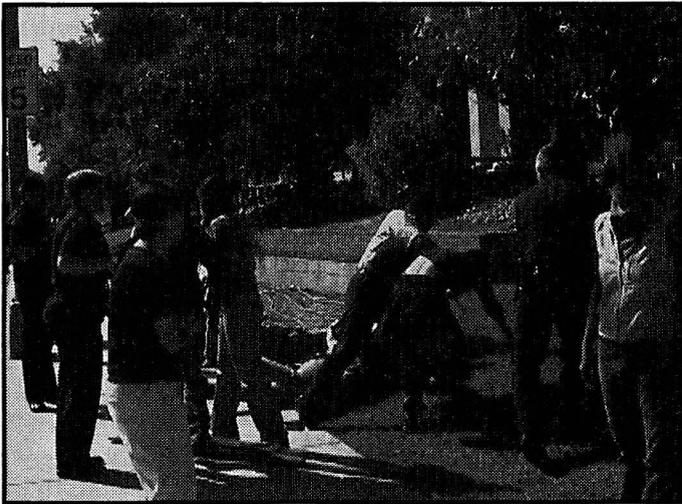


photo courtesy SkyGraph

Without warning, the cops start tackling people.

we comply.

Halfway to our destination, we are suddenly surrounded by a large mob of UA and TPD officers. They begin to herd us into a corner and tell us we are being "detained for questioning." Several folks that were leaving the demonstration were pulled back across the street against their will (note that at this time no one has been told they are under arrest) and then manhandled to the ground and handcuffed. Those that are wearing bandannas are ordered to remove them. Those that don't comply instantly have them ripped from their faces. All are stunned, and the mood quickly turns tense and ugly.

Here's the scene now: A yellow police ribbon ropes us off from freedom. The people roughed up by the police lay on the ground in one corner of our corral with cops hanging heavy over them. The rest of us sit or stand in small groups trying to figure out what is going on. All we know is that the UA, as they've done in the past, has falsely accused us of assault, saying that several Mirror Lab employees were hurt, one bad enough to be taken to the hospital. Cops surround us and crowds of bystanders gather.

A UA detective, schooled in the now-out-of-fashion notion that citizens

have a right and a duty to express themselves freely by protesting and to be treated with respect and dignity while doing so, approaches me and a friend. "Would you like to stay or [would you rather] go?" he asks. "That depends," I answer, "what are you planning to do?" He doesn't answer. "Can we

take another person over there with the video camera," we ask pointing to one of our photographers. "Sure," he says, and we step under the tape and leave the corral.

A moment later even more cops show up, this time with paddy wagons and plastic handcuffs. It's now apparent that they intend to arrest everyone within the corral. We've been duped, and we didn't see it coming. Within the hour, 30 people have been arrested.



photo courtesy SkyGraph

Free speech, UA style: In all 30 people are arrested on bogus charges.

All are charged with felony rioting. Some are also charged with aggravated assault and resisting arrest. They are arraigned and sent to jail for processing. It's six a.m. the next day before the last one is released.

Then the media hits. "Authorities arrested 30 people on rioting charges after they stormed a University of Arizona building Friday and fought with officers who tried to subdue them," blares one newspaper article.

continued on next page

BARE BONES

Genetically Modified Corn Blocks Human Conception

Scientists at the San Diego biotechnology company Epicyte have created genetically modified (GM) contraceptive corn following their discovery of a rare class of human antibodies that attack sperm.

"We have a hothouse filled with corn plants that make anti-sperm antibodies," said Epicyte President Mitch Hein.

"We have also created corn plants that make antibodies against the herpes virus, so we should be able to make a plant-based jelly that not only prevents pregnancy but also blocks the spread of sexual disease."

Contraceptive corn is based on research on the rare condition, immune infertility, in which a woman makes antibodies that attack sperm.

Normally, biologists use bacteria to grow human proteins. However, Epicyte decided to use corn because plants have cellular structures that are much more like those of humans, making them easier to manipulate.

The company says it will not grow the corn near other crops. It plans to launch clinical trials of the corn in a few months.

Anti-GM Activists Killed

Ranchers allegedly arranged the murders of eight Brazilian peasant leaders this summer to silence them or to grab their small holdings in Amazonia, and 45 farmers are said to be on a new hitlist in a long-running dispute over their right to grow GM-free crops.

About 800 organic farmers gathered in the city of Belem with members of the Landless Workers' Movement to demand the killers be brought to justice. They say the ranchers' political clout and military backing has led to 19 deaths in their ranks, eight this year.

The ranchers, with outside investors, are putting pressure on the cash-strapped federal government to drop a long-standing ban on GM crops. At a citizens' court, a jury voted unanimously before the planting season to uphold a ban on GM crops.

Columbus Day Police Violence Continued

continued from previous page

A quote from UA's police chief says, "They acted as a group and identified themselves as part of a group by wearing similar brown masks. They forced their way into a building. They carried long sharpened sticks that could have caused serious injury. They assaulted university employees. When they were removed from one building, they began walking through campus, still concealing their identities and still carrying the sharpened sticks."

Remember the garden stakes and the bandannas? UA's mouthpiece said, "All of us are in such a heightened state of sensitivity that certainly when you see a large number of people in masks moving through the campus environment it is disconcerting to say the least."

Within a week, all charges against the arrestees were dropped.

Thoughts and Lessons

Timing: The UA and TPD say we had no right to protest in light of the September World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks. Yeah right! The Bushites are attempting to ram through Congress every wet dream the wingnuts on the far right have had from voodoo economics to defining actively defending our natural heritage as terrorism. While the terrorist attacks in September were horrible, similar acts of terrorism are being perpetrated every day against nature. Lesson: Be sensitive to the current mood, but don't let it get in the way of protecting Mother Earth. Let's make sure life goes on.

Charges: First time I've ever seen peaceful demonstrators attacked by police and then charged with rioting! However, it won't be the last. Criminals and corporations will take every advantage of the current mood to destroy as much as they can and reap the profits. Lesson: No one is doing this because it's easy. Hang in there, keep your head down, don't be stupid and move forward. Everyone should

be told at the start of an action, no matter how benign, that the possibility exists for arrests to happen. Legal and other support arrangements should be made now more than ever!



photo courtesy SkyGraph

This is a riot?

Bandannas and Poles: UA used a real cheap shot, but we gave them the angle. Lesson: Poles and other props

been a long time since he's written for the Journal, and he's damn proud to submit this article.

So You've Gone and Gotten Yourself Arrested

A Citizen's Guide to that First Time in Jail

BY UNCLE RAMON



"Hi. My name is Sherri. I killed my husband."

With this greeting, Peggy Sue M _____, an artist-in-residence at _____ University and Jennifer P _____, a schoolteacher from Iowa, were welcomed to their first of many jails in central Idaho. Since most such facilities in rural areas have separate (but equal) space for only four or five female occupants at any given time, they spend a good part of their six-month sentences for hugging trees being transferred from one jail to another. Thus, they became well versed on those issues that women everywhere need to know when contemplating doing time. There are three:

A. Underwear. Some jails will let you keep your flowered cottons, but the Victoria's Secret stuff is a no-no. Others require that you wear their panties,

need to be as non-threatening as possible while still allowing us to get the point across. Bandannas, I go both ways on that one. I understand the reason for wearing them, but right now might not be the best time.

Why did they let the white boys go?: Dunno, but as I told someone from the media who asked me that question, "I guess UA didn't figure the picture of a bunch of big white men on the ground in handcuffs was the image they wanted to get out." Am I glad they let us go? Mostly, but still there lingers the wish that I'd stayed...

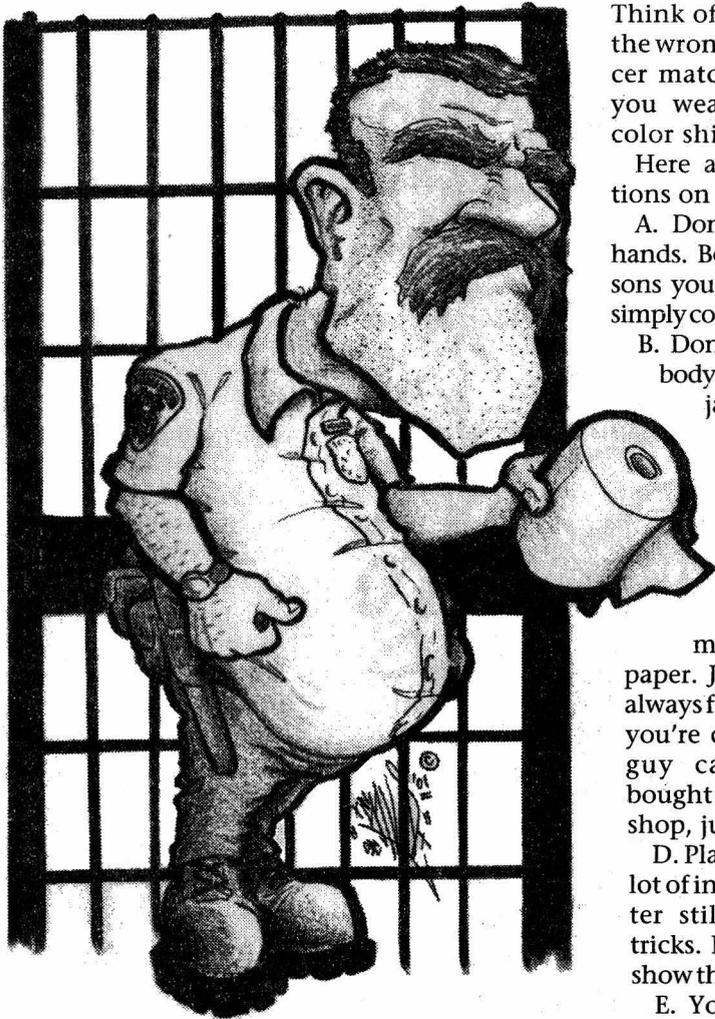
Roger Featherstone is with the Mount Graham Coalition and until recently directed GREEN, the Grassroots Environmental Effectiveness Network. He's worked to protect Mount Graham since his early EF! days many years ago. It's

been a long time since he's written for the Journal, and he's damn proud to submit this article.

ancient one-size-fits-all beauties with little or no snap in the elastic. T-shirts are issued in lieu of bras and jumpsuits cover everything, or are intended to. Usually the panties are two sizes too big and the jump suits two sizes too small. If you lower the straps to relieve the pressure on your crotch, a guard's voice, usually male, will blare through the loudspeaker in your cell. "Miz (your name); pull your straps up." After doing so, you should wait a few minutes before trying it again; he has other cells to scan on his video monitors doesn't he? Nevertheless, you and your cellmates are the only girls in town so don't expect much relief before again hearing, "Hey (your name). I said pull those straps up!"

This game can be played for hours.

B. Going number one and number two. Also known in some circles as little potty and big potty. Using sheets and pillowcases stolen from the laundry



Think of having a seat in the wrong section of a soccer match in Brazil with you wearing the wrong color shirt.

Here are a few suggestions on how to cope:

A. Don't offer to shake hands. Besides the six reasons you can think of, it's simply considered bad form.

B. Don't sit until everybody else is seated. More jail fights than you care to know about start with the loud declaration: "Hey you! That's my seat!"

C. When it's your turn you may read the newspaper. Just remember to always fold it neatly when you're done so the next guy can pretend he bought it at the donut shop, just as you did.

D. Playing cards eases a lot of in-cell tension. Better still, perform card tricks. If pressed, *always* show them how it's done.

E. You may call your lawyer (collect) from your cell phone (that's a cell, not cellular). It is prudent to have worked out some form of code ahead of time. For example, one should be able to drawl, casually, "Hi Harry; how ya doin'?" Nah, I'm OK; this place ain't so bad. I'm lucky to be sharing a cell with a pretty nice bunch of guys." Your lawyer should interpret this to mean that you're terrified, and he should sell your first-born daughter into slavery to spring you.

F. The subject of sex may come up. Try to change the subject.

G. The subject of non-consensual sex may come up. See "F" above.

Finally, dear reader, never forget that every one of the inmates you meet is innocent. I don't mean innocent before the law, I mean 100 percent innocent period. Even Sherri, the self-confessed husband-killer. After all, her husband started that argument, didn't he? Therefore, an appropriate response to an opening line like hers would be to say what our schoolteacher from Iowa said: "You killed your husband? Really? Way cool."

crew, and with due attention to the video camera mounted high on the wall, a semi-private bathroom can be erected. That's the good news. The bad news is that excessive use of toilet paper is considered a monumental waste of taxpayer's money and many jails have weekly demonstrations in the proper way to wipe. The general rule of thumb seems to be two sheets for little potty and four for big potty. The good news is that this saves a few trees. By the way, those demonstrations are sometimes conducted by male guards, fully clothed, and opportunities to turn them red with embarrassment abound.

C. Feminine hygiene. I don't know, and I don't want to know.

For the most part, men face different problems, although the subject of toilet paper is a shared one. (The penalty for using too much is, you guessed it... they're slow to replace the roll.) Men in jail must deal with other men in jail, some of them with hangovers, some of them still drunk, many of them with bleeding wounds.

BARE BONES

Transgenic Corn Found Growing in Mexico

Genetically modified (GM) corn was found growing in Mexico in September, raising sensitive environmental and cultural issues in the part of the world where the crop was first cultivated centuries ago.

GM corn is widely sold for consumption in Mexico, where more than five million tons of corn are imported annually from the US. But none of the corn is grown commercially there following a 1998 government moratorium.

The disclosure of scattered plots of GM corn in the states of Oaxaca and Puebla was made by a government official.

Oaxaca, a rural southern state where maize is revered by indigenous people, is the global center of corn diversity, and the place of origin of strains grown commercially around the world. Environmentalists claim that the arrival of GM strains there could disrupt the genome of naturally bred corn.

Company to Explore for Oil Near Canyonlands

Environmental activists have vowed to fight a Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-approved plan by Denver-based Veritas DCG Land for seismic testing near Utah's Canyonlands National Park.

The proposed oil-exploration involves pounding the ground and recording seismic waves to create a three-dimensional map of the underlying geographic structure. The process will utilize four "vibroseis" trucks driven along "source lines which will lower vibrator pads to the ground at predetermined points and vibrate in unison for several minutes.

Geophone receivers laid out along a grid perpendicular to the source lines will record the seismic waves as they pass through the different layers of rock. It's estimated that there will be 109 miles of geophone receivers placed on the ground and approximately 151 miles of source lines driven.

The Big Flat oil and gas field, discovered in 1957, is believed to contain several million barrels of oil. Currently, five producing wells operate there.

Fighting an Uphill Battle

Free Speaks From Prison

BY GEORGETTE AND TURTLE

The world is dying and all most people do is kickback and watch, but for some this is not true. There is the ELF, ALF, EZLN, Blank Panthers, MOVE and of course Earth First!ers who have decided to fight for justice, respect and protection of the natural and human world.

Jeff "Free" Luers is one individual who put his freedom on the line. This summer, Free was sentenced to 22 years and eight months in prison for taking part in an action at a SUV dealership in Eugene, Oregon. Learn what happened and a bit about why.

EF!J: How did you get involved in environmental activism?

Free: Originally, I was radicalized by anti-authoritarian, anarchist beliefs, as well as animal rights. I got involved in environmentalism first in 1997, I was working for CalPIRG and canvassing for the Sierra Club. I was exposed to a lot of information I hadn't known before. It was then I started to prioritize the environmental cause.

EF!J: What motivated you to participate in direct action and eventually adopt arson as a tactic?

Free: Actually, I've been involved in direct action since I was 15. That was when I broke my first cop car window with a slingshot. I think I've always known that power cedes nothing without demand. That the only way to bring change is to fight for it.

As for using fire: It was appropriate for the situation and for the goal we wanted to achieve.

EF!J: To the critics and nay-sayers, those who think arson causes more harm than good, what would you say regarding the use of arson as an effective means of sabotage?

Free: I don't think anything I can say will change minds. I think many critics see using fire as morally wrong. But what I take into consideration on the issue is whether there are other alternatives? Are they effective? When the answer is no, then you have to up the ante. The use of fire does two things. 1. It destroys the target—which not only stops whatever destructive practice it was engaged in, it also causes severe economic damage to those responsible. 2. It

receives the most media attention. And regardless of how you look at that, the one thing you have to acknowledge is nothing has shown to be more effective drawing attention to an issue.

EF!J: Why was Romania Chevrolet the target on June 16, 2000?

Free: Romania was an easy target to strike. It also had the type of vehicles we were looking for—large trucks. And it conveniently happened to be a large dealership with several different locations.

EF!J: How did you get caught?

Free: We were tailed by three different unmarked vehicles. We made several turns and drove all around the city trying

to pick out a tail. The cops kept switching off, so one car was never behind us long. I must say though, we both had this weird feeling so my advice is always trust your instincts. Cuz, as I have learned, just because you're paranoid doesn't mean they are not behind you.

EF!J: Is there anything you would have done differently?

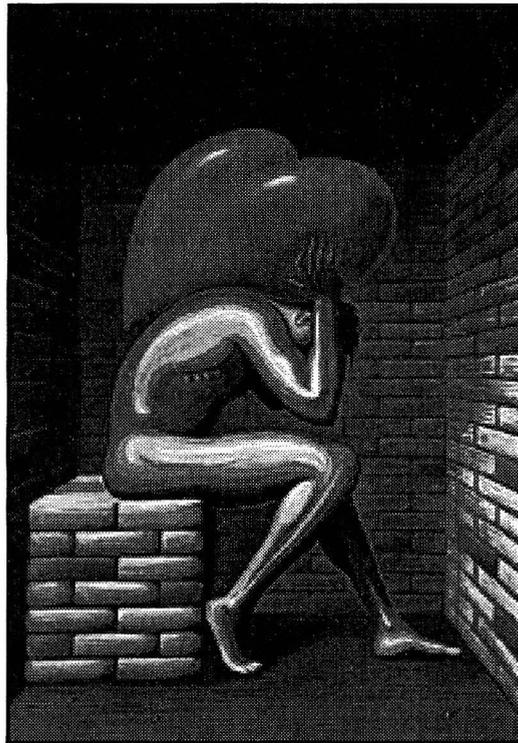
Free: I've thought a lot about this. I'm sure that I could change some things and not have gotten caught. But really I think getting caught and getting 22 plus years has done a lot of good. I know that sounds ironic, but the mainstream media has been all over it and surprisingly sympathetic. I've been given a forum to help radicalize people, to bring the dire situation our planet and we are in to the attention of those who would normally ignore it. I wouldn't have this opportunity had things worked out differently.

EF!J: Days before your trial was to begin, a second arson took place at Romania Chevrolet destroying more than 30 SUVs. Some have criticized the strategic timing of the action and the impact it could have had on your sentencing. What are your thoughts?

Free: Actually, I just wrote my critique on that action. I think that without a doubt it added to my sentence. And I think that some things could have been done differently. At the same time, I was able to use it in my defense seeing as how it was 10 times more extreme.

All in all, I have my issues with the action, but I am

continued on page 47



artwork by Eric Drooker

There are Those Who Wait for Miracles While

Toward Freedom

BY FREE

The time is 12:30 a.m. Me and Critter pass a cigarette back and forth while discussing the details. There is a sense of nervousness. My intuition is telling me something, and I say a silent prayer to any spirit guides.

We're on our way to the target, being extra cautious. There always seems to be a car behind us, but never the same one. We reach our drop-off point. No sign of anyone.

We make our way on foot—just two college kids out for a night walk. The target is a truck dealership selling commercial light trucks. The goal is to place two incendiaries under two of them. Nothing big, just a small fire to draw some attention to the dangerous plight of global warming and pollution.

Down under the truck, my heart is pounding. Wow! I'm really doing this. Why? Then I remember being a kid growing up in Los Angeles, having to stay inside some days because the smog was too bad to go outside. I was six fucking years old, and I couldn't play outside because the air was hazardous to my health. It has gotten worse since!

I flick my bic.

That was 15 months ago. I am now a prisoner at Oregon's only maximum security prison. The waiting and all the hearings that came before trial has been the most stressful time of my life.

Originally, I was arrested on criminal mischief. When I got to my first trial, I had accumulated 10 charges. By the second trial I had 13, including Arson 1 and Conspiracy to commit Arson 1 with Persons Unknown.

Trial was an uphill battle, the judge denying every one of my motions. But my attorney had hope.

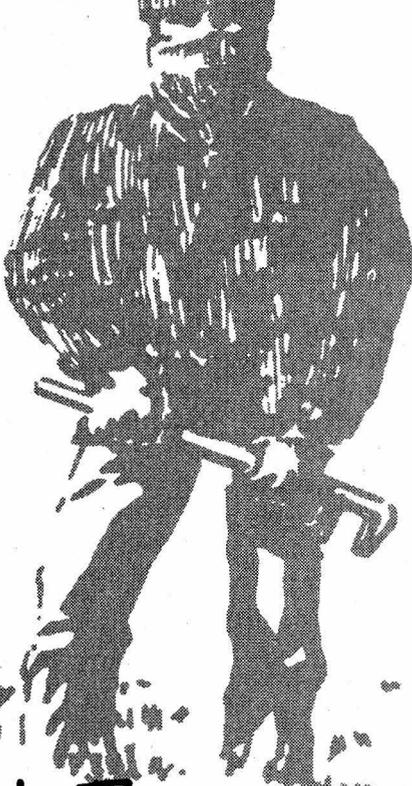
The theory behind my defense was that in the Tyree Oil case there were no witnesses, the fingerprint found on the "bomb" didn't match me and all the forensic evidence found at my warehouse was inconclusive. In the Romania case, we based our argument on the statutory language of Arson 1.

During the course of the trial several prosecution witnesses proved beneficial to me. The security guard at Romania (the "victim") testified that he was never in any danger, nor did he fear for his safety. In the recording of the 911 tape, the operator asks if it is safe for him to go check on the fire. He says yes and does.

One of the firefighters testified that the fire was eventually extinguished with the equivalent of a dry-chem fire extinguisher. The ATF agent called to the stand stated that there were no injuries and that the fire did not extend beyond the vehicles.

I had more potential witnesses, but *all* of them were considered suspects—the strategy used by the prosecution to keep a few very beneficial witnesses off the stand.

The judge had his verdict in less than an hour. I stood before him as he considered me an unfeeling uncaring human being with no regard for life. I was found guilty of 11 of the 13 charges, the conspiracy charges being dropped for lack of evidence.



Others Help Create Them — Conflict

BARE BONES

Harper Subpoenaed Again

On August 26, independent media producer Josh Harper was subpoenaed to appear before a Somerset, New Jersey grand jury which had convened to investigate the liberation of 14 beagle puppies from the Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) laboratory in East Millstone, New Jersey. Prosecutors wanted his video *This Means War*, which they say contains images of the action.

According to Harper, "I was put into a room with at least a dozen guards. I had a brief argument with the assistant prosecutor and was told that they were going to have a contempt hearing. I was sure that I was going to jail, so I asked if I could use a bathroom real quick. I stepped out of the room expecting to be taken before a judge for refusing to hand over the video or answer questions and was instead told that I was to be set free."

This is the second grand jury subpoena that Harper has received. The first asked him to give testimony about six actions in the Pacific Northwest by the underground Animal Liberation Front and Earth Liberation Front. He refused to give his interrogators any information.

700,000 Salmon Destroyed in Maine

More than 700,000 farm-raised salmon in Maine have been destroyed this year to stop the spread of a deadly virus. The disease, which has wreaked havoc on the Canadian and European salmon industries, was discovered in New Brunswick, Canada, salmon pens in 1997. The virus is harmless to humans but can cause internal bleeding in fish and destroy their organs. Farmers expect to kill 130,000 more fish after new cases of the disease, infectious salmon anemia, were found in Cobscook Bay. Officials quarantined the area, banning aquaculture boats from entering or leaving unless they are cleaned and certified. Salmon worth an estimated \$12 million have been destroyed in Maine, most of them made into fish meal or buried in a landfill.

Logging Threatens Ohio's State Forests

Treesitters Take Action!

BY MARY REED

Members of Hock-Hocking Earth First! and the Buckeye Forest Council blocked a timber sale on Ohio's Zaleski State Forest for eight days in September, the first action of its kind in the state.

The morning of August 31, loggers were surprised to arrive at a "soft blockade" of nearly 20 people blocking the road that accesses the 292-acre timber sale, which is about three times larger than the average state forest timber sale. Division of Forestry law enforcement and Ohio State Highway Patrol agents arrived and scattered the soft blockade. The logging trucks continued down the road a few feet, only to be met by a ditch and a hanging basket suspended from a traverse line and held in place by a log lashed across the road. It was impossible for the trucks to continue without harming the activist suspended in the basket.

Susan Heitker, State Forest Coordinator for the Athens-based Buckeye Forest Council, was in the basket while two other activists, Mr. Band and Dirtboy, were sitting in tree platforms on either side of the traverse line.

"We took to the trees because we've been trying for eight years to express our concerns with the timber sale program to no avail," said Heitker, "The Division of Forestry was giving us lip service."

The Ohio Division of Forestry has no public input period and does not require an Environmental Impact Statement, as the federal logging program does. Heitker addressed these concerns to the many well-wishers and reporters who stopped by during the eight day action: "The Division of Forestry has violated its own mandate to manage state forests for wildlife, recreation, timber harvesting and soil and water quality. They have neglected to follow their own department's Indiana bat strategy by not surveying for the bat and cutting during its summer roosting season. Also, their logging haul road crosses one of the two backpack trails in the state forest system. The Division of Forestry has shown a bias for timber harvesting. This is only one example."

The Indiana bat is a federally endangered species and the Zaleski State Forest may be home to the bat as well as Ohio's endangered timber rattlesnake.

Chris Crews, who provided ground support during the

action explained his viewpoint as that of no compromise. "For me, a big part of it is everyone talks about public accountability. This is, unfortunately, a beautiful example of lack of public accountability. In this case, there is no legal way to deal with this, unless you can prove with your own resources that endangered species are present there. So you either shut up and let it go on or you go out there and stand on the frontlines."

The interactions between the treesitters, support crew, loggers and Division of Forestry employees remained courteous during the action. On September 7, the treesit ended

when the Division of Forestry and loggers arrived ready to cut a new access road to the sale, bypassing the blockade.

"Three miles of road is bad enough, we couldn't stand to see additional road cut through this state forest," said Buckeye Forest Council Attorney Joe Hazelbaker.

The amount of law enforcement present on the last day of the treesit exceeded any measures necessary to handle the situation. In response to a handful of nonviolent protesters, the Division of Forestry rallied agents from the FBI, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, a SWAT team, Vinton County Sheriff's Department and high-ranking Ohio State Highway Patrol officers.

Since the activists came down, the Division of Forestry confiscated gear and cut down the two platform trees, charging the treesitters a \$150 "stump fee" in a contract area where the penalty for damaging or cutting the wrong tree carries a \$2 fine per tree. "Those trees are worth thousands of dollars, so to say that they incurred expenses in cutting them is absolutely ridiculous. The idea that they had to cut them and now they're charging us is absolutely ridiculous," maintained Hazelbaker.

A number of environmental groups are currently working with Ohio Senator Robert Hagan's office to draft and introduce legislation that would enact a temporary moratorium on all Ohio state forest logging.

Thanks to the EF! Direct Action Fund for supporting this action and getting it off the ground.

For more information, contact the Buckeye Forest Council at 11315 Jackson Dr, The Plains, OH 45780; (740) 797-7200; www.buckeyeforestcouncil.org.

Editors' Note: As the Journal goes to print, Susan Heitker was sentenced to 30 days, while Dirtboy received seven days in jail. Contact information is included on page 61.



Photos courtesy Buckeye Forest Council



Hangin' in Ohio's Zaleski State Forest

David Chain v.

Goliath Maxxam



EFJ Journal archives

David "Gypsy" Chain

Wrongful Death Settlement Reached

Gypsy. No criminal charges were filed against Ammons. No civil trial will sort out those circumstances.

The lawsuit's financial settlement was undisclosed, but the remainder of the terms address the tragic story and the desire to prevent future incidents.

The 135-foot tree that struck Gypsy will remain where it fell, and a 100-foot buffer will prevent any nearby logging. A memorial will be erected on PL property, somewhere between the fallen tree and where State Route 36 joins US Highway 101.

A "community roundtable" will also be formed to address issues surrounding the oft-dangerous logging protests. It will include the Allsbrooks, as well as representatives of PL and the Humboldt County environmental community. Humboldt County law enforcement will be asked to participate.

The Allsbrooks' attorney said he is disappointed that PL "didn't do the right thing up front." However, he said PL representatives dealing with the case seem to have shown good faith. "Let's give them the benefit of the doubt."

Shunka, an activist who was with Gypsy the day he died, said the settlement completed a circle started three years ago when Ammons killed Gypsy. Shunka hopes that the roundtable might lead to a policy change that could avoid such accidents in the future. Protests in the Mattole River valley, southwest of Scotia and PL headquarters, reached a climax in the Spring. PL, its contractors and neighboring ranches have filed a SLAPP lawsuit against dozens of forest activists. The lawsuit seeks lost wages and hardship due to the blockading of logging roads by activists, thus holding up timber operations in the area.

"We're still here fighting on, Gypsy, and you are still with us too."

BY ALMOND

On October 13, David "Gypsy" Chain's family settled a lawsuit out of court against Pacific Lumber (PL) days before the case was to go to trial. The civil lawsuit by Gypsy's parents, Cindy and David Allsbrooks, alleged that PL and its parent company, Houston-based Maxxam, were reckless and responsible for Gypsy's murder.

Gypsy was killed on September 17, 1998, while protesting the cut-and-run logging of ancient redwood forests on PL property in Northern California. He was the first person that Maxxam succeeded in killing.

On September 16, 1998, near Grizzly Creek State Park, Earth First! activists, not including Gypsy, talked at length with PL logger A.E. Ammons about their concerns that marbled murrelets were nesting in the area where trees were being felled.

The next day Gypsy and friends confronted Ammons. The logger became enraged, chased the activists away and continued cutting trees. The last tree that Ammons cut killed 24-year-old

BARE BONES

Police Pay £21,000 to Fox Hunt Protesters

On September 10, police paid £21,000—about \$30,500—to a group of protesters arrested at a fox hunt. Dyfed Powys Police paid the seven protesters £3,000 each after they were arrested while watching the hunt while eating lunch in a minibus.

The four men and three women were ordered to drive to Brecon police station where they were held in custody for 10 hours after their detention at the Sennybridge Farmers' Fox Hunt in Wales in November 1998.

The group's lawyer Ifitkhar Manzoor said: "My clients were eating lunch in a minibus when they were arrested, and I find it hard to believe that the police seriously saw this as a risk of a breach of the peace.

"With Dyfed Powys Police paying such a large sum in compensation this demonstrates that an over-reaction to peaceful and lawful conduct will not be tolerated and gives hope to others that their rights cannot be violated without redress."

Eight Million May Die from Air Pollution by 2020

"More people in the US and other developed countries today will die from air pollution created by traffic than by traffic crashes themselves," says Devra Lee Davis, a professor at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz School for Public Policy and Management. She said ozone, particulates, carbon dioxide and pollutants from the combustion of fossil fuels may affect the climate in coming decades.

Davis and four co-authors researched the health effects of air pollution on the rate of death in four cities—São Paulo, Brazil; Mexico City; Santiago, Chile and New York—and found that adopting greenhouse gas abatement technologies now available would save 64,000 lives in the next 20 years in those cities.

The data is consistent with a World Health Organization (WHO) study that estimated that air pollution would cause about eight million deaths worldwide by 2020.

GODS VALLEY TREESIT ATTACKED BY ODF

One Activist Injured, 20 Arrested Defending Oregon's Tillamook State Forest



Some of what's at stake: a seven-foot-diameter Sitka Spruce in Area IV

BY SOLEDAD

During the first weekend of October, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) had their most violent reaction yet to the Gods Valley treesit in Oregon's Tillamook State Forest, leading to more than 20 arrests and the hospitalization of one man.

The outcry over the desecration of Oregon's state forests became loud enough to break through the walls of the corporate media in the Spring, with a vibrant coalition forming between urban and rural activists, including the Cascadia Forest Alliance (CFA) and the Hard Rain Alliance. The poster-child sale at this point was Acey Line Thin, a timber sale in Gods Valley targeting some of the oldest remaining trees in the Tillamook State Forest.

After several weeks of negotiations with CFA and the Oregon Wildlife Federation and under the threat of direct action, ODF "promised" to delay the timber sale until local "focus groups" had met, expressed their concerns and prepared their comments for the department's 10-year implementation plan. These focus groups were forbidden to discuss the Acey sale specifically, but they recommended that no older trees be logged in Oregon's state forests. Despite promises to consider these recommendations and to give adequate

public notice before commencing with logging in Gods Valley, ODF and Christian Futures logging company went in less than a week later with a heavy police presence to begin logging the oldest trees in Area III of the sale.

Afterward, Tillamook State Forester Mark Labhart told the media, "Its beautiful now. It looks like a park."

Activists were outraged by the actions of ODF and expressed their shock at this betrayal. In response to ODF's lies, the first treesit in Oregon's state forests appeared 75 feet up a 100-year-old hemlock in Area IV. This treesit soon became a small village with three treesits, two in Area IV and one in Area II.

On October 3, ODF began logging in Area II, cutting within five feet of a treesit. Then on October 4, an activist known as Ridge who was concerned for the safety of the treesitter, was trapped in a nearby tree and surrounded by law enforcement. Three women attempting to document his treatment were arrested and

their video camera was confiscated. Ridge spent almost 48 hours trapped with minimal food and water and no applicable climbing gear. Bright lights were focused on him throughout the night to prevent him from sleeping. At one point, loggers began to fell the tree in which he was perched.

In fear for his life, Ridge jumped to another tree. The Clatsop County Sheriff's Department then cut all the surrounding trees, thus isolating him. A climber was sent up the tree in pursuit and lopped off the branches below as Ridge free-climbed higher into the canopy. The climber was ordered to cut the branch that Ridge was on. However, the climber refused, knowing that to do so would seriously injure or kill him. At one point, a sharpshooter pointed at Ridge.

After being exposed to constant noise for almost 48 hours, Ridge passed out. He plummeted 60 feet to the forest floor, was arrested and taken to the hospital. Ridge suffered from a broken pelvis, broken ribs, a collapsed lung and possible head injuries.

In an emergency call to action, 75 people gathered on October 6 at Gods Valley on less than 24 hours' notice. It was a diverse crowd with about half of the folks being local supporters. People arrived from as far south as Ashland, Oregon, to demand protection of our last remaining temperate coastal rainforests and to protest the violence inflicted upon nonviolent protesters.



The treesit dubbed "Solace" in Area IV

photo courtesy www.cascadiaforefalliance.org

photo courtesy www.cascadiaforefalliance.org

Sixteen people, age 17 to 57, joined arms and marched defiantly across the closure line. They were arrested in brutal fashion and held until October 8—many refusing to give their names.

Two treesits remain in Area IV of the Acey Line Thin sale, and logging in Gods Valley continues.

The protests result in part from the lack of voice that Oregonians have in the management of our state lands.

There is no state land equivalent to the National Environmental Policy Act to regulate timber sales. There is no public comment period for state sales and no way to appeal them. The Endangered Species Act is one of the only laws that applies on Oregon state land and a "take" of a threatened species is almost impossible to prove. ODF allows logging on slopes steeper than 70 percent, clearcuts up to 160 acres and only mandates a 25-foot buffer for salmon-bearing streams. With rules like this, it is no surprise that the protests and coalitions formed to protect our state land are speaking out as loudly as they are.

The violent reaction to these peaceful protests by ODF and the Clatsop County Sheriff's Department is a frightening sign of the loss of civil liberties and regard for safety that is to come in this era of hysteria over "terrorists threats." The Clatsop County Sheriff's Department has justified their actions by inferring that to protest in this time of "national emergency" is un-American.

Our government continually uses violence and threats of violence to intimidate nonviolent protesters and people of color. We must loudly protest this illogical abstraction and its unjust and brutal effects.

We demand that Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber take action. We want an immediate halt to all logging in Gods Valley; an end to logging mature forests on all state land; all charges against protesters of the Acey Line Thin sale to be dropped and a criminal investigation into the Oregon Department of Forestry and

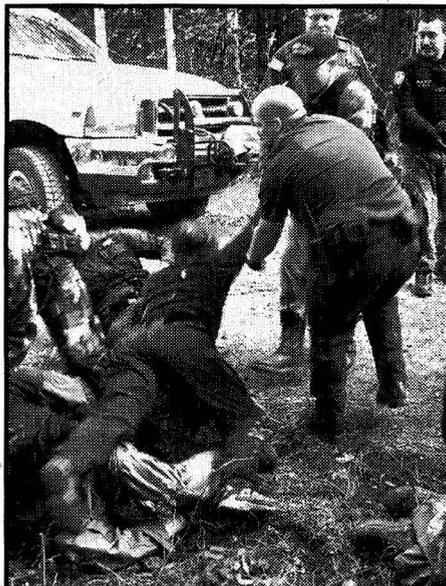


Cops rough up protesters at October 6 demonstration.

Clatsop County Sheriff's handling of the protesters.

It is not enough to deal with the brutality against the protesters. We must reform the Oregon Department of Forestry's Management Plan and the Forest Practices Act. The devotion, protests and action seen at the Acey Line Thin sale in Gods Valley will continue until the public has a real say in what happens on Oregon's state lands.

Please contact Governor Kitzhaber at (503) 378-3111. In light of recent events, the legal defense fund needs your help now! For more information or if you would like to make a financial contribution, send checks (payable to CFA) to Cascadia Forest Alliance, POB 4946, Portland, OR 97208; (503) 241-4879; www.cascadiaforestalliance.org.



More police violence at October 6 demonstration

BARE BONES

Victory Closing in on Eagle Timber Sales

An Oregon timber company wants to pull out of the contested Eagle timber sales, putting the future of the sales in doubt.

In 1996, Vanport Manufacturing, Inc. paid \$10.3 million for 28 million board feet of timber. Since then, an independent team has reviewed the environmental soundness of the sales and recommended trimming them by almost three million board feet.

In mid-September, Vanport CEO Adolph Hertrich asked to be released from the contract, stating the change would cost him more than half a million dollars.

Hertrich also stated that it would be difficult to complete the sales given the "hostile environment" surrounding them. Environmental groups say the Eagle plan cuts too heavily in sensitive watersheds and leaves timber stands vulnerable to blowdown.

Forest Service officials have two possible responses to Hertrich's letter: canceling the sales or reverting back to the original contract.

Tree-Spiking Charges Dropped in Indiana

Tree-spiking charges were dismissed against Frank Ambrose, a Bloomington, Indiana, activist accused of being part of the Earth Liberation Front (ELF). Monroe County Prosecutor Carl Salzmann dropped the charges but said they could be filed again later.

"It depends on the investigation," Salzmann said, adding that police are still investigating the tree-spiking incident and other acts attributed to the ELF.

Salzmann said, "As a result of further investigation, it appears that the conspiracy involving the spiking of trees in Monroe and Brown counties is more extensive than it first appeared. Therefore, we believe that it is in the interests of justice to dismiss this case at this time," he said.

Ambrose was charged in January with driving 10-inch nails into trees—a felony carrying a standard sentence of one and a half years—at a logging site at Morgan-Monroe State Forest in June 2000.

Judi Bari v. the FBI Delayed Until April

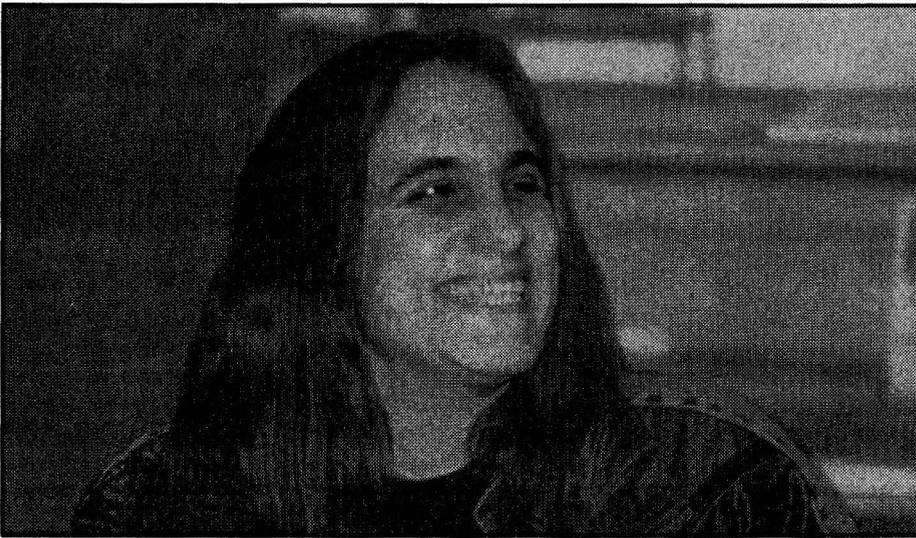


photo by Richard Johnson

BY ALICIA LITTLETREE AND STRONGWOOD

On September 14, US District Judge Claudia Wilken granted the plaintiffs' emergency motion for a trial continuance in the *Judi Bari v. the FBI* bombing lawsuit. The new trial date is April 8, 2002.

The reason for the delay was the attack of September 11 (9/11) and the ensuing war fever, making it difficult or impossible to get a fair jury trial against the FBI in the immediate future. The FBI, for all its many well-publicized faults, is now almost universally seen as our first line of defense against terrorists. "In the aftermath and media coverage of the events," the motion says, "the public has been seeing and hearing that the FBI is the lead agency conducting the investigation of the attack. The FBI agents are truly the brothers and sisters of the American public and, beyond that, the FBI are seen as the saviors of the American people and the vehicle of resolution and retribution."

Dennis Cunningham, lead counsel for Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney, said following Judge Wilken's ruling that he had mixed feelings about the delay. "We were ready to get it on," he said, "but that's unthinkable in view of what's happened."

Most disturbing in the aftermath of 9/11 is the pervasive trend to sacrifice civil rights to so-called "security." Rolling back constitutional protections will hit political dissidents

the hardest, especially in light of the FBI's track record of falsely branding radicals as terrorists in order to undermine their movements and organizations. Bari and Cherney's case is

a clear example of this, as the two nonviolent Earth First! organizers were targeted for engaging in constitutionally protected First Amendment activities to defend the forests of Northern California.

Another example is the anti-globalization movement, which has been staging huge protests across the globe to fight undemocratic and oppressive economic policies, beginning in Seattle at the World Trade Organization meeting in 1999. According to the motion for delay: "Polls taken on September 12 indicate that 78 percent of Americans are prepared to accept drastic reductions in civil liberties so that the authorities can 'solve' this matter. One after another, conservative politicians have blamed the 'leniency' of the Church Committee in 'tying the hands of law enforcement' as a cause of the failure of the authorities to anticipate the 9/11 attack. Simply put,

New DNA Evidence in Bari Case

BY GEMINI WOMAN

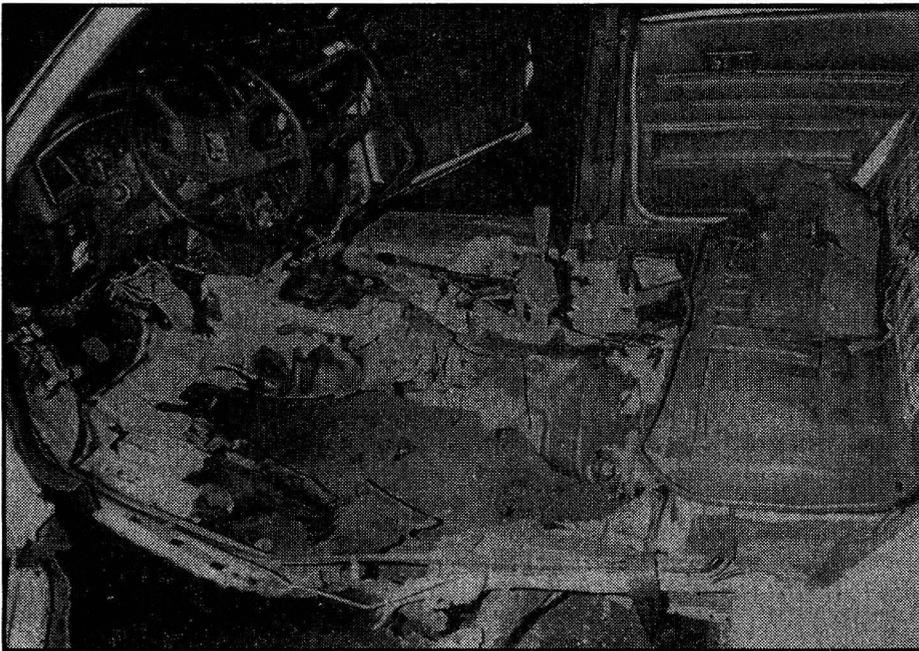
On September 18, Darryl Cherney held a press conference in Oakland, California, to disclose the findings of an investigation into DNA samples related to the Judi Bari bombing case. It has been known since 1991 that the same Olympia typewriter produced both a death threat sent to Bari in 1990 and a police informant letter known as the "Argus" letter that discredited Bari and offered to set her up for a pot bust. It was sent to law enforcement in 1991. KQED radio informed the FBI of the match "on-air," but the information never made it into FBI files. Forensic Science Associates (FSA) in Richmond, California, tested the seals on both letters and found matching DNA. FSA also found that a male relative of Irv Sutley, Jr. may have sealed both the death threat and the Argus letter.

Irv Sutley has long been a suspect in the bombing case. He staged the infamous photographs taken in 1989 of Bari holding an uzi wearing her EF! t-shirt. The photo was meant to be an album cover but instead appeared six weeks later in a letter to the Ukiah police department along with the

Argus letter. Sutley is the only person who had access to the uzi photo and the will to use it. The Argus letter stated that Bari was a leader and used automatic weapons.

On May 29, six days after the bombing, a letter signed by the "Lord's Avenger" was sent to newspaper reporter Mike Genella. It claimed responsibility for the bombing and described with detail the construction of the bomb. The Lord's Avenger letter did not state that Bari's organizing against forest destruction, or her outreach to timber workers, was the motivation for the attack. The language was a pseudo-Christian rant that implied that Bari's work to keep abortion clinics open made her a target. The DNA shows the envelope for the Lord's Avenger letter was sealed by a woman, yet the language is masculine and the type on the envelope has similarities to the Argus and death threat letters.

The death threat, the Argus and Lord's Avenger letters are all clues to who bombed Judi Bari. Yet the FBI or Oakland police never tested the letters for fingerprints, as advised by FBI officials. When questioned under oath as to why fingerprints were not cross-checked, the



OPD file photo

Judi's car showing the blast point of the bomb below the driver's seat

law enforcement (particularly the FBI) are the only ones that Americans can rely upon at this time of crisis and it follows, of course, that despite anything jurors might say at *voir dire*,

there is no way jurors will be able to objectively evaluate the conduct of the FBI (or the Oakland Police Department, for that matter) in 1990 with regard to the plaintiffs herein."

FBI claimed to not have Bari's or Cherney's fingerprints. Cherney was fingerprinted when arrested immediately after the bombing, and Bari was fingerprinted in her hospital bed. The FBI also claimed that Earth First! was the Lord's Avenger.

The DNA evidence is another example of what attorney for the plaintiffs Bill Simpich called a "willful blindness, trademark of an 11-year non-investigation" by the FBI and Oakland police. Darryl Cherney has pledged "to find out who bombed us until the day I die."

With the new DNA evidence, the plaintiffs are hopeful that the bomber will be found and brought to justice.

On September 18, trial supporters also picketed outside the *East Bay Express* office for using the infamous photo of Judi holding an uzi on the cover of a feature article. "We used the picture to attract readership to the story," said the senior editor. The photo and headline contribute to

the common misrepresentation of EF! as a violent, clandestine, militant organization. The editor agreed to publish a letter to the editor from Lisa Bari, Judi's daughter, and others angered by the use of the photo.

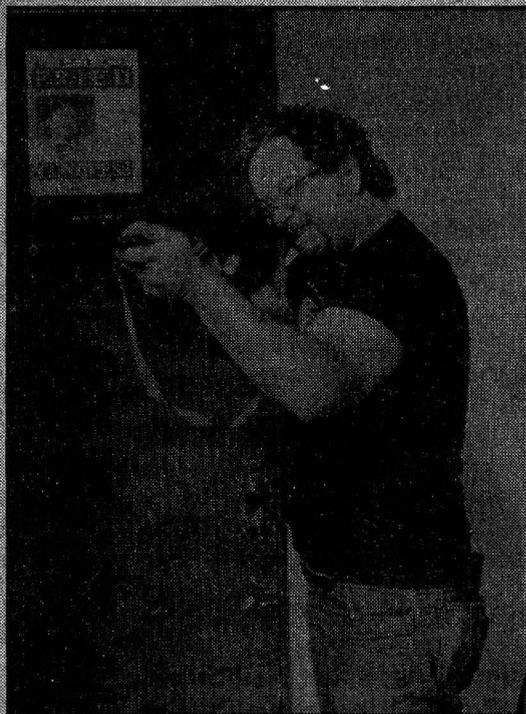


photo by Pam Davis

Police Informant Irv Sulley

BARE BONES

Judge Favors Maxxam in Federal Lawsuit

An administrative law judge has ruled in favor of Pacific Lumber Company's parent company Maxxam, Inc. in a massive lawsuit pressed against the Texas-based company by the federal government.

Judge Arthur Shipe has recommended that the US Treasury's Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) drop all charges and get none of the \$820 million it was seeking in connection with the 1988 failure of the United Savings Association of Texas, then controlled by Maxxam and its CEO Charles Hurwitz.

Shipe's recommendation now goes to OTS director Ellen Seidman, who will issue a decision. Rarely has the director countered the administrative law judge's recommendation.

Maxxam has held that the OTS lawsuit, as well as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation lawsuit against Hurwitz, which seeks \$300 million, are improper and politically motivated.

Local Police Protect Dams

The Interior Department will contract with local law enforcement officials to tighten security around its 58 hydroelectric dams and 348 reservoirs that together represent the nation's largest wholesale supplier of water.

On October 3, as part of the government's scramble to protect potential terror targets, the House Resources Committee approved legislation to address the limited law enforcement authority at facilities in 17 Western states.

A separate measure also approved by the committee would give the Western, Southwestern and Southeastern power administrations authority to pay rewards of up to \$1,000 for information leading to arrests of people causing damage to federal property.

The Hoover Dam, located on the Colorado River about 30 miles east of Las Vegas, Nevada, forms Lake Mead, the largest man-made reservoir in the nation. It also supplies electricity to a wide area of the Southwest.

BLUE REVOLUTION SPAWNS FRANKENFISH

BY NIAZ DORRY

The pride of the Blue Revolutionaries—genetically engineered salmon—is on trial. “Blue Revolution” is what Elliot Entis calls his prediction “that genetic modifications will usher in a new era of fish farming.”

Entis is the president of Aqua Bounty Farms, a Massachusetts-based company with fish farms in the Canadian Maritimes. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is considering Aqua Bounty’s request to market genetically engineered salmon.

In May, the Center for Food Safety and more than 60 individuals and organizations—including five fishermen and eight commercial fishing organizations—filed a petition with five federal agencies to place a moratorium on genetically engineered fish pending a review of their impact on human health and the environment.

Genetic modification of salmon by Aqua Bounty farms involves inserting the gene of an ocean pout into a salmon egg in order to increase the growth rate of the fish. The “instructions” that are encoded in the ocean pout DNA make salmon growth hormones work year round enabling it to reach market size rapidly. Currently, there are more than 35 species of transgenic fish under development.

Escapement of transgenic fish into the ocean may cause significant impacts to the environment and endangered species. New studies indicate transgenic fish are more aggressive, eat more food and attract more mates than non-transgenic fish.

Aqua Bounty says that their fish are domesticated much like cattle, will be rendered sterile and won’t have a high chance of surviving in the wild.

Minnesota Sea Grant Research Specialist Anne Kapuscinski disagrees, “Genetically engineered fish are much riskier than genetically engineered agricultural animals. Animals bred for domestic agriculture have lost many of their natural traits, such as the abil-

ity to reproduce or the drive to aggressively defend a territory. Genetically engineered fish, on the other hand, can be very similar to wild fish and may survive, reproduce and influence the natural environment.”

Joe Sinagra, a fisherman from Gloucester, Massachusetts, says, “I wouldn’t be sincere if I didn’t admit I had concerns about the market competition. When you introduce a cheap product in the market, even if its quality, the overall impact on the ocean and on our health is questionable. The consumer tends to buy the inferior but cheap product. But what’s the real price of this genetically engineered fish? I don’t think the market price will reflect the real cost to our fishing economies and the health of the oceans that we rely on for our livelihoods.”

He’s concerned about a repeat of the experience with aquaculture pens, that genetically engineered fish will also escape from the pens and compete with the wild stocks of salmon species many of which are listed as endangered. Aquaculture escapement is listed as one of the top threats to the wild Atlantic salmon population. In Maine and parts of the North Pacific, hundreds of farm-raised Atlantic salmon have escaped.

The proliferation of industrial-scale aquaculture has led many fishing communities to take a stand against the expansion of this industry. The issue has taken violent turns where opponents of industrial-scale shrimp aquaculture have been killed in parts of Asia and Latin America.

Dr. Vandana Shiva, physicist, author and now with the Research Institute for Science and Technology in New Delhi, India, has worked extensively with communities fighting against the expansion of the shrimp aquaculture industry. In recent years, despite India’s Supreme Court rulings that should bring the expansion to a halt, the industry continues to operate and the protests continue to mount.

“We need to dispel the notion that the environmental movement is a luxury of the rich when in fact it’s not. It’s the people’s survival, especially the poor people’s survival,” says Shiva.

In addition to aquaculture, Shiva has observed the genetic engineering technology and its impact on agriculture. She agrees with Entis that genetically engineered fish is the natural extension of aquaculture. And, she is concerned that just like the Green Revolution of the agribusiness industry and the subsequent genetic modification of many crops without knowing all the risks to the planet and on our food supply, that this genetically modified fish technology is being promoted without the necessary precautions.

She believes those responsible for ensuring the safety of our food and our planet have taken a “don’t look, don’t see, don’t find, yet then declare safe” attitude toward genetic engineering.

Currently, there are no federal laws specifically governing the regulation of genetically engineered animals grown for human consumption. Some states have passed legislation aimed at addressing the current regulatory vacuum. On the federal level, Congressman Dennis Kucinich has spearheaded efforts to enact legislation, though it has not yet yielded enough votes to win over Congress. Canada, the Philippines and Scotland are amongst the countries that have started to address the issue of genetically engineered fish.

According to Tracy Letterman, of the Center for Food Safety, with the lack of relevant regulations “the FDA has decided to treat transgenic fish as it would new animal drugs. Given the potential toxicity, allergenicity and aquaculture diseases posed by the commercialization of transgenic fish, we are asking that the FDA adopt a pre-market regulatory review that does not ignore the potential human health and safety concerns.”

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NORSKE SKOG KILLS OFF 1,000 SPECIES IN NORWAY

BY TJALVE TORSTJENER

Every day species are lost from Norwegian ecosystems for several reasons and by many perpetrators, but one company sticks out as the ultimate killer—Norske Skog.

Norwegian ecosystems consist of an estimated 60,000 species. Of these, only 14,637 have been subjected to a superficial judgment regarding living conditions and survival potential. More than 3,000 have been categorized as threatened with extinction.

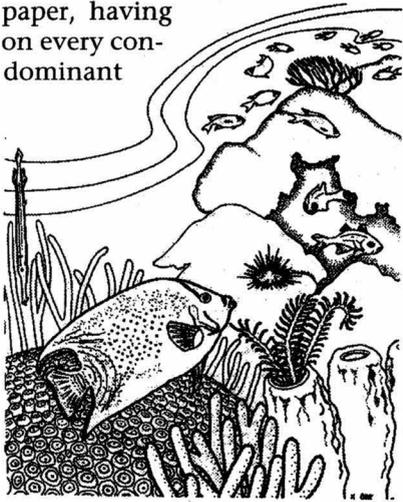
Norske Skog is the third largest producer of publication paper, having pulp and paper plants on every continent, and it is the dominant forestry company in Norway. Owned by Norwegian farmers, the company is highly adaptable to local market trends wherever it operates. In continental Europe, where recycling of waste paper is an important issue, Norske Skog operates huge paper recycling plants. In Brazil, where the conse-

quences of eucalyptus plantations are important, the company makes sure that all plantations have a Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certificate. But in Norway, Norske Skog is so closely linked with the farmers that it has stopped all initiatives to establish FSC certification. During trials several years ago to establish FSC in Norway, the company actively sabotaged the process, bringing it to a halt. Now, at least 1,000 species are extinct or likely to become extinct in the forests serving Norske Skog. These 1,000 species threatened by their Norwegian Operations.

How many species it threatens in Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, Thailand and Chile where it takes out millions of tons of forests—or in Russia, where it annually takes out some 200,000 tons of clearcut boreal spruce—is unknown.

Out of at least 1,000 threatened species, there is one I would like to mention in particular. Maybe the most spectacular threatened living creature in Norway is the deep water coral, *Lophelia pertusa*. The oldest individual corals still living in our waters are approximately 8,500 years old. That means that these individual corals were alive when the coastal parts of mid-Norway were populated by stone-age humans. They live still, but not for long.

So far, the coral is not protected by the government. Most of the reefs were destroyed in the last few decades by trawlers and oil and gas exploration. They live at a depth of 200-2,000 meters, but some reefs are as shallow as 40 meters. Some of the surviving reefs are now under threat by a huge natural gas pipeline being planned in central Norway. The pipeline is intended to fuel a huge power plant which will increase



Norwegian greenhouse gas emissions by five percent, making the Kyoto obligations impossible to reach.

Norske Skog is responsible for this gasoline and power station. It wants the power plant to feed its enormous pulp and paper factory in Skog.

Only individuals and small independent groups have done anything to try to stop either the destruction of the forest or the planned destruction of the coral reefs.

We need your help. Please tell Norske Skog to stop killing Norwegian forests and to stop the pipeline destroying our oldest living creatures.

Protect *Lophelia pertusa*!

To express your outrage of this situation, contact Norske Skogindustrier ASA, POB 329, Oksenoyveien 80, N-1326 Lysaker, Norway; (47) 67-59-90-00, (47) 67-59-91-80 (fax).

BARE BONES

Out with the Science Books

On September 6, about a dozen speakers told the Texas State Board of Education that newly drafted middle-school science textbooks contain errors and exhibit a pro-environment bias.

Criticism focused on the textbooks' discussions of global warming, acid rain and rainforest destruction. Many of the speakers were affiliated with Texas Citizens for a Sound Economy, an advocacy and education organization dedicated to economic freedom.

The books were criticized as using data to frighten students about global warming and to motivate them to action.

Michael Franks, a member of the State Republican Executive Committee, said the books should be thrown out.

"I think we've found the alternative fuel source that everyone is looking for and that is burning these," Franks said.

One speaker pointed out widely varying statistics in the different books about the number of acres of rainforest that are destroyed each year. Others decried a suggestion in a teachers' guide that students write their congressional representatives about environmental issues.

The State Board of Education will consider approving the books at its next meeting in November.

World Coral Reefs Dying

The world's coral reefs will be dead within 50 years because of global warming, and there is nothing we can do to save them, a scientist warned on September 5.

"It is hard to avoid the conclusion that most coral in most areas will be lost," said Rupert Ormond, a marine biologist from Glasgow University.

Scientists agree the world's oceans are now warming at a rate of between one and two degrees Celsius every 100 years.

But even if humans stopped pumping out greenhouse gases tomorrow, it would still be too late to save the reefs, Ormond said. "I don't know what can be done, given that there's a 50-year time lag between trying to limit carbon dioxide levels and any effect on ocean temperature," he said.

According to Ormond, the only cause for optimism is that new coral reefs could start to emerge in colder waters such as the north Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea.

INDIGENOUS LAND RIGHTS CASE DECIDED

The Mayagna indigenous community of Awas Tingni won a major legal battle against the Nicaraguan government in an international case underscoring the ties between native land rights and environmental protection.

In September, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights released a landmark ruling ordering Nicaragua to recognize and protect the tribe's legal rights to their traditional lands. The community had occupied land sought by logging companies on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua for many generations.

The Awas Tingni case is the first such dispute to be addressed by the Inter-American Court. Under international law, governments must respect indigenous peoples' rights to their traditional land. If a government does not demarcate indigenous peoples' land, their territorial rights remain uncertain. The Nicaraguan government has "exploited that confusion in its own favor," said Jim Anaya, lead counsel for the Indian Law Resource Center, which represented the Awas Tingni.

Since the 1950s, the tribe has unsuccessfully requested that the Nicaraguan government demarcate its traditional territory, fearing that loggers would decimate the land.

In 1996, Nicaragua granted a 30-year timber license to the Korean company *Sol de Caribe SA*, clearing the way for exploitation of nearly 62,000 hectares of tropical forest claimed by the Awas Tingni. The Indian Law Resource Center filed a petition before the

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights against the government of Nicaragua.

The case was brought before the Inter-American Court in June of 1998. In its decision, the court stated that Nicaragua violated international human rights law by denying the community its rights to property, adequate judicial protection and equal protection under the law. The court ordered the government to demarcate the traditional lands of the Awas Tingni community and to establish new legal mechanisms to demarcate the traditional lands of all indigenous communities in Nicaragua.

The decision is binding in countries throughout the Americas.

For more information, contact Denise McVea, Indian Law Resource Center, 602 North Ewing St, Helena, Montana 59601; (406) 449-2006; (406) 449-2031 (fax); www.indianlaw.org.



Frontlines

ELF Sabs New York Building

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) claimed responsibility for sabotaging a new biotech building at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories on August 21 in Long Island, New York. This is the second time the ELF has targeted this facility in just over one year.

A communiqué sent by the ELF stated, "Here activists inflicted heavy damages to the exterior air filtration and coolant systems, by smashing thermostats and computer instruments and extensively damaging insulation to coolant pipes. The building was donned with slogans denouncing genetic engineering, one reading 'tampering with biodiversity = extinction,' the other reading 'Love ELF' Upon retreat windows were also smashed."

ELF previously struck Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories on July 13, 2000, destroying two acres of genetically modified corn and greenhouses containing seedlings.

North American McDonald's Vandalized

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) Press Office received an unsigned statement from activists claiming responsibility

for a September 8 fire that destroyed a McDonald's in Tucson, Arizona. According to local media reports, the initials "ALF" and "ELF" were spray-painted on the walls of the burned building.

"The message here is that ordinary people are taking action against some very destructive corporations," comments ALF spokesperson David Barbarash. "Whether or not it was people acting on behalf of the Animal or Earth Liberation Fronts, the end result is the same. Nonviolent property destruction has once again been successfully employed." The fire caused more than \$500,000 in damages.

In late July, seven McDonald's were vandalized in Montreal, Canada. The attacks occurred in rapid sequence at around eight a.m. Trash cans were set ablaze in the restaurants' bathrooms. A chemical similar to pepper spray was also released in an underground shopping area near one of the McDonald's. Police are investigating whether this was the work of anti-globalization protesters or if it is connected to a labor dispute between McDonald's and the union Centrale Syndicats Nationaux.

MINNEHAHA SACRED SPRING STOPS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

The flow of water from Camp Coldwater Spring, Minnesota, can fill a bathtub in less than three seconds. This force may stop the multi-million dollar Highway 55/62 interchange in Minneapolis. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has halted all construction due to a new state law that protects the spring.

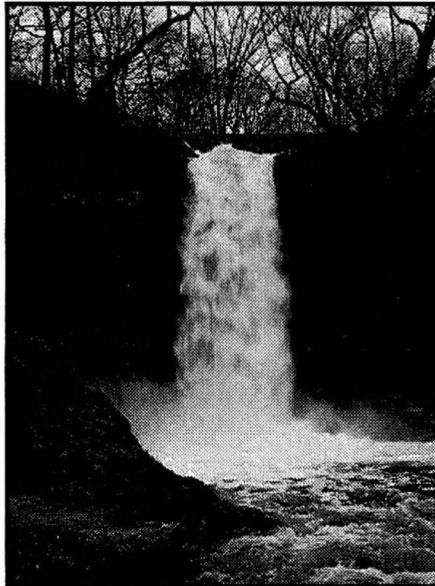
The spring is sacred to several Native American tribes. More than 100 people over the last two years have been arrested in protests against the rerouting of Highway 55 north of the spring. These protests focused on the oak trees that were cut and the park land that was lost to the highway project.

Now, the struggle continues and the focus has become the technical issues of whether the highway interchange would impair the spring.

The region around the spring northeast of Minneapolis was in a regulatory black hole until jurisdiction

was decided in May, 2000—just months before the project broke ground.

The new law protecting the spring came a year later. The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) has



Minnehaha Falls

earned a reputation for taking on public agencies over water issues. MCWD warned MnDOT that the longer it waited to investigate the road's effect on the spring the more expensive the cost of addressing problems would be.

The hydrogeology of the Coldwater Spring area is complex. No discussion of the highway project's effects on the spring is found in the Environmental Impact Statement for the interchange. Some concerns have been expressed about the impacts of groundwater seepage into the gorge below Minnehaha Falls.

Attempts at compromise fell apart this summer and lawsuits by the MCWD and other spring supporters have forced MnDOT to halt construction. MnDOT says that it will reopen bids on the project if the Legislature eases the law.

Let's hope the lawmakers consider all the ecological, financial and legal issues before creating more controversy.

Frontlines

Eight Arrested in Clear the Air Protest

On August 21, hundreds of people fed up with poisonous air protested the role of Ontario Power Generation, in Ontario, Canada, as a major source of pollution. In a summer with high smog levels, this was a timely protest. Street theater, including a gas mask fashion show and a reading of an adaptation of *The Lorax*, made this event more of a festival than a traditional demonstration. For passers-by and the media, however, the message was clear—air pollution is killing us.

Activists distributed leaflets that began with: "Imagine a burn on your skin. If it's mild, the burning area will turn red. More severe and it'll swell and even start oozing. Every time you breathe in smoggy air, that's what you're doing to the tissue in your lungs."

A street takeover and a die-in were planned to mark the fact that 1,900 people are killed each year by air pollution in Ontario. The protesters hope to pressure Ontario Power and the government to move quickly in the transition toward energy efficiency, renewable energy and investments in better urban design, bicycle transportation and public transit.

GM Crops Targeted Again in UK

On August 22, following the largest anti-genetically modified (GM) rally in the highlands of Scotland, local people started a vigil on the field to stop a crop of GM winter oilseed rape from being planted. A woman stopped a tractor as it was about to start the day's work. About 30 people, including eight on the field, spent the day talking to the farm worker and local police, explaining their objections to this farm-scale trial of GM rape.

The site is about four miles from an organic farm, and the field is on a slope that leads down to the Bay of Munloch. The oilseed rape has been genetically engineered for resistance to glufosinate ammonium. This herbicide is banned from commercial agricultural use during winter months in the United Kingdom because of its toxicity.

The public is strongly against these GM experiments. More than 300 people attended a rally on August 18 where speakers from Scotland, Wales and England demanded an end to GM experiments.

Another farm at Munloch hosted a farm scale GM trial last Spring, which inspired protesters to cut a huge "X" out of the field on election day.

WHAT DOES RACISM HAVE TO DO WITH US?

BY LARRY LOHMANN

"What does racism have to do with us?" is an unspoken question. In some white environmentalist circles, even mentioning the subject of ethnic discrimination can put you outside the pale.

This is not necessarily a symptom of unprofessionalism or discriminatory or racist beliefs. I don't imagine that staff members of World Wildlife Fund, World Conservation Society or Zero Population Growth sign racist petitions, or that they go home to their partners, husbands or wives to brag how many wogs or niggers they kicked that day. Personal morality is not the issue here.

There is no better place to begin than European ideas of "nature" itself, and that of "natural conservation," "parks" and "protected areas." Like everything else, these concepts have histories, and the more one

looks at those histories, the stranger the concepts seem. The ideas of "nature," "parks," "forests," "carrying capacity," "Gaia" and many others that have come down to Western environmentalism over the years didn't fall from the sky. These were developed by

of "nature" in Europe is that of a landscape for aesthetic contemplation by a certain class. One of the most critical forces in shaping European ideas of nature were paintings of landscapes—paintings which legitimated the property and authority of whoever had paid for them. Landscapes where human workers, people who lived on and shaped the land, were either happy or invisible.

The word "park" has a history. "Park" was first used to designate fenced-off deer preserves exclusively maintained for a largely urban aristocracy for whom hunting privileges were a mark of status and power—a phenomenon familiar to many societies. Later, "landscape parks" became a fashion and mark of prestige and standing which spread from royalty downward, often at the expense of local land claims. Whole villages might be uprooted in order to create pleasing prospects with manicured lawns and aesthetically grouped trees.



particular groups of people for particular purposes. No concepts of nature are ever innocent or "unbiased." It's surprising, for example, the extent to which the history of the idea

Frontlines

France Keeps Heat on Franken corn

On August 15, activists opposed to genetically modified (GM) food struck again in southeast France, tearing up three plots of land where bio-engineered corn was being grown on a test basis. A group calling itself "Limes a Grain"—a play on the name of French seed company Limagrain—claimed responsibility for the attack. It was the third incident since late June, when the farm ministry was forced to publish the list of districts in France where GM crops were being tested.

José Bove, the fiery founder of the Confederation Paysanne, recently demanded a complete ban on GM crops in France and threatened to begin uprooting test fields across the country if the government did not intervene.

Tennessee Protesters Arrested at TDOT Office

On August 27, about 15 Earth First! protesters used a disabled car to block the entrance to a regional Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) office in Knoxville, Tennessee. Two activists were arrested. The demonstration lasted a half hour and forced some TDOT employees to drive around the blockade.

Protesters Debbi Schumate and Katherine Sneed were charged with criminal trespassing, disorderly conduct and blocking the street. The action was the latest in a series of protests against the expansion of Highway 321 between Gatlinburg and Cosby near the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

"We will not let down this campaign until TDOT begins to take us seriously and begins a study into the environmental impact of the expansion of the highway," stated Tennessee Earth First!ers.

Indonesian Farmers Burn GM Cotton

Lawyers for a coalition of food safety and food security groups submitted statements to an administrative court in Indonesia, while at the same time, a flock of villagers carried out civil disobedience against Monsanto's Bollgard cotton in South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

A traditional ritual carried out by members of the Kajarg community took place on September 13. Hundreds of villagers with black headbands and swords agitated angrily, "Damn you Monsanto" and "Go to Hell Monsanto!" Several scarecrows were burnt along with two tons of the genetically modified cotton, which

Conservationists often unwittingly insist on certain human/nature boundaries—and they disrespect constructions of “the environment” which are different from their own. These boundaries do a lot of the work of ethnic discrimination and racism. One thing that a conservationist human/nature boundary can be very good at is in reinforcing or concealing ethnic discrimination in the allocation of land.

This has been the practical effect of the preservationist human/nature dichotomy since Bannock, Sheepeater, Shoshone and other Native American bands were kicked out of Yellowstone to make it into what was called a “pleasuring ground” for white visitors. It’s what has often happened in protected areas ever since Miwok warriors were cleared out of the Yosemite Valley to make it into a tourist attraction—the same Yosemite whose pleasantly wooded scenes, so attractive to the white painters of the day, were in fact the direct result of thousands of years of indigenous fire management, planting and husbandry. Supposedly human-free wilderness has long been a useful symbol for nationalistic elites. In South Africa, for instance, Kruger National Park was established in 1926 as unifying symbol

for white national identity. As Jane Caruthers notes, the park was “part of the process of the struggle between black and white over land and labor.” The fact that the human/nature distinction used by some conservationists conceals a human/human distinction has always seemed pretty obvious to those ethnic groups who find themselves oppressed for reasons of Nature.

Environmental justice calls for the education of present and future generations, emphasizing social and environmental issues, based on our experience and an appreciation of our diverse cultural perspectives.

Just as nations help create spatially-bounded, mutually-exclusive ethnic groups with their maps and censuses, so national parks and protected areas are used to assimilate peoples the state regards as wayward into citizenship and cultural conformity.

So far I’ve been describing a Western human/nature boundary as if it

were something defended only by people interested in parks, green trees and furry animals. But this boundary cuts a good deal deeper into everyday European culture. Take the discourse on “overpopulation.” On the one side you have “population,” on the other “carrying capacity.” Just as “humans” are always threatening “nature,” so “population” is always using up “carrying capacity.” These boundaries resemble each other so much that it’s hardly any wonder that environmentalists themselves are always running them together. “If you took our planet and just put one human being on it,” one of Britain’s best-known Greenpeace activists told a television interviewer in 1997, “that human being would be consuming resources which otherwise would be available for nature—for wildlife, for wild animals, plants, whatever. Two human beings consume twice as much, and a million consume a million times as much... Everything we do impacts nature and to my mind what we need to concentrate on is limiting that impact.”

The ways in which such views intersect with ethnic discrimination are extraordinarily complex, but let me make two quick points here.

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Frontlines

was growing on 50 hectares.

Judy Rahrdjo, a vice chair of the South Sulawesi Indonesia Consumer Organization, said that more cultivated areas will be burned. Farmers complain that the yields promised by Monsanto have not been realized and the farm chemicals cause irritation. The farmers demand that all Bollgard cotton and other transgenic crops must not be grown in South Sulawesi.

A member of the Indonesian Parliament visited Kaloling village to see the fields of transgenic cotton that had been promoted by Monsanto. Nearly 100 Bantaeng farmers responded to the visit with a demonstration against Monsanto. Despite the efforts of government officials and agronomists to persuade the farmers of the benefits of the new cotton, the farmers remain opposed.

Anarchist Protest Biotechnology Conference

On September 17, Social Ecologist Transformation and Izmir Anarchist Federation protested the 12th Biotechnology Congress in Ayvalik-Sarimsakli, a tourist town in Balikesir, Turkey.

Anarchists entered the conference hall with a banner symbolizing biohazard threats to the Earth. Banners pro-

claimed “Biotechnology Kills” and the anarchists yelled “Life Murderer Test Tubes” and “Stop Serving Capitalism Behind a Mask of Science.”

Activists carried banners and two biohazard flags around the room as they yelled, “Biotech, Take Your Hand Out of Nature.”

Security police of the Balikesir governor attacked the protesters. A protester wearing a Frankenstein mask shouted “Come here, I am a scientist, I want to use you as guinea pigs, I am a murderer,” and the crowd shouted, “Blood, blood, blood spilling from the white laboratory coat.” As security forced the protesters to stop the action, they resisted, shouting “capitalism kills.”

Several protesters were arrested.

Ecotage Philippine Style

On August 29 eight Earth Firsters supported the Tampakan farmers in South Cotabato, Philippines to destroy genetically modified (GM) Bt corn. The Magsasaka at Syantipiko Para Sa Kaunluran sa Agrikultura Scientific Farmers (MASIPAG) picked up the Earth Firsters at a meeting place along the highway in Ulas.

continued on next page

BUSH DARK AGE CONTINUED...



continued from page 2

The transition to our new world will be almost as difficult as the catastrophe that Bush and the WTO—corporate globalization—are forcing us toward. We may only have a few months to stop Bush before his coup is accomplished. This could be our last chance to offer advice. Al-Qaeda says that if all foreign troops do not leave the Arabian Peninsula, "The Earth will burn beneath the feet of the US infidels." I believe they are serious. There are more than 100 US nuclear reactors that are sitting-duck bombs waiting to explode.

Do the right thing. Fight back, organize and let your deep passions flow until the world stops, the wealthy surrender and negotiations among free people commence.

Chiao, Bolivarino, Au voi, Aloha, Later.

—ALMOND

DEAFWORDS@HOTMAIL.COM

I loved you, so I drew these tides of men into my hands and wrote my will across the sky in stars. To earn you Freedom.

—THOMAS LAWRENCE, 1937

THE WAR OF

BY JENNIFER CHESWORTH

September 11 marked the beginning of what President Bush has called the "War of the 21st Century." Its front ranks are comprised of on one side the champions of justice and defenders of the innocent, and on the other, the brainwashed and fanatical psycho-killers. It is easy to choose sides in this war in which good and evil are so forcefully defined; you are either for us or against us. Behind this new black-and-white war is a much older conflict that is not so clearly defined. Its roots reach deep into the history of conquest and colonialism; its victims are on every continent; its path of destruction is broad and meandering. This is the consumer war, waged between rich and poor, between the "First" and "Third" Worlds, between Walmart and the local general store. This is the war that Bush himself allude to when he said that the goal of terrorism is to keep Americans from "shopping" in his address to the nation on October 11.

In every form of media today—television, newspapers, Internet, radio—we Americans are hearing the call to fulfill our patriotic duty to shop. Although our wars in the past have demanded that we tighten our belts, that some measure of national sacrifice and frugality are necessary, this time the war is quite different. Multinational corporations are presently all too capable of churning out the tools of war, but not without a continuing and escalating injection of "consumer

Frontlines

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Information flyers were handed out describing the health and environmental hazards of GM crops. Activists took to the fields and pulled down fences. They proceeded to pull GM crops and within five minutes the test site was ruined. Two cops carrying high-powered rifles left the scene when confronted by the media. A Monsanto employee took photos of the protesters and told them that the fence around the test plot was electrified. A peasant grabbed the wire with his hand and shouted "It is only a bluff!"

Quickly the protesters returned to their vehicles and safely escaped.

Protest Action Camp Against Lockheed Martin in Russia

A protest action camp organized by the social ecological movement Rainbow Keepers and local activists from Votkinsk, Russia, began on July 18. The camp is part of a campaign against a missile fuel facility being built by Lockheed Martin corporation. The plant is near Votkinsk, a city with more than 100,000 inhabitants.

As many as 50 protesters from Russia and Finland live in

the camp. On July 30, the camp was attacked and one tent was burned with gasoline. No one was injured. The next day the camp was attacked again by a group of men who hit one protester and drove over three empty tents.

Following a performance of street theater in Izhevsk, a suburb of Votkinsk, three actors and four members of the audience were arrested. Five activists at an information table in Votkinsk were also arrested and detained for three hours.

On August 3, Rainbow Keepers and locals blockaded the office of Lockheed Martin in Votkinsk. Two activists held banners from a roof. The two were caught, but one escaped with help from the crowd. Activists tried to block the police cars from leaving, but police threw people out of the way and left. Three more people were subsequently arrested.

The mayor came to the action site and negotiated a solution resulting in release of all arrestees and the end of the office blockade.

Ducks Fly Free on Labor Day in Illinois

ALF claimed responsibility for the release of 750 ducks

THE 21ST CENTURY

confidence." The ideology of perpetual growth and progress has boiled over, requiring a bigger cauldron each time we turn up the heat. Only now, there seems to be a hole in our cauldron, as the invisible hand shrinks away from the scalding mess that is spilling out and threatening to quell our economic fire.

We have to remember in the midst of our new preoccupation with terrorism and war that the call to revive consumer confidence, to correct our economic "downturn," was already becoming clear. Our consumer war was already in full swing. In this new twist to the same old war, the "defenders of justice" from the richest nation in the world are fighting against some of the richest men in the world. We have seen in clear terms that the terrorists we are now hunting created their own wealth by playing the stock market and running their own multinational corporate empires. The invisible hand has been feeding both the beast and its hunter.

Expressing dissent in this patriotic climate over a war between good and evil is a dangerous prospect: to criticize the hunter infers sympathy for the beast.

How can you choose sides when both use violence to achieve their goals?

The victims of the consumer war are uncountable and do not reside in twin towers. They are the poor and disenfranchised, forest-dwellers and indigenous cultures brutally pushed aside in the name of expansion and growth. Big business does not drop missiles from airplanes or use the airplanes themselves as missiles. It uses us—our consumer confidence—to eat away the very foundation upon which all life must stand.

Our war on terrorism, vague as it is, can at least produce the names and faces of the 22 "most wanted" and target their training camps where we know them to exist. In contrast, the voice of dissent can only turn against itself; it is neither for nor against the American way. It is the American way. Let us not forget that the virtue of this great nation rests in allowing dissent and freedom of thought to thrive. Let us not continue walking blindly down the shopping aisle as though love of the country can be purchased at Walmart.



Frontlines

and an unknown number of ducklings from Whistling Wings, a duck breeding facility in Hanover, Illinois on Labor Day. Whistling Wings is one of the largest duck breeding facilities in the US. It breeds and ships ducks and ducklings to hunting and game farms, taxidermists and research facilities worldwide.

On April 28, ALF rescued more than 230 ducklings from the Cornell University Duck Laboratory in Eastport, New York. In that action, ALF physically removed all the animals and brought them to a sanctuary.

Police Greet Protesters at BLM Timber Auction

On September 30, a band of 30 peaceful protesters showed up to demonstrate their opposition to misguided federal logging policies in Oregon. They found the Salem Bureau of Land Management (BLM) office in a state of "emergency closure" and were met with an overwhelming force of more than 65 heavily armed and undercover federal, state and local police officers.

As camouflaged snipers walked the roof, a SWAT team stood guard and undercover federal agents photographed members of the public. Undaunted, activists

erected a 25-foot tripod in front of the BLM's door in a symbolic action designed to show that any logging of ancient forests on public lands will be met with determined nonviolent civil disobedience and protest.

"This kind of over-reaction today shows how willing our federal government is to subsidize the timber industry at the expense of everything else—fish, wildlife, clean water and the public," said Donald Fontenot of the Cascadia Forest Alliance.

The Rusty Saw timber sale will, by the BLM's own admission, greatly increase fire risk in the forest and sits only three miles northwest of the extremely controversial Eagle timber sales near Portland. No one bid on the Rusty Saw sale, temporarily saving the area. A spokesperson for the BLM commented that the lack of bids may have been because of the protesters' presence.

The Fawn Creek timber sale proposes to log mature Douglas fir trees between 70 and 130 years old just three miles from the Opal Creek Scenic Restoration Area, threatening the last remaining healthy fish run for Upper Willamette steelhead and chinook. The Fawn Creek sale was auctioned off to Freres Lumber Company from Lyons, Oregon.

Wolves and Poodles

A **power-of-the-people wolf** to a coalition of rural Nevadans, the Center for Biological Diversity, Western Land Exchange Project and other environmental organizations for driving away potential buyers at a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land auction in Lincoln County, Nevada. The October 12 auction, which officials had expected to generate at least three-and-a-half million dollars was a miserable failure because the coalition scared potential bidders away by filing appeals on the BLM's inadequate pre-sale environmental review. Of the 6,500 acres up for sale, only 112 acres were sold.

The filing of the appeal caused BLM officials to require that bidders sign an agreement that any land sold would return to public hands in the event of the appeal's success.

A **lone-dissenter wolf** to Representative Barbara Lee of California for acting on her principals and casting the only vote opposing President Bush's war resolution on September 15. The resolution authorized the president to use "all necessary and appropriate force" against anyone associated with the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Lee's prepared statement to Congress acknowledged the pain and moral outrage of the attacks, while urging restraint and stating that military action will not prevent further acts of terrorism, will kill non-combatants and cause the situation to spiral out of control. Her vote prompted death threats and hate mail and gave others the courage to speak out.

A **not-afraid-to-be-called-a-heretic wolf** to Wisconsin Senator Russ Feingold for being the one voice in the Senate to oppose the new draconian "USA Act of

2001" (S. 1510). Also

known as the Anti-Terrorism Bill, the legislation passed the Senate on October 11 with a 96 to one vote and very little debate.

A **not-afraid-to-swim-upstream wolf** to Georgia Representative Cynthia McKinney for sending an apology letter to Saudi

Prince Alwaleed bin Talal after the prince's \$10 million donation was rejected by New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Giuliani's

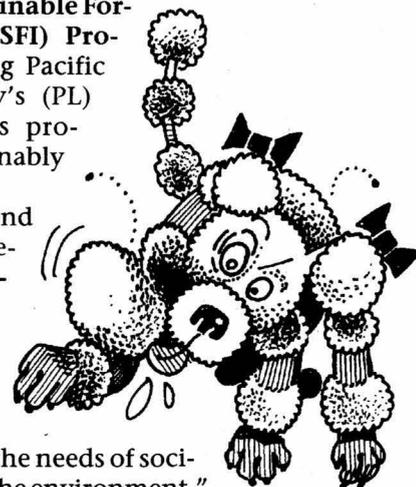
refusal was prompted by the prince's suggestion that US policy in the Middle East was partly to blame for the September 11 attacks.

In the letter, McKinney said she regretted that Giuliani had turned down the donation. "Whether he agreed with you or not," McKinney wrote. "I think he should have recognized your right to speak and make observations about a part of the world which you know so well."

An unabashed, enthusiastic, **Woody-Guthrie-would-be-proud wolf** to all activists not afraid to be attacked as "terrorists" or be labeled un-American for opposing the war-mania sweeping the US. As the multitudes of sheep bleat and wave their flags, a courageous minority have managed to keep their wits about them and stand up to the madness.

A **timber-industry-greenwashed poodle** to the American Forest and Paper Association's Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Program for certifying Pacific Lumber Company's (PL) wood products as produced from "sustainably managed forests."

"Our pursuit and successful completion of the SFI Program certification process assures our customers and neighbors that we are committed to meeting the needs of society and protecting the environment," said PL Chairman John Campbell.



An oxymoronic, **Orwellian-doublespeak poodle** to researchers for working on what they call "green bombs" filled with "environmentally friendly" explosives.

The aim of the research is to replace potentially toxic metals and chlorine-based chemicals with materials like nitrogen, oxygen, hydrogen and carbon. The new bombs will be just as effective at killing the enemy but will not risk the health of the soldiers using them.

Researchers working for the German Army have patented at least two new "environmentally friendly" explosives, which so far have not been used in the field.

A **we-can't-leave-a-single-speck-of-the-planet-wild poodle** to the US Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth for preparing a plan to log 37 million board feet of timber from a 64,000-acre, unspoiled island in Alaska's Tongass National Forest. To promote jobs to bolster the state's ailing timber industry, the plan would allow the construction of up to 22 miles of roads on Gravina Island, a completely wild stretch of temperate rainforest near Ketchikan, Alaska—an area previously protected under President Clinton's Roadless Initiative.



Blast From the Past



WAKE UP!

EARTH FIRST!

NEWSLETTER

November 1
1991



Samhain Edition

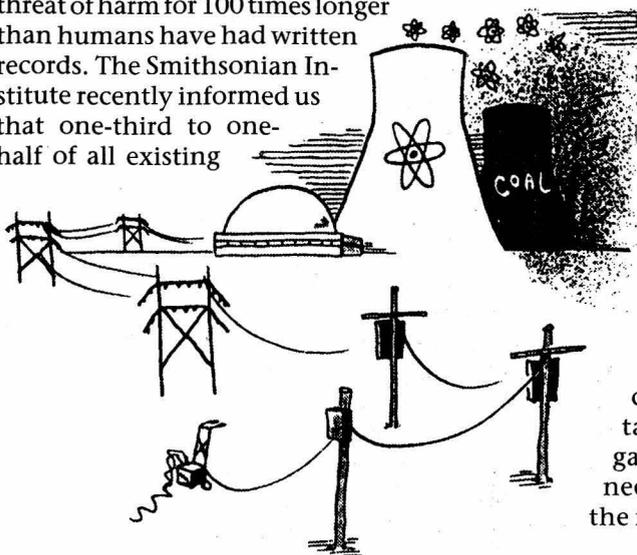
Vol XII, No. 1

BY MARC DAVIS

A few days ago, I stood in front of a federal judge as he sentenced me to six years in prison on monkeywrenching charges; I had destroyed machinery with the intention of slightly slowing the accelerating destruction of our planet.

A few days from now, I will begin to serve my term. I am in terrible pain at the thought of separation from my two little daughters. I am a severe claustrophobe and lost 40 pounds in the two months of incarceration that followed my arrest. Prison will be more than usually difficult for me. But none of it matters much in the context of the crisis in which we find ourselves.

We humans are collectively killing this planet and dooming our own children by indulging in an orgy of consumption and denial. The killing is quite legal: Whatever fragile legislative protections are enacted to slow it are abandoned when it becomes economically inconvenient to retain them. We yearly release millions of tons of chemical and radioactive poisons into our food, air and water—poisons that in some cases carry the threat of harm for 100 times longer than humans have had written records. The Smithsonian Institute recently informed us that one-third to one-half of all existing



species will become extinct in the next few decades. The battle over environmental issues is not about logging jobs versus hiking trails. It is about the continued existence of lifeforms higher than the cockroach on this planet. We are losing.

We are gobbling the seed stock of life and pretending that the free lunch can go on forever. The biosphere in which our species evolved has served to sustain us quite well for millennia. Yet those who seek to stop the brutal assault on our shared home are condemned as radicals by men whose self-proclaimed conservatism is really nothing more than a demand to be allowed to enrich themselves at any cost.

An intelligent conservative knows some deep truths, including the illusory nature of free lunches and the inadvisability of taking irreversible actions without understanding the consequences. Our behavior is neither intelligent nor conservative.

I have learned through working with the dying and the addicted about the incredible power of denial in the human psyche. Denial is what allows the addict to consume more poison, allows the smoker to assign that pain

in his lungs to a temporary cold. The dying progress through certain easily recognizable stages on their journey. Denial is first, followed by bargaining, anger and finally, for those fortunate enough to reach it, peace and acceptance.

We are as a culture and species mostly in the denial stage, with a tentative reach into bargaining as we accept the need to recycle a few of the most convenient items

we demand from our industry. Denial seldom solves anything, but it does allow an extended period of pretend well-being and good feelings. Our cultural denial is reinforced by an economy that is structured in such a way that survival can only be assured by growth.

Growth by its very nature means an increase in the speed efficiency of environmental destruction. All of our political and corporate leaders owe their wealth and their power to growth. Anyone who says that infinite growth on a finite planet is impossible is ridiculed. Denial has become official policy.

There are two forms of biological growth. A healthy organism is born, grows to its genetically programmed size, reproduces and dies. Cancer is also growth, a wild replication of one form of a cell at the expense of all others in an organism. Unchecked, cancer kills its host and itself. Industrial civilization is a cancer on the body of the Earth. We must change course if we wish our children to survive.

If what my three colleagues and I did has no effect other than to further damage an already tattered social contract, then I apologize for my part in it. That was not the point. I acknowledge the necessity of courts and laws, and I accept my prison term. But I am not sorry.

We are in desperate trouble on this Earth, and unless the thick veil of denial is torn, we will march ourselves and the beings with which we share this planet into possible extinction.

Our actions were an attempt, ill conceived or not, to wake our dreaming society. The effort was made not for personal gain but on behalf of all beings and their unborn offspring. I hope someone is listening.

Back issues of the EF!J are available for \$5 each or \$500 for our 21-year set.

Dear SFB: Letters to the Editors

continued from page 3

Dear SFB,

I would like to make it clear that in Free's statement in court he stated his opinion which in some ways represent mine, but in other ways I disagree with him. I respect Jeff and his opinions very much, but in his statement he said he couldn't justify his actions "Any more then one can justify the destruction of the environment for profit. They are both wrong." It's possible I'm misunderstanding the intent of his statement, so let me explain how I feel: The only things "wrong" with the action were that it wasn't done on a larger scale and that we got caught. I will justify my actions only by saying I believe it is my duty to destroy as much capital as is necessary to bring the current ecocidal domination to an end. "The Earth is not dying it's being killed and those who are killing it have names and addresses." So let's go get these motherfuckers, we know where they are.

Free, I love you bro,

—CRITTER

Dear Shit For Brains,

I would like to address the issues of yelling in our movement. Too often, people who call themselves anarchists will use the weapons of patriarchy at their disposal. People raise their voices, and when doing this, they use this abusive behavior to achieve a position of dominance. Most of us can remember being abused by our parents. We've decided that physical violence is socially unacceptable, but verbal violence is a norm in our society. But when has yelling at a friend or fellow organizer ever resolved a conflict? Many people will justify this by saying that "Yelling relieves tension, and prevents physical violence." I think that this is a cop-out, and a rationalization

to prevent personal growth. While yelling at a protest is a good and healthy thing, yelling at your fellow organizers is a weapon of privilege.

Raising your voice puts you in a battle for dominance. I would like to encourage everyone who reads this to consider this issue a matter of personal growth. We must learn to not use the weapons of patriarchy, so we must develop behavior skills that work in harmony with our beliefs. I know it can be done. I've been a member of a worker owned coop for almost two years now, and I've never heard one of my co-workers yell at another. While things do get intense, we always communicate from a position of respect, and equality.

—ABON BLUES

Dear SFB,

This letter is to reveal a disturbing trend in the EF! movement that, despite the rise in anarchist politics, seems to linger in direct action campaigns. Recently an EF! action in my region was accompanied by a press release and press work that demanded that a government agency "enforce all federal laws," and promised to continue blockading the project until such time. Many of the participants in the action are anarchists, and yet none of them had any say in the media message. One person was the media spokeswoman, and her reformist politics defined the thrust of the entire action. I would like to urge folks to take part in media work and hold those who rush to the spotlight accountable to the rest of the group. There is no reason why an Earth First! action should demand the compliance of a genocidal, colonial government who only seeks to co-opt all dissent.

No Compromise!

—THE FRENCH BROAD

Dear EF!

Has EF!'s nonviolent philosophy taken a U-turn with the move to Tucson? Your header above the list of prisoners is really offensive, especially in light of the Sept. 11 tragedy. Ted Kaczynski is "in there for us"?! Ted Kaczynski is a murderer who knowingly and willingly maimed and killed human beings. He is no different from the Sept. 11 terrorists whose warped minds were somehow able to justify blowing up people.

You provide an excellent service. No other publication that I'm aware of compiles such an extensive coverage of frontline enviro battles. Don't compromise your effectiveness or the environmental community by sanctioning terrorism.

—TENA SCRUGGS

Editors' Note: Ted Kaczynski will no longer be listed on the Journal's prisoner support page. Ted himself says that people shouldn't waste time or energy debating this instead of taking action. We agree. You go Ted.

Dear SFB,

I just got your new issue, and I was disappointed to see that the article on the Olympics only mentioned the liberal group's website, www.anti2002.org/. This group is not even willing to say publicly that they are against the Olympics because they think that's too radical. The most in-your-face they have gotten is the domain name. The banner on the website clearly says, "Question the Olympics, challenge the five-ring circus." Is it really that radical to say that one is against something? CANOE (Citizen Activist Network Olympic Education) thinks so. They will only say that they are against poverty, environmental destruction, etc. In the article in the *Journal*, it was written that, "Perhaps the 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."

Anyway, I am the web master for www.burntheolympics.org. We have been consistently trashed in the media by members of CANOE. Unlike CANOE, our website has Utah-specific info, instead of reprints of things about the Sydney Olympics. We have information on what we know about the police force, the dangerous security force, and what it really means to protest in a police state.

We are also one of the few protest groups in... I suppose the country... that hasn't been quick to jump in on the pro-America bandwagon and sacrifice our agenda for that of being pro-media and pro-fundraising.

I was wondering if we could also get some space in the *Journal* for an analysis of what the September 11 actions will mean for protesters to the Olympics. It's fucking nuts what people will be going up against.

—SABRINA

Editors' Note: The best way to get over your disappointment is to submit articles yourself. Tell us what we can do to burn the Olympics.

Dear Shit-fur Brainy Editors,

Your distinguished rag-mag will probably shy away from direct analysis of the ramifications of the September 11 "Attack on America"... So, I'll just try and say this: If Radicals don't seize this moment's opening to crusade "Their Truths" then the victims of the World Trade Center spectacle will have truly died in vain.

For years every "leader" I have argued with could only defend the twisted lies that most environmental groups

expose by pleading "...But the people aren't ready for the truth!" But, "There is no collapse of industrialism and no permanent end to US cultural and economic domination without massive suffering and many deaths. We are already engaged in an eco-social war and if we don't direct its course the "ends will crucify our passivity."

Death, sacrifice and chaos deserve direct responses. The moral of Sept. 11 is that people who work for corporations and the political elite who are killing this planet are all legitimate targets to many people, groups and nations. Or do you think that Iran or Colombian children are better targets? The USA better do more than "wake-up." Negotiate a surrender of wealth, power and plunder or spiral into the darkest days of humanity's failed experiment of "Civilization."

—MARK MY WORDS

Dear Shit for Brains,

The lamest thing I've ever read in the *Journal* was the so called "critique" entitled "Give up Activism" (Geronimo issue), which the editors claim "applies equally well" to N. America and Britain. I disagree. It applies to neither, because it is a huge pile of bullshit wrapped up in over-intellectualized, pretentious jargon. The very first line of this essay is an example of the reasoning that follows. "The activist is a specialist or an expert in social change". This absolutist statement is used as a basis for the faulty reasoning that follows. Fortunately it is absurd. Very few activists are experts. Most are genuine amateurs who feel compelled to take action of some sort, for the sake of a cause based on a variety of motivations and reasons.

The hopelessly, over-educated author claims that "the worldview of activism is dominated by guilt and duty". Though this may be true for some, it is outrageous to think that this is true for all. Wake up! The author ought to try asking some real-life activists what "dominates their worldview" and they will probably get a multitude of answers, like, "go fuck off you sorry-ass, academically-retarded, loser", or more polite and true to the point answers such as: moral outrage, frustration, compassion, anger, sadness and love, just to name

make love, make art, enjoy life, go for hikes in the wilderness, spend a day (or a week) exploring beaches or forests or deserts or doing nothing political whatsoever. If you don't, you'll burn out and grow cynical and morose and old and intellectual and lame, like the author of "Give up Activism" and you'll start using stuffy words like "milieu", and "untactical".

The author also falsely claims that "As an activist you have to deny your own desires because your political activity is defined such that these things do not count as



Are you listening?

a few. Hey author, why don't you give up your self-loathing, anti-activist attitude and go outside in the rain and dance, scream and sing silly songs until you feel better. Your whole essay is a morbid, untrue, thumb-up-your-ass, winge (whine) because you haven't had enough fun lately. You claim that the "activity of an activist is a dull and sterile routine". Well speak for yourself. Obviously your activism is, and herein lies your problem. Activism isn't always fun, but it's up to all of us to make it fun, as much as possible, as often as we can. And it's up to us to take time off and party,

'politics'". Which is probably true for the author and explains a lot why he/she is so fucked up in the head. Here are some quotes from famous activists that might help. "If sex hurts, you're not doing it right"—anonymous (substitute sex for activism and you'll have the same problem) "If I can't dance, I don't want any part of your revolution."—Emma Goldman, "Let your actions define the finer points of your philosophy."—Ed Abbey. Will I give up activism? Never. Will I modify it when needed, and take breaks from it? Absolutely!!

—JOE MAMA

Dear SFB,

I didn't believe it when I read in your June/July issue that some ELFer had burned SUVs at a car dealership and some others had burned down some random condo. This is a waste of good incendiary devices and people's time and effort and makes the rest of the movement look bad. Car dealers and condo owners are not the enemy! (The car dealer said it himself. "I am not General Motors!"). The causes of global warming and urban sprawl are the car manufacturers in Detroit and the oil companies.

It is just plain stupid (and damned dangerous to the movement) to target lower level functionaries and unsuspecting victims of the system. Instead, pay attention to one of the EF! mottoes: Strike at the roots. Find a way to shut down the headquarters, factories, research labs, refineries, officers and distribution centers of the multinationals. If you can't use incendiaries because of possible harm to people or animals, take out their electricity, water, sewage, telephone and cable lines and make it difficult or impossible to reconnect.

There are hundreds of targets. Do some research to find out where they are but don't use your home computer—they track your access! Use public access Internet or an industrial directory or national 800 directory in a library (don't ask the librarian, just look for it. Remember security culture!). Here are a few examples:

Oil companies: refineries, headquarters, distribution depots. Chemical companies: Dow, Monsanto, Solution, Ortho, Bayer, etc.—factories, sales offices. Crop genetic engineering: Monsanto, Syngenta (Novartis), Aventis, Delta & Pine Land—headquar-

continued on next page

Less than 300 words, please

Dear SFB: Letters to the Editors

continued from previous pages
ters, seed factories, labs, seed distributors. Paper and wood companies: Weyerhaeuser, Georgia-Pacific, James River, etc.—headquarters, pulp and paper plants, wood mills, distribution warehouses. Drug companies: Pfizer, Schering, Pharmacia (Upjohn), etc.—headquarters, warehouses. Tobacco companies: Phillip Morris, Lorillard, Reynolds, etc.—Headquarters, factories. Human and animal genetic engineering (deadly “genetherapy”, xenotransplantation, and cloning): just refer to Massachusetts, Washington DC or Raleigh, NC phone books!

Please be careful. They will send agents to try to find you. Don't leave trails and don't hurt people or animals. Be creative, but discreet.

Sincerely

—MORPHEUS

p.s. Cellphone towers are also easy: just cut the round (coax) lines; if you can get access to the radio shack, take out the amps, transmitters, and receivers. But *don't* cut the power to the tower lights, or planes will crash into the towers and people will get killed. (If you make a mistake and take out the lights, call someone to fix it fast!)

Greetings in Solidarity!

I have been greatly enjoying the *Earth First! Journals*. They have been very interesting and very informative. As an Afrikan political activist/organizer/revolutionary I had considered the environmental movement to be a white movement and a white issue. I have been concerned about “environmental racism”. The dumps/hazardous waste, chemical plants, airports, train tracks and major polluters are relegated to the poor communities and primarily to communities of people of color.

I am learning a great deal from the *Earth First! Journals*. Continue your excellent work. I appreciate the *Journal*.

Relentlessly,

—MAFUNDI

p.s. Why not cover some of the environmental issues particular to the Afrikan community and other people of color communities—other than the Native Americans/Indigenous people. Broaden your coverage and broaden your base.

There is a big environmental struggle going on in San Francisco in regards to the Naval Yard there and an attempt to build more hazardous waste sites in the Afrikan communities plus other environmental issues. They could certainly need some support.

Dear SFB,

William P. Meyers' defensive approach was one way to respond to the criticism leveled against Earth Libera-

tion Front (ELF) action in northern Wisconsin. Meyers responded to a letter to EF! criticizing ELF for destroying 500 trees in a federal forestry laboratory near Rhinelander. The trees were ostensibly products of selective breeding rather than genetic modification (see *EF!J*, August–Sept. 2001).

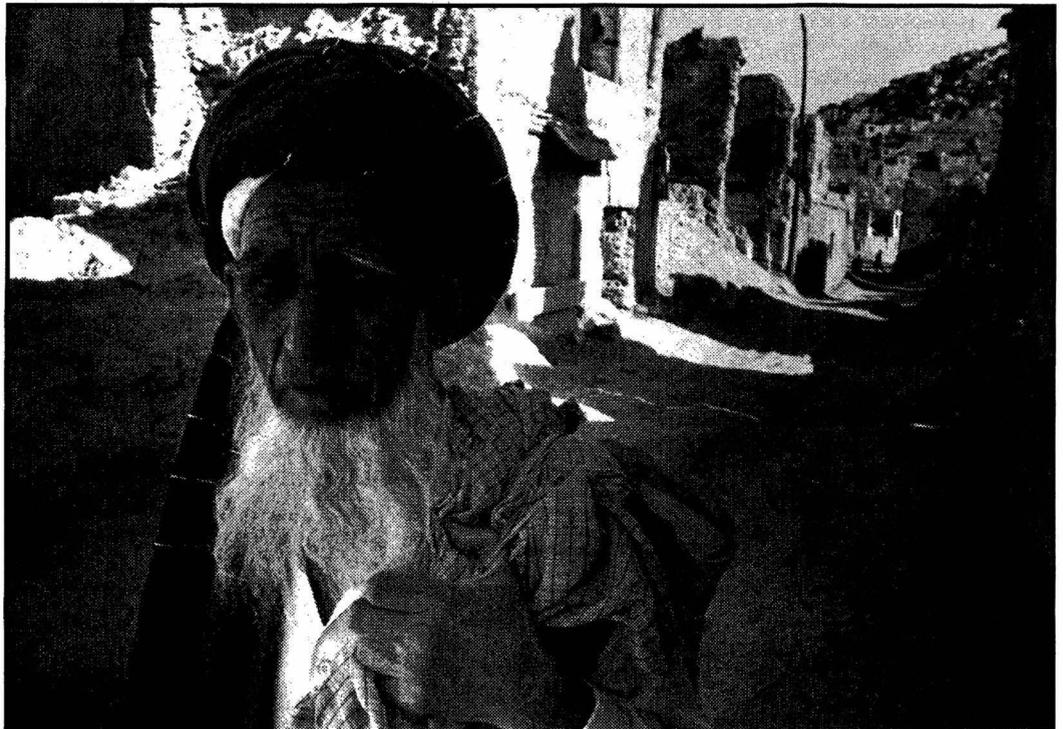
However I believe ELF misses a great opportunity by not generously admitting that the action could have been a mistake, the target not well selected. Poorly chosen targets have been common, too common really, throughout history. The military examples are most egregious of course, but such screw-ups are not limited to armed conflict.

By admitting mistakes ELF will gain two things. First the movement demonstrates a humility and graciousness that sets it apart from the agents of environmental destruction.

And consequently, from the disenchanting masses ELF will gain, not sympathy really, but genuine respect and a cautious willingness to allow ELF to pass freely among them.

Second the admission of mistakes puts a burden on those involved in activities not threatening to the environment to clearly distinguish themselves from those who are. Global consequences should be very much at the fore of our consciousness for all our endeavors. ELF actions and the potential for ELF actions can foster such a consciousness, but only if such a distinction is integral to ELF philosophy. There must be some clear set of guidelines for avoiding ELF retaliation.

ELF and related movements are in position to carry on a great tradition as old as history, of spontaneous direct action. Honor that tradition by acknowledging humble origins and human



Are you thinking?

fallibility. Our hearts are with you.

—THE ANCIENT MARINER

Dear SFB,

Many thank for the May-June issue of the *EFJ*. It has been very encouraging, and has helped to lift my spirits past the concrete, steel and razor wire, by which I am surrounded. Incarceration can, and often does, destroy many good people unfortunate enough to get caught up in this capitalist, greedy "Injustice system."

So to all of my brothers and sisters who are tangled up in this farce of correctional centers "keep your chin up and don't let them grind you down!"

Down with the prison corporation of America! Up with the people!

I would also like to reply to the letter from Ramona in the SFB columns. Since I have no access to a computer or email (oh damn). I will just have to hope you read this. Kudos for your strength, persistence and courage in the fight with your school! It is very encouraging to see that you did not give up even when the chips were stacked against you. Keep up the good work.

If you, or any other family members, would like to write I will write back.

Peace, love and autonomy,
—TRACY "TURKEY" BOOTH
ICC G-202-A
POB 70010
BOISE, ID 83707

Greetings People:

I write you from the confines of one of the US of A's human warehouse's commonly called "the United States Penitentiary." Hopefully you will publish what I have to say if not then I'll assume "free speech" is only for those you grant it to? But in all truth I believe you will consider what I have to say just as important.

Before I begin as a Federal government prisoner I sadly cannot afford the cost of your "great" publication, so I am in hopes that not only will you grant me a free subscription but that when you hopefully print what I have to say you will include my address? cause I really support mentally threw letters.

I know my hand writing and spelling and other english grammar is poor, but print me as I spell as I wish others to know "me."

Did readers I want to thank you for making a stand. As I rot in the United States Penitentiary placed here by my own government. I listen to so many inmates cry about how bad our government is, I ask them before your crime the government charged you with what did you do to fight the government? That's the end of the subject.

But great folks have stood up and I for one am proud. Much of my past stand in my part of my war on government, logging, Giant Corporations I can not speak on as our government calls it a crime.

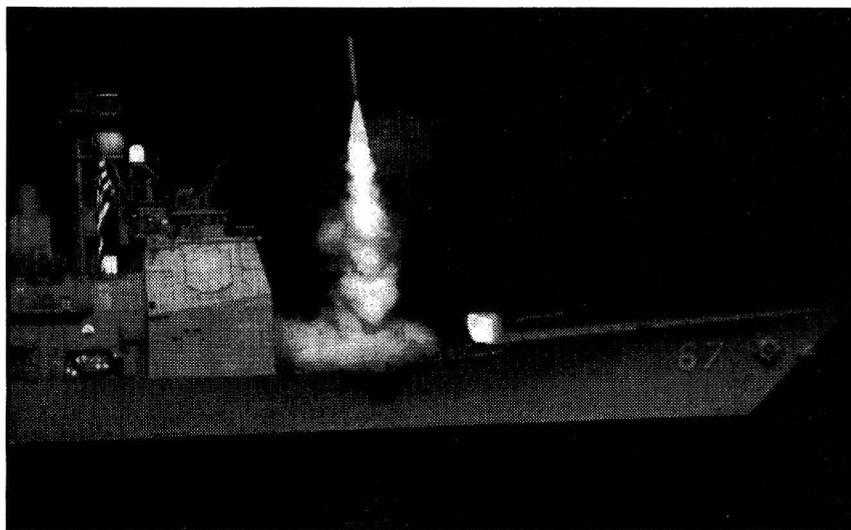
Yet I was there at Seabrook nuclear plant at the 1979 protest. A few months before Three Mile Island I was there then it went wrong. I've stood up to stop the killing of whales, seals, tree's, even our back yards. How many of you had woods where you grew up now to only see Giant malls. It is at the destruction of mother nature that the rich get richer. I figure the tree that once was our tree house is where the bathroom is in a mall.

Never give up hope big brother can and must be stood up to. Certain brothers and sisters know our past nuclear protest. Even as one person we can and will bring about change. We must stop the destruction. Changing the desert to city's like Vegas, destroying mountain tops for coal, which same coal pollutes. Daily in your local paper you can read some sort of destruction of our mother earth.

Soon I shall be free to take my stand I hope all my brother and sisters will stand with me. For now your letters

Wayne Co. How did those folks do that? I imagine others would like to learn from these folks. And, what to do as projects to replace such prison building.

Secondly, in re: "Not Fighting for the Holy Land: To Be Radical Environmentalists in Israel." I found it mind-boggling that there was no acknowledgment of the fact that the area is a settler-area, land seized from the Palestinian people! How does one be a radical environmentalist in a situation of historical conflict over guardianship of the



Is this your answer?

and support would put that smile where one seldom seems to be.

—ROBERT GRANT
#09545-055
USP LEWISBURG
POB 1000
LEWISBURG, PA 17837

Dear Shit for Brains,

I recently received and read your August 2001 issue. I enjoyed reading it. I find you active. I have several comments on 2 of your articles. In the first, "Lockdown Society," I thought it was a good article. However, I was left wanting to know more about the forging of the coalition in

land? While it is of course right on to support preservation of the land and animals, how about preservation of the people who lived there? What about "confronting oppression" there?

For liberation and justice,
—MARILYN BUCK
#004482-285
5701 8TH ST CAMP PARKS B
DUBLIN, CA 94568

Send letters to the editors to:
Dear Shit Fer Brains
c/o Earth First! Journal
POB 3023
Tucson, AZ 85702-3023

Less than 300 words, please

ARMED WITH VISIONS

Clear as cut glass & just as dangerous

WAR IS MURDER ON THE EARTH

WHEN A TREE FALLS IN THE FOREST...

*There is a silly zen koan which asks if a tree falling
in the forest makes any sound if nobody is within earshot.
I emailed Mom for the answer, as follows:*

To: Mother Earth
From: Me

*If the world's what we just hear and see,
Then it seems that it really could be:
When a tree hits the ground
And no human's around
All is silence. Please comment. Love, Me.*

To: You
From: Mother Earth

*'Tis sad you still need to discover
All life is your sister and brother.
So when trees start to fall,
They all hear. Most of all:
I'm always nearby. Love, Your Mother*

*—Uncle Ramon The nickname of a
retired life insurance salesman
named Robert Amon—Ramon, get
it?—US Prosecuting Attorneys insist
on calling it an "alias.")*

When the towers fell in flames
It was the End of Summer in the Spirit Bear Rainforest
And still the ancient canopy whispered water to wake the
—mushrooms below the
green moss.

When the war, hysteria, and pestilence broke out
It was Autumn in the Wild Rockies
The heat and great fires finally withered, and dying leaves
—whimpered softly
nonetheless.

And when the truth about us is blatantly made manifest
—for ALL to see
It will be Winter on Black Mesa
The sun will still trick the grass and the sheep and the
—coyotes into
short-lived but brilliant blue delusions.

So if we end up killing ourselves
There will be Spring for somebody else
With a vibrant south wind and shifting splashes of waxing
—sunlight they still
call Home.

There is Hope but not for us
Gaia evolves.....
May we at least REST in Peace.

—The Radikal Weatherman

RECOLLECTIONS

*Walking down a dusty road,
The sky is baby blue,
Cotton candy floating by;
Up high, a hawk is too.
The sun is warm, the breeze is slight;
So the branches slowly sway,
And the smell of pine comes drifting by;
From the woods across the way.
I cross the field of wildflowers;
And head down to the stream,
Do you really wonder why
I choose THIS place to dream?*

—Terry Krieger



PAWNEE BUTTES

*Dusty bones in moonlight,
buttes above prairie
juniper under sky*

*Over cattle guards, through gates and cow pies,
out of the doors we live within and under the open sky,
I seek a place for sleep.*

*Where is wolf? Buffalo?
Bear?—Old man in his furs*

Wild tenants who lack proper currency,

*They all took off, a beat up old ex-Hogfarm Rainbow People school bus full of
the wild, driven by wine-swilling pissed-pants coyote, bound for some god-
knows-where town in Mexico.*

*Wind in the juniper
voice of the land*

Listen! It says

*I am the song of the prairie
death chant of Old Ones
voice of seasons, moons, storms
grand web you've forgotten:
in love you kill, eat, die, are eaten.*

*Chicken plucked from barnyard rivalries,
steer, never to know heifer, but the rancher's
—castrating knife.*

*Wild cries as you stalk aisles
supermarket hunters*

*Peas, potatoes, carrots torn from Earth
to make new flesh and bone—
presidents and postal workers,
televangelists and teachers.*

*But the chain is circle
delight of fungus, molds, worms
we mulch our way to eternal life—
marvelous, spiritual true love everywhere,
— everywhere.
meat of love in an America of flesh*

*Under juniper I dream the song
of a new America
where two-legged, four-legged,
winged and swimming
all find voice*

*America
seamless
wild
her great prairies unfenced
where grasses heave through pavements,
weave the bones of long dead cattle,
where bison thunder across freeways
and the wolf's howl runs once more
in our blood.*

—Michael Adams



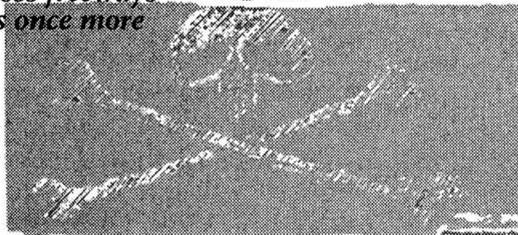
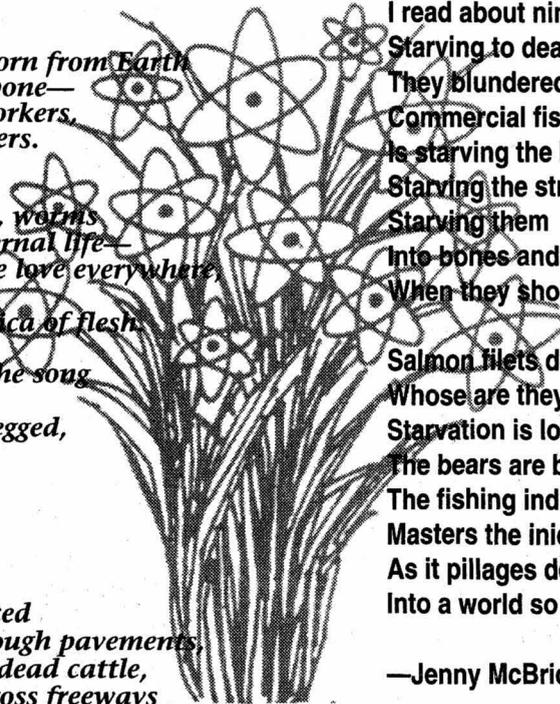
SALMON FILETS

*Passing the meat counter
At the back of Jewel I saw
Long, red salmon filets
For sale.
Whose are they?
Only the day before
I read about nine grizzlies
Starving to death in British Columbia.
They blundered into a village where salmon run no more.*

*Commercial fishing
is starving the bears, wasting the natives,
Starving the strong, proud grizzly,
Starving them
Into bones and fur as winter approaches
When they should be fat and rich on fish flesh.*

*Salmon filets don't feed the poor in the ghetto.
Whose are they?
Starvation is long and cold and cruel
The bears are beaten
The fishing industry
Masters the iniquity of unrepentant torture
As it pillages deeper
Into a world so recently blinding with life.*

—Jenny McBride



*Send poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
POB 14501
Berkeley, CA 94712-5501*

HOLD THE VISION CONTINUED...

continued from page 5

I also think it is important that we make a strong, visible presence in the streets, that we don't voluntarily relinquish the one political space in which we have been able to have a significant impact.

It is hard to predict where the mood of the country is going. Direct action is a powerful tool, but like a chainsaw it's not the tool you want in every situation. Direct action points a spotlight on an issue, can directly interfere with an unjust group or situation and delegitimize an institution or policy. Used at the wrong moment or without a strong base of support, it risks legitimizing the very institutions we seek to undermine.

On September 11, police gave their lives because they stayed in a dangerous situation helping other people get out. A lot of us in this struggle talk about being willing to die. They just did. As individuals, the police are of a class that does not gain from the policies we oppose. Let's not write off the possibility that some of them could be brought to support us. I want peace, not war.

Justice calls to all of us. But justice, to be meaningful, is not blind vengeance. We need justice for the Arab Americans who live among us. They deserve our support and protection. Justice for the people of other countries who may become our victims. Justice for the many victims of ongoing terror around the world and recognition of the part we have played in supporting and forging that terror.

I suggest that we all begin a creative thinking process, that we consciously choose to set aside our fears

and our depression. I suggest that we consider creative new alternatives. Can we create not just a protest, but moments of public beauty that can transform the world?

Finally, "faith" and "religion" are being thrown around and served up to us in ways that are at the moment rather sickening. Religion of any denomination can motivate the worst acts and be a rationale for hate. And yet it's hard to get through times like these without faith in something. I don't generally like to inflict my spirituality on people who might not want it. But I feel moved to tell you what's getting me through the night, along with the love and support of my community.

It's the faith that there is a great, creative power that works through the living world toward life, diversity, healing and regeneration—that power works in us, in our human love, in our work for justice, in our courage and our visions. We don't need priests or ministers or even witches to contact that power for us: We each have our own direct line. It exists within us, infinite, unlimited. Ultimately, it is stronger than fear, stronger than violence, stronger than hate.



The Tower represents the destruction of the illusions we build up around us—the shocking realization that we're part of a larger world. In essence the destruction of the Trade Center has had a similar effect on America. This ancient image has parallels to the modern one—understanding the deeper meaning that we're connected to an entire world outside our man-made realities, is critical to navigating the future safely.

—JOHN BESKE, RED GATE EARTH FIRST!

POLITICS, JEALOUSY, TOTAL INFATUATION OF OSAMA BIN LADEN

BY PRINCE BIN THERE AND BLINKED

Dear Luminosities, Wimyn, Wanks and Gents, welcome to the Salon,

Despite the Fifth Amendment, I want to say that I'm *not* the bin Laden of Turtle Island. Mad jealousy maybe. Is it a guy thang or the I'm-the-coolest-revolutionary-around trip that gets my goat stinking? Nah, its guilt. If I had just studied more, prayed once, fought my way to fame and status or stayed up in that damn Luna tree with Butterfly—I could have really been somebody well-known, like the "Sultan of Ecotopia."

I'm not usually the jealous type, or I don't get the chance. Girlfriends don't leave me for another guy or girl, they just get seriously sensitized to my broken-record-Jihad-political-economy rap. Almost famous for boasts of no personal ego, my jealousy must stem from "movement ego"—a longing for glory.

Personal Jealousy of Osama bin Laden?

If I had an ego, I'd be jealous. For one, he is inches taller. He's been able to travel more than I have; though he hasn't ever seen a redwood tree or the grandeur of a Grand Canyon tourist invasion. His father left him more money than mine did, but mine still talks at least.

Bin Laden has enough brothers and sisters to form one hell of an affinity group—practically his own basecamp! (The 17th son of 24, with 28 sisters). Three wives and 15 children—I'm *not* jealous of *that*.

Maybe it's his dark eyes, snazzy beard, that gaunt hollowness?

It *couldn't* be love, faith or power. Could it?

The Jealousy of Accomplishment

There have been other bombings in the US: The Unabomber attacks on government and computer executives; the Weather Underground bombings of the NYC police station (June 1970), Long Island courthouse in Queens in solidarity with prison riots in NYC (October 1970), the US capital to protest the invasion of Laos (March 1971), the Pentagon following the bombing of Hanoi and the mining of North Vietnamese ports (May 1972); the US Capital by Puerto Rican Independistas; the New World Liberation Front powerline bombings (1974-79). The biggest "leftist" bombing other than "Madison" was when three of the Weather Underground blew themselves up in Greenwich Village, New York, 1970.

None of these had glamor.

None possessed the fateful timing of September 11.

Bin Laden caught this summer's wave of anti-American sentiment. I thought I was hot on a similar trajectory,

riding my own magic carpet into the media spotlight of the escalating anti-globalization protests. My well-planned swoop to fame was more like a silent fart when you're trying to impress some *drunk* buddies with a loud quacker.

"That stank, Hank."

I'm pissed. His timing is better than mine—and way grander. By November, I was supposed to be hanging 300-feet up in a treesit platform between two skyscrapers. Me, an instant media celebrity dishing out "the radical gospel"—cell phones, live web streaming. Fat chance.

Mr. "trained-by-the-CIA" bin Laden scooped my action and trumped my whole project by changing the world and stealing the stage that defines radicalism and resistance.

I was sure that the ELF would take the microphone away from the timid babblers of US eco-moderation—or maybe even me, ol' bin There and Blinked.

My backup plan was a campaign to challenge sprawl development in the Southwest via lawsuits over water. Julia Butterfly made a date to plan a fundraising event.

I trimmed my hair and even brushed my teeth, all set to rendezvous in Sedona, Arizona on September 14. Yep, bin Laden took out two towers and Julia canceled.

Maybe This is Personal

Another year and my writings would have been hot! "bin" and I have written a lot on international affairs and the philosophy of Evil (US, of course, and actually quite identical arguments). His picture and t-shirts are hawked around the world. His words are famously infamous. I can't even put my name to my writing, or I'd be pigeon-holed, stereotyped and lose my only bit of "Mystery-Charisma"—anonymity.

Bin Laden drove the Soviet Union out of Afghanistan and may soon drive the infidels (us) out of Arabia or the whole Middle East. I couldn't even get Maxxam out of Humboldt County, California. His holy sites are still intact; mine (low elevation wilderness) have all been butchered for Japanese chopsticks.

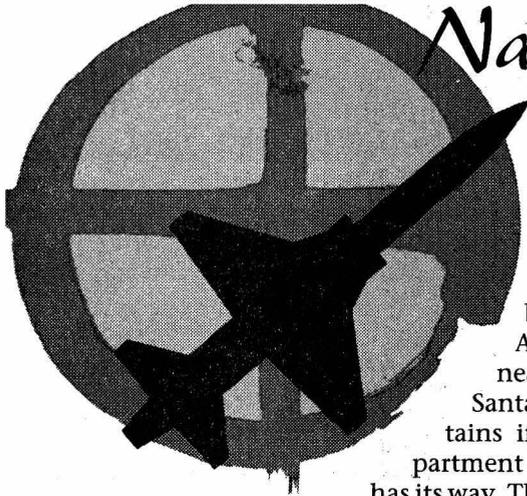
He's got thousands of martyrs, dozens of heroes (Mohammed, Faisal I Abdel-Aziz, Arafat). I've got my rainbow friend David Chain and who else? Patty Hearst?

I smash TVs to show how pure I am. His Taliban friends banned TV completely and hung them from trees in Kabul.

We both like deserts, mountains, trekking and that rush of being on-the-run. I sing hard about dancing on the ruins. Ruins follow his wake. He's real. I'm just *dreaming* delusions.

Bin Laden is not sad. For sure he's not jealous. He is riding an unstoppable current of history. Our impotence and fragility are laughable. The West no longer has an ounce of bravery left to it.





Navy Bombs Draw Fire Over California

A 500-foot, red and white bull's-eye will be painted on Army property near California's Santa Lucia Mountains if the US Department of the Navy has its way. The Navy plans

to use the target—the Doolittle Training Target Area—near the edge of Big Sur to teach jet fighter pilots how to drop bombs.

Using planes capable of supersonic speeds, flying an estimated 3,000 sorties a year, the Navy would drop 36,000 practice bombs in a place best known for its silence. A naval officer described the exercise as “kindergarten training” for fighter pilots at Fort Hunter Liggett. Currently, the fort serves as a training ground for Army reserves and National Guard.

Navy officials have defended the bombing plan as key to national security, adding that the flights will never reach supersonic speeds, will not use live bombs nor harm the area's flora and fauna. The Navy proposal suggests that the bombers will be too accurate to cause any harm.

Imagine...

This description of a run by two MiG jets is equivalent to, perhaps with a little less throttle, that of an F-18. Imagine this 36,000 times a year.

“Three puffs of white smoke appeared at the edge of the plain to our south, and another on a ridge beyond a cluster of houses on the outskirts of the village. Then, as we heard the sound of approaching jets, we understood. The helicopter had dropped smoke beacons for the pilots, whose aircraft flashed into the sky from nowhere, the engines so loud they shook the ground. The noise was indescribable. I tried to photograph them as they attacked. My fingers trembled at the controls of my camera as I tried to follow their shapes, certain that the pilots had seen me.

Two MiG fighter-bombers screamed over us, dived, swooped and leaped vertically upwards above the ridges, scattering clusters of magnesium flares that trailed from

In this traditional homeland of the Salinan tribe, Native Americans and environmental activists oppose such a massive assault against the cultural and natural wonders of the area. The target is in the heart of the Salinan homeland, with 300 certified archaeological sites, graves and village remnants.

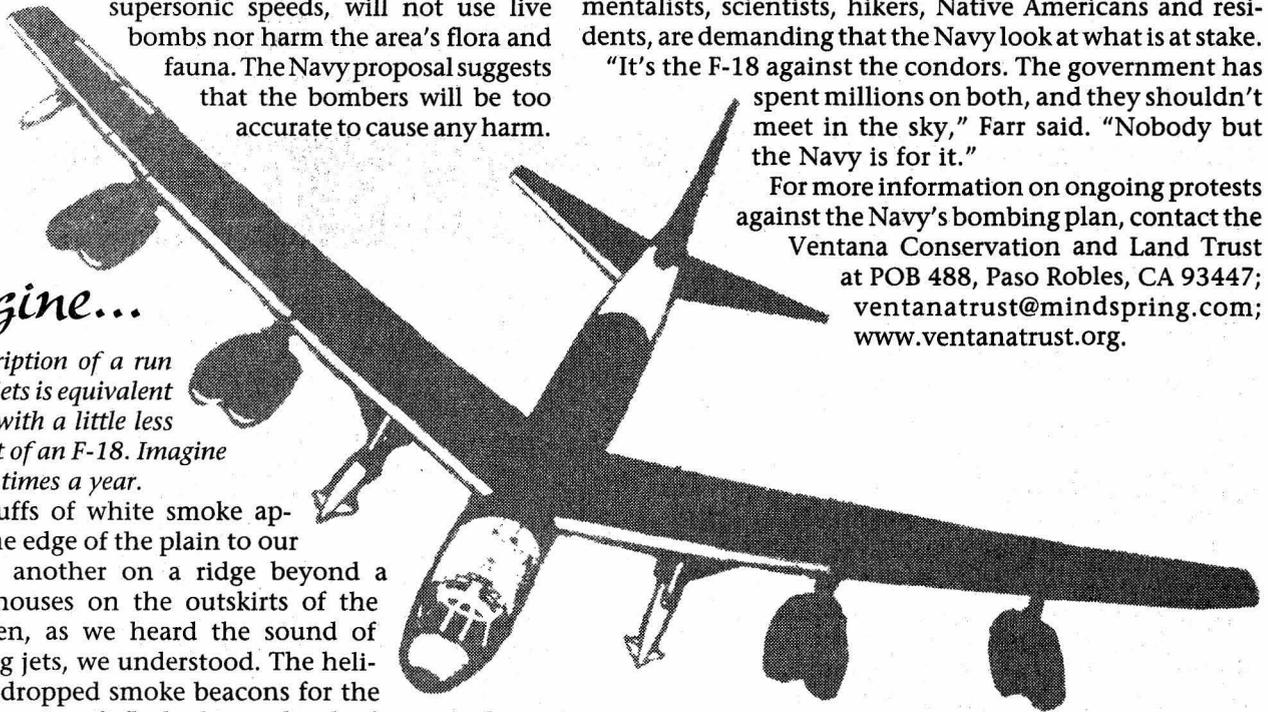
The Navy “told us how accurate they are,” said Gregg Castro, chairman of the Salinan Tribal Council. “They can't guarantee it. We know they can't. It only takes one [bomb] to land in the exact wrong place... The arch is unique. Once it's gone, it's gone. There's no repairing it.”

Fort Hunter Liggett is made up of 165,000 acres of oak savanna near the Ventana Wilderness. It is a relatively pristine coastal mountain valley, which supports the only wild woodland plant and animal habitat of any size in coastal California. More than 55 percent of all of California's native plants are here, and the area has recently seen a rise in the number of tule elk, condors and bald eagles that call it home. Fort Hunter Liggett has been preserved for the last 60 years largely because the Army kept people out and the land intact.

Protesters, including Representative Sam Farr, environmentalists, scientists, hikers, Native Americans and residents, are demanding that the Navy look at what is at stake.

“It's the F-18 against the condors. The government has spent millions on both, and they shouldn't meet in the sky,” Farr said. “Nobody but the Navy is for it.”

For more information on ongoing protests against the Navy's bombing plan, contact the Ventana Conservation and Land Trust at POB 488, Paso Robles, CA 93447; ventanatrust@mindspring.com; www.ventanatrust.org.



their bellies like comets. They banked and swooped again, glinting, deadly, silver, in long, roaring dives out of the west, pulled up suddenly in tandem, and then dived again, beyond the village... Then they were gone, and all that was left was the ringing in our ears and two widening stains of brown Earth against the sky hundreds of feet high.”

—FROM AN UNEXPECTED LIGHT: TRAVELS IN AFGHANISTAN

ARE YOU A PATRIOT OR A TERRORIST? CONTINUED...

continued from page 7

Conspiracy law casts a very broad net entangling people who often have a tangential connection to the crime."

The new anti-terrorist laws would also give the government broad authority to seize the property of someone accused of a crime before proving guilt. The change would apply not just to "terrorists" but also to routine criminal cases.

Conservative Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was quoted in the *New York Times*, saying that Americans must be willing to "give up" some personal freedoms "to feel safer." If the US Constitution is the only built-in safeguard our nation has against a military dictatorship, then O'Connor's quote is bad news, since it is the Supreme Court that decides what is "constitutional" and what is not. Because we cannot count on the Supreme Court to uphold even our most fundamental constitutional rights, our energies as a direct action movement must be directed toward setting off public alarms despite this climate of active fear mongering.

Racist "Profiling"

In addition to murders, beatings, death threats and other intimidation of Arab and non-white people since the 9/11 attacks, the new laws would allow racial profiling that allows the government to "profile" and track the latest "suspect" population. A modern, technological version of the Japanese internment camps of the 1940s, such "profiling" can easily be applied to "suspect" activists for similar ends. Anti-globalization activists often encounter such profiling when attempting to cross borders to attend mass demonstrations. African Americans have encountered racial profiling regularly as it is a widely used policing tool in the drug war.

The war on drugs has also nurtured a militarized domestic policing approach which is quite consistent and compatible with the mandates of the Anti-Terrorism Act as well as the "Homeland Defense" initiative. The war on drugs "has allowed police to work with National Guard units, helicopters and automatic weapons," according to Seattle National Lawyers Guild attorney Paul Richmond. As

with the drug war, "anti-terrorism" will be the catchall phrase to justify and perpetuate the military prison industrial surveillance complex.

Many of us on the frontlines of ecodefense have long suffered gross levels of federal harassment, incarceration and violence. We may be able to find more sympathy, support and allies in the ranks of liberals and moderates who now find that they too are awash in a tidal wave of political repression. The events of 9/11 were horrifying, especially to those closest to ground zero, but we cannot be slowed down by shock or confusion as the state has become much more defensive, and indeed, offensive. Remember the words of wobbly organizer Joe Hill just prior to his execution, "Don't mourn, organize."

We've had a police state ever since the slaughter of 20 million Natives in the Americas. "The only thing different, the only thing new," as Patsy Cline sang, is that they are codifying and legalizing a full blueprint for an overt military government.

To get in touch with the author, email her at warcry@indymedia.org.

REVOLUTION IN INDIA!

BY ROB LOS RICOS

India is a vast, varied nation with dozens of ethnic and cultural populations within its borders. Though densely populated, India remains a very agricultural society, and thus the people there retain a strong sense of closeness to the land they inhabit. Despite being a modern, industrial nation—India has more communication satellites in orbit than any other country and manufactures more PCs and motion pictures.

People in India have often been at the forefront of environmental struggles. The term "tree hugger," for instance, originated there when women forest defenders linked arms around trees to prevent them from being logged. Also, an alliance of small farmers and peasants has succeeded in establishing a *de facto* banishment of

Monsanto—not by petitioning their government or voting, but by putting every bit of Monsanto's product to the torch. There are vast peasant and indigenous peoples' movements arising across the nation in opposition to dam building projects, mining operations, rampant deforestation and multinational corporate fishing.

Starting November 18, a nationwide campaign of "ongoing direct action against the ill effects of globalization" is being planned by the National Alliance of People's Movements (NAPM). While other countries and societies are disintegrating into warring ethnic, nationalistic and cultural factions, the exploited people of India are pulling together to fight against the New World Order. Here are some of their demands: that India quit the WTO; cancella-

tion of India's World Bank/IMF debts; farmland for agricultural families living in villages *only*—no corporate farms; human rights protection for women; Enron and Monsanto out of India and boycotts of all multinational, corporate products.

This is a truly revolutionary program, and the people of India deserve our support and solidarity. Let's provide them with funds and target our homegrown domestic terrorists—US government, Monsanto, Union Carbide, WTO and financial institutions—who are threatening these people and their homelands.

For more information, contact NAPM, c/o Haji Habib, Bldg. "A" Wing, 1 floor, Naigaon Cross Rd, Dadar (East) Mumbai, India 14; sanjaymangala_2000@yahoo.com.

WHY THE FUTURE NEEDS US

Nature & Technology—*Ultimately there can be only one.*

BY JAMES BELL

"Singularity—A point at which the derivative of a given function of a complex variable does not exist, but every neighborhood of which contains points for which the derivative exists. A point at which space and time are infinitely distorted by gravitational forces and which is held to be the final state of matter falling into a black hole."—*Webster's Ninth Dictionary*

"A world ends when its metaphor has died."

—ARCHIBALD MACLEISH, POET

Nearly everyone has encountered a singularity. Something odd and akin to a coordinate, singularity happens on some of the maps of the world in a standard atlas. Everything appears "correct" until we look at regions very close to the poles. In the standard Mercator projection, the north and south poles appear not as points, as they truly exist, but are spread out into a straight line along the top and bottom of the map. If you travel to this singularity you will find nothing nearly as catastrophic as the singularity that happens at the center of a collapsed star, known as a black hole—nor would you find anything as Earth changing as what scientists are defining as a technological singularity. The coordinate singularity is simply an inappropriate choice of coordinates, but the coming technological singularity is a complex metaphor that captures efforts to understand the world of tomorrow.

There is a consensus that this singularity will be a point in time where the old models of reality are thrown out and a "new reality rules," where new metaphors of the world will form and take hold. Beyond the singularity, life will have evolved to the point where no distinction exists between technology and nature.

If there exists no distinction between technology and nature then life as we know it has definitely gone extinct.

Powerful people understand the implications of this moment and are consciously and actively working to bring it about. Minorities of scientists, also aware of the coming singularity, are doing everything they can to stop it from happening. The gears of globalization, entities like the WTO and the World Bank, ensure that as the singularity approaches the majority of the world will have no say in how science and technology will affect them.

Some scientists have theorized that the purpose of life itself is to bring about the singularity. Some say that the major changes will happen in a matter of hours, much like what would happen in outer space if one could reach the dense anomaly at the center of a black

hole—the place beyond a collapsed star's "event horizon." Here one finds the astrophysicist's singularity—a rift in the continuum where Einstein's rules no longer function. It is a place beyond human understanding.

"What is it?" "when will it happen?" and "who is behind it?" are questions about the technological singularity that technology corporations would rather you not ask. The biotech industry would rather those questions get asked after genetically engineered foods have become commonplace. If the public understood the ramifications of the singularity it could cause panic around the acceptance of new technologies. Monsanto spends millions of dollars on public relations to avoid such public questioning.

For now the debate about the consequences of the singularity have stayed "contained" within the halls of technology; the kinks are being worked out and "opponents" are being quieted.

Machine Evolution

A little background may be required to bring you up to date with current industry and scientific thinking. Central to the workings of the singularity are a number of laws; one of which is known as Moore's Law. Gordon E. Moore, co-founder of Intel Corporation, noted that the number of transistors that could fit on a single computer chip had doubled every year for six years from the beginnings of integrated circuits in 1959. He predicted that the trend would continue, and it has, though the doubling rate was later adjusted to an 18-month cycle. Moore's Law continues to hold true today. Now millions of circuits are found on a single miniscule computer chip. A resulting impact has been the realization by a few scientists and businesses that technological "progress" is itself accelerating at an exponential rather than linear growth rate.

In 2005, IBM plans to introduce "Blue Gene," a computer that can perform one million-billion calculations per second—about one twentieth the power of the human brain. According to Moore's Law, a computer's hardware will surpass human brainpower in the first decade of this century. Software that emulates the human mind, "artificial intelligence," may take a few more years to evolve.

The exponential growth of technologic progress is felt in industries outside of the computer sciences as well—for example, the mapping of the human genome "ahead of schedule" and the increasing ability of astrophysicists to explore the farthest reaches of the universe. Designer and inventor Stewart Brand, in his book *The Clock of the Long Now*, discusses another law—Monsanto's Law. It states that *the ability to identify and use genetic information is doubling every 12 to 24 months.*



This exponential growth in biological knowledge is transforming agriculture, nutrition and health care in the emerging life sciences industry. Monsanto doesn't mention its work on human germline engineering—that is, designing disease-resistant, higher-yield people. By 1997, Monsanto Corporation claimed that a computer-accelerated "Monsanto's Law" was operating at a similar pace to Moore's Law.

Self-Replicating Atomic-size Machines

Another cutting-edge field of research with an exponential growth rate of knowledge is nanotechnology—the science of building "machines" out of atoms. A nanometer is atomic in scale, a distance one-hundred-thousandth the width of human hair. The goal of this science is to change the atomic fabric of matter—to engineer "machine-like atomic structures" that reproduce like living matter. In this respect it is similar to biotechnology, except that nanotechnology needs to literally create something like the non-organic version of DNA to drive the building of its tiny machines. University of Texas Professor Angela Belcher states, "We're working out the rules of biology in a realm where nature hasn't had the opportunity to work." Belcher is combining genetically modified proteins with semiconductors in the hope of using proteins to do the "building" of the non-living nanostructure. The technique is a hybrid of biotechnology and nanotechnology. What would take millions of years to evolve on its own "takes about three weeks on the bench top," says Belcher.

Machine progress is knocking down the barriers between all the sciences. Chemists, biologists, engineers and physicists are now finding themselves collaborating on more experimental research. This collaboration is best illustrated by the opening of Cornell University's *Nanobiotechnological Center* and other such facilities around the world. These scientists predict a breakthrough around 2005 to 2015 which will open the way to molecular-size computing—allowing exponential technologic progress to race toward infinity.

Reaching Infinity

Outside of industry and science, one of Earth's species is also experiencing tremendous exponential growth—the rising human population. Dan Eder, a scientist at the Boeing Artificial Intelligence Center, comments, "Human population growth in the past 10,000 years has been following a hyperbolic growth trend. Since about 1600 AD the trend has been steadily accelerating with the asymptote, or the point of near infinite increase, located in the year 2035 AD." An infinite number of humans is of course impossible, and many scientists predict our numbers will hover around nine billion at mid-century. Eder contends that if being human is defined as having "consciousness," then artificial life will be what makes up the number discrepancy.

Experts, like inventor Raymond Kurzweil, contend that

developments we only thought possible in "20,000 years" will happen in this century. They point to exponential growth trends in science and industry quickly becoming near infinite with each subsequent yearly doubling. This means that at some point only a few decades away or possibly sooner, the future becomes "future-incomprehensible."

Scientists are debating, not so much *if* it will happen, but what discovery will soon set off the series of Earth-altering technologic advancements that will bring forth the singularity. San Diego University Professor of Computer Science Vernor Vinge first alerted the scientific community to the singularity in 1993, "We are on the edge of change comparable to the rise of human life on Earth. Within 30 years, we will have the technological means to create superhuman intelligence. Shortly after, the human era will end."

Technologic Globalization at all Costs

Physicists, mathematicians and scientists like Vernor Vinge, and Ray Kurzweil have identified through their accelerated technological change theories the likely boundaries of the singularity and have predicted with confidence the effects leading up to it over the next couple of decades.

The majority of people closest to these theories and laws, the tech sector of the world, can hardly wait for the singularity to arrive. The true believers call themselves "extropians," "post-humans" and "trans-humanists" and are actively organizing not just to bring the singularity about, but to counter what they call "techno-phobes" and "neo-luddites"—groups like Greenpeace, Earth First! and the Rainforest Action Network.

The global neo-luddite movement was born on February 24, on New York City's Upper East Side. The International Forum on Globalization (IFG) held a Teach-In on Technology and Globalization at Hunter College. The goal of the event, announced IFG spokesperson Jerry Mander, was to "bring together the protest movement born in Seattle with the leading critics of technologies—luddites, if you will."

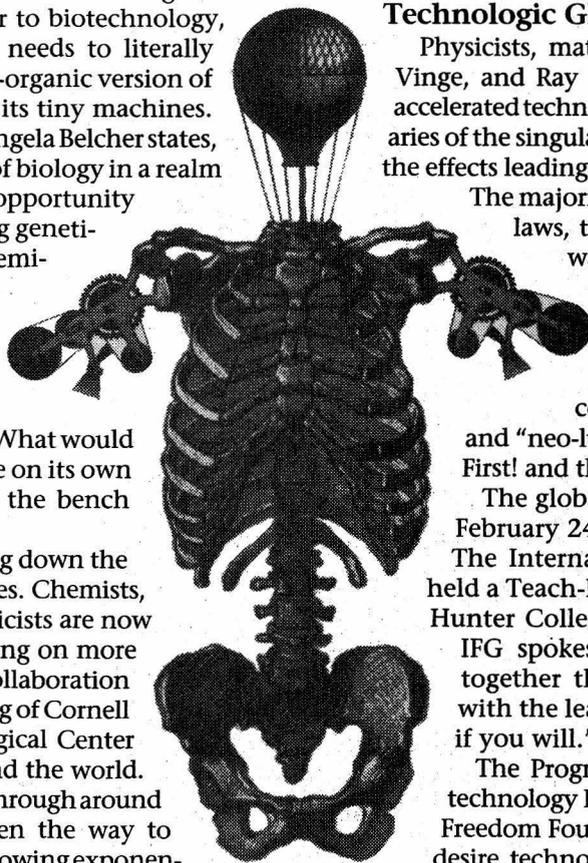
The Progress Action Coalition, AgBioworld, Biotechnology Progress, Foresight Institute, the Progress Freedom Foundation and other industry groups who desire technologic progress at all costs acknowledge that the greatest threat to this progress comes not from environmental groups, but from a small faction of the scientific community—where one voice stands out.

The Warning

It is fair to say that a wrench has been thrown into the arrival of the singularity by an unlikely source—Sun Microsystems Chief Scientist Bill Joy. This man ranks right up there with Bill Gates when it comes to influence in and out of the computer world. Joy helped give birth to Unix, co-founded Sun Microsystems and went on to develop the software systems Java and Jini. These systems helped give the Internet "life."

In a now infamous April 2000 cover story in *Wired* magazine, *Why the Future Doesn't Need Us*, Joy warned of the dangers posed by developments in genetics, nanotechnology

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and robotics. Joy both understood and believed the Earth-changing ramifications of the events leading up to the singularity that Kurzweil and Vinge were prophesizing. The world was warned—ground zero approached.

The article sparked a dialogue that has been joined by business and technology leaders, members of Congress and presidents' inner circles. The *Times of London* compared Joy's statement to Einstein's 1939 letter to President Roosevelt which alerted him to the possibility of a nuclear bomb.

Joy's warning is the latest salvo in the debate surrounding the impacts of exponential technologic progress run amok. He gives credence to the reality of a coming singularity while pointing out that things must change, or we will not navigate it—we could be the last generation of humans.

Central to the warning is the difference between the technologies of the 20th century and those of the 21st. The 20th century gave rise to nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) technologies that, while powerful, require vast access to raw materials, technical information and large-scale industries. The 21st century technologies of genetics, nanotechnology and robotics (GNR) however, will *not* require large facilities or rare raw materials. In fact, Joy writes, "knowledge alone will enable mass destruction"—what he calls KMD or knowledge-enabled mass destruction.

This power becomes further amplified by the fact that these new GNR technologies will be able to "replicate." The old NBC technologies did not—nuclear bombs did not sprout more bombs and toxic spills did not grow more spills. The new GNR technologies though, can replicate beyond control. Released into the environment, GNR technologies are nearly impossible to recall or clean up.

Globalization Without Representation

Joy understands that the greatest dangers we face ultimately stem from a world where increasingly global corporations dominate—a future where much of the world has no voice in how the world is run. He writes, "The 21st-century GNR technologies have clear commercial uses and are being developed almost exclusively by corporate enterprises. We are aggressively pursuing the promises of these new technologies within the now-unchallenged system of global capitalism and its manifold financial incentives and competitive pressures."

Joy believes that the system of global capitalism combined with our current rate of progress gives the human race a 30-50 percent chance of becoming extinct around the time the singularity happens. He has based his estimates on humanity's survival around the speculation of noted philosophers and scientists. He adds, "Not only are these estimates not encouraging, but they do not include the probability of many horrid outcomes that lie short of extinction."

Global Progress on the Edge of Extinction

Atmospheric chemist Paul Crutzen won the Nobel Peace Prize for explaining the hole in the ozone layer. The hole above Antarctica is caused by chlorofluorocarbons. Had chemists earlier in the last century decided to use bromine instead of chlorine to produce coolants—a mere quirk of chemistry—the ozone hole would have been far larger, occurred all year and severely affected life, he said. "Avoiding that was just luck," stated Crutzen. That no scientist had predicted the hole or its impact is a sobering thought for anyone wishfully thinking of a corporate-controlled, utopian future before or after the singularity. "We missed something very important. There may be more of these things around the corner."

It is very likely that scientists and global corporations will miss key developments (or actively avoid discussion of them) as they take place in our natural world. A whole generation of scientists has left the field for the biotech and nanotech labs. Biologist Craig Holdrege, who has followed biotech since it's beginnings in the 1970s, warns, "Biology is losing its connection with nature." Maybe this, combined with the motives of a global capitalist economy, partially explains why billions of dollars get invested into lab research that keeps Monsanto's Law, Moore's Law and technologic progress accelerating towards the singularity.

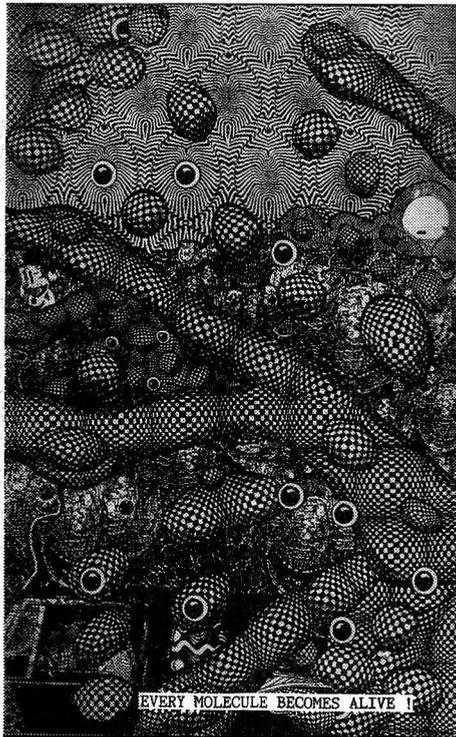
Cyberpunk author William Gibson has commented on humanity's predicament, "It is difficult for us to know what we lose. We are constantly losing things, and often, as we lose them, we can't remember what they were. They go, they really do; we lose them totally as we move forward in this increasingly mediated existence."

Scientist Raymond Kurzweil, author of the best-selling *Age of Spiritual Machines* and the forthcoming *The Singularity is Near*, researched many examples

of exponential growth trends. He documents not just the changes that we can all feel and see, but also the explosion of this "scientific progress" and the changes it implies. Yet there is something missing from this discussion of the technologic singularity, even from those scientists—like Bill Joy—who would rather Kurzweil's vision not happen.

This something that is missing is one example of exponential *decline* that no singularity advocate is mentioning—the variable left out of the grand equation. The true cost of technologic progress and the singularity will mean the exponential decline of the planet's inhabitants—an ever-increasing rate of global extinction. It becomes readily apparent that nature and technology are not just evolving, but competing with one another—ultimately there will be only one.

James Bell is a writer for the national environmental information group Sustain based in Chicago. This article is an excerpt from his forthcoming book on the implications of the technological singularity. For more information visit www.technologicalsingularity.info.



artwork by Maximilian Traffic

Fighting an Uphill Battle Toward Freedom

Free Speaks From Prison continued

continued from page 16

overall supportive. So if you're out there reading this, thank you!

EF!J: *Aware of the corruption within the prison system and the possible sentence you could receive, why didn't you take the original plea agreement offered?*

Free: Contrary to popular belief I never got a real deal. From the get go, I was suspected/accused of being the leader of the Earth Liberation Front in the northwest. The first deal for seven-and-a-half years was that I tell on everyone and my co-defendant Critter. Fuck that. After that, all my deals offered were 10 years and up. Besides, they wanted me to plead guilty to acts I didn't do. They wanted me to say I committed a person-to-person crime with intent to hurt someone. That simply wasn't true.

EF!J: *The government has set out to make an example of you with its heavy-handed sentence, and it appears to hope that by locking you up that resistance will fade. As the risks and potential consequences increase, what can we do to encourage and/or support direct action and sabotage in defense of the Earth?*

Free: The first thing we can do is to stop denouncing it. Stop apologizing for it. We need to give overwhelming support to those willing to make the sacrifices necessary to participate in direct action and sabotage. We need to set up a prisoner support network, develop a legal fund that is ready to go before it's needed. There are so many things we can do. Imagine hundreds of people stepping forward and claiming credit for something when someone gets busted.

EF!J: *Can you explain your experience with the prison system?*

Free: You don't have the space to print my experience with the system. Just picture a situation where you know you are absolutely powerless, and you know you are going to get screwed over. And there is nothing you can do about it.

EF!J: *What effects has prison had on you already?*

Free: I've closed down. I'm less willing to feel emotion. I have a hard time sharing my feelings with my loved ones. I don't get to walk away from here for another 21 years. I can't see the stars or the moon. I can't wake up next to a lover. It affects you in ways you can't ever begin to imagine. You become numb.

EF!J: *What gives you the spirit to fight on in the face of increasing violence against the planet?*

Free: Knowing that I don't have a choice. I've watched the

changes in my lifetime. I've seen things get worse. I know that we can only count on ourselves to change things. It is important for me to be able to say that I gave everything I had. The responsibility lies with us to stop the destructive practices our lifestyle has caused.

EF!J: *Do you have any regrets?*

Free: Of course. You can't get the sentence I got and not have regrets. But they are not the kind you think. I have regrets about things I didn't get to do. I don't regret lighting that fire. I don't regret the choices that I made.

EF!J: *Is there an appeal of your case in the works?*

Free: Yes. I'm using a public defender—who actually refers to me as a political prisoner. And several attorneys have volunteered their help, including the regional vice president of the National Lawyers Guild. So, basically I have an awesome legal team. I just hope that they can accomplish something.

EF!J: *How can activists best support you in prison?*

Free: OK, I have a list. Personally, you can help me by swamping the Governor of Oregon with letters about my sentence and case. You can support other political prisoners, volunteer with a prisoner support project. Perhaps my greatest request: Fight back. Make revolution an everyday part of your life. Start creating the sustainable communities we talk about. Nothing changes unless we make it.

EF!J: *Do you have any other thoughts or words of wisdom about the future?*

Free: We are at a critical point in herstory right now. Not only ecologically, but in our human interactions as well. The future is going to be what we make it. We are either going to end up living in a world void of any wild places or natural diversity, an oppressive police state monoculture. Or we are going to finally realize that we

need to put our differences aside. Come together, learn from each other and create the world we want to live in. The greatest challenge we face is that it is much easier to accept things as they are and to give up hope than it is to try and make a difference. We have the power, we only need to realize it.

Contact the Governor of Oregon, John Kitzhaber, about Free's case at the State Capitol Building, 900 Court St NE, Salem, OR 97301-4047; (503) 378-3111.

Free welcomes your letters. Write to him at Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310.



artwork by Eric Droucker

I know that we can only count on ourselves to change things. It is important for me to be able to say that I gave everything I had. The responsibility lies with us to stop the destructive practices our lifestyle has caused.

—Jeff "Free" Luers

Striped Skunks are Important Too

BY D. GRANT HAYNES

Their beady little eyes glistened in the summer light and their tiny noses twitched searchingly as they tried to make sense of a 24-hour superstore parking lot entrance road built across a natural pathway their genes tell them has existed at least 10,000 years in what is now Northwest Arkansas.



They each halted, peered over the curb's edge, sniffed repeatedly; and blinked and listened uncomprehendingly to the din of "prosperity" that has come to a gentle prairie meadow where their species has lived since before humans arrived in this land.

The pair finally backed away from the noise, pollution, stench and confusion of rush hour on Hudson Road in Bentonville, sensing by whatever process an immature striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) assesses its world, that the impostor in their meadow was not one to be explored further on the afternoon in question.

The twosome turned and ambled back into the grassy meadow that in all likelihood will see only another season or two before it succumbs to a greedy corporation's manufacturing or sales facility.

Their noses were still to the ground and their little white tails skunkishly aplume as they waddled back into the grass, hopefully to the temporary comfort of a burrow and a mother's love for the night.

The morrow would bring new threats from the juggernaut of human "progress" that's encroaching on their meadow from every direction.

There would be new temptations to step onto the roadway and explore the beyond with their kitten-like naiveté.

There would be poisonous pesticides and herbicides in the water they'd find to drink, and they'd have to be careful.

The air they'd breathe would smell of exhaust fumes, coal-fired power plant flues, terrible slaughter facilities and a million other foul human exhalations that would put a

skunk's scent glands to shame.

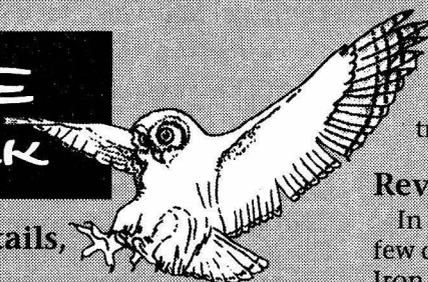
As the traffic signal changed, eager Northwest Arkansas businessmen sitting high in the cockpits of air-conditioned, \$50,000 SUVs waited impatiently for the skunk admirer to get his venerable old vehicle the hell out of the way so they could rush home for a frantic Friday night of the good life.

For his part, the driver of the stickered junker—at best an unenthusiastic member of the species that is destroying the world of those two little Benton County striped skunks—offered a prayer and a benediction as he drove away from the encroached and compromised universe of two wild creatures that had graced his life briefly on a Friday afternoon.

He hoped the beautiful and harmless little entities he had seen would make it through their first summer in the Northwest Arkansas world they have inherited—one that is no longer theirs and in which they are suddenly unwelcome aliens.

He prayed too that his kind—the human species—would redefine that which is important before there are no more summers, no more meadows and no more striped skunks.

NATURE BITES BACK



Owls Threaten Ponytails, Pets and Joggers

Two young owls were harassing residents this summer around Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, by yanking ponytails, threatening pets, dive-bombing joggers and stealing hats. The winged pair took over Odell Park, where officials warned city dwellers not to walk after dusk. Many ignored the warnings to get a look at the avian delinquents.

"The full weight of the owl came down on my head. I had no time to react," said one victim. Park officials theorized that the owls could have been trying out their hunting techniques.

Revenge of the Five-inch Perch

In May, Todd Poller, of Bixby, Missouri, was having a few drinks with friends as they sat next to Neal Creek in Iron County. Suddenly, Poller uttered, "Hey, watch this!" and he reached into the creek. He pulled out a five-inch-long perch and dropped it head first into his mouth. Soon after, Poller began gasping for air and was choking. His friends tried the Heimlich maneuver, yet Poller died of suffocation. An autopsy found the fish had lodged firmly in Poller's throat, and its fins lacerated the inside of the airway.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD



Scientists Create Monkeys with Glowing Placentas

New steps are being taken toward the use of genetically modified primates in the development of human treatments. Scientists recently created monkeys whose placentas glow green under ultraviolet light by inserting a gene from a fluorescent jellyfish into two fertilized rhesus monkey embryos.

These genetically modified monkeys are expected to provide new insights into pregnancy problems such as infertility, recurrent miscarriage and low birth weight.

In January, scientists at the Oregon Regional Primate Center reported the birth of the world's first genetically modified primate. The embryos were implanted into two surrogate monkey mothers, both of which became pregnant.

Scientists said the jellyfish gene did not appear in the infants after birth.

Frozen Corpses Found in Brazilian Zoo

In August, environmental authorities found more than 80 frozen corpses of animals which had died of starvation in a zoo near Rio de Janeiro. Among the dead animals found in freezers were an African lynx, Asian otter, jaguar, yellow-tongued alligator, monkeys and macaws.

The animals could have been abandoned after the Bwana Park Zoo recently tried to convert into a sex club.

Local media showed blood-chilling pictures of an environmental official holding up the frozen corpse of a small monkey by its

crooked tail and a whole table covered with lifeless, furry and feathery animal bodies.

Apart from a \$21,000 fine, the owners and local veterinarian may face criminal charges for ill-treatment and destruction of rare animals.

After its opening in the early 1990s, the Bwana Park Zoo drew scores of children from Rio de Janeiro and other cities, but after its founder died earlier this year, plans to create a sex club cropped up.

Naked Women Go Ape at Monkey Study

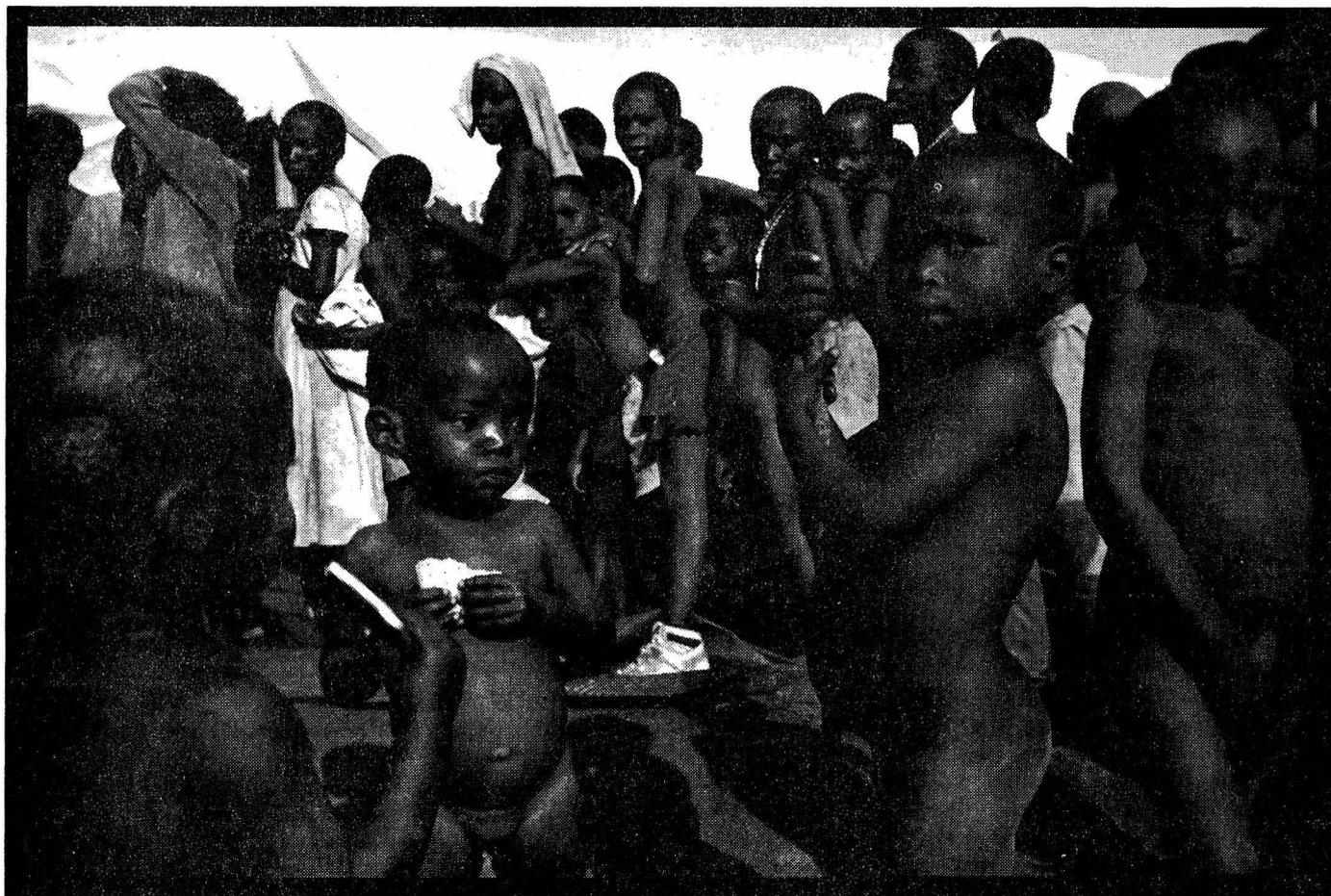
Twelve biologists counting monkeys in Kenya were put to flight in February by more than 300 angry, naked women.

The 12 were conducting a census of the endangered Tana River colobus monkey—a project funded by the World Bank—when the women stripped and charged at them.

It is thought the women were protesting a plan to turn the area into a nature reserve for the primates, which are unique to the area.

The incident, in the Tana River district of southeast Kenya, is the latest in a series of clashes between villagers and Kenya's wildlife service. The wildlife service is seeking to resettle them outside the proposed reserve. About 2,000 families are affected.

The women were forced to retreat once police arrived and shots were fired.



WHAT DOES RACISM HAVE TO DO WITH US? CONTINUED

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First, the dichotomy between “population” and “carrying capacity,” like the broader one between “humans” and “nature,” often coincides with and reinforces boundaries used in racial oppression. “Population” in our culture usually means black people. In fact, it generally means African people, and most often, African women and children. Imagine what would happen if an artist commissioned to do a cover for a magazine or book on population submitted instead a mock-up showing a wealthy white family clumped around a television set or working in its garden. Or—to be a bit more playful—picture a cover photo that, instead of showing pregnant black women, displayed a row of anonymous white male groins. No editor in his or her right mind would pass such covers. They wouldn’t communicate what is meant in our culture by “population,” which is, essentially, female black fertility.

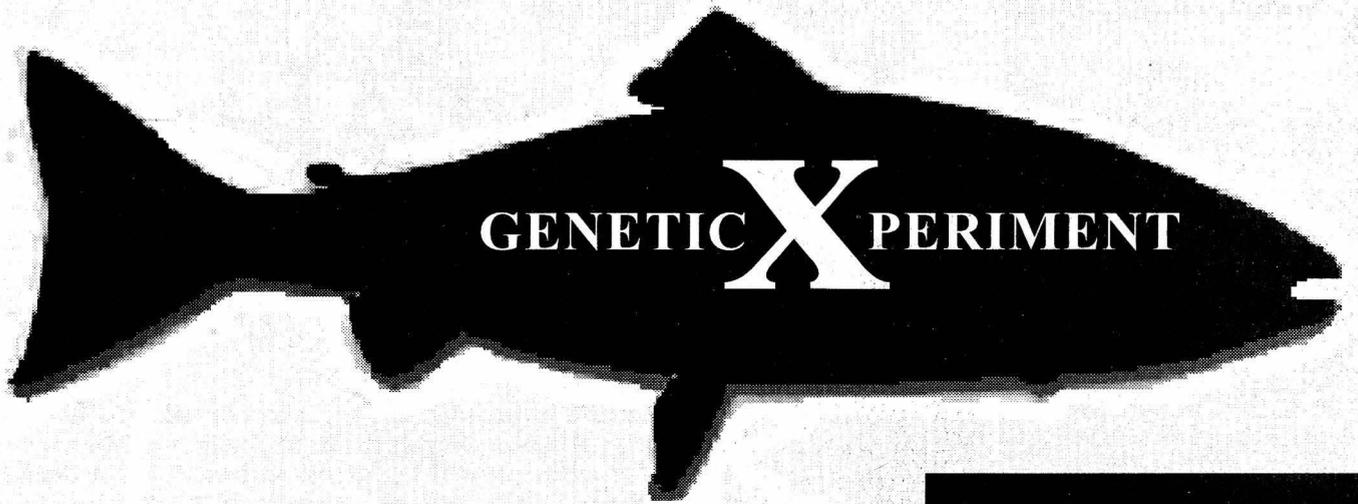
I’ve realized that many are accustomed to thinking of ethnic discrimination

and racial oppression as something that happens when people with mistaken beliefs or bad morals get hold of something called power. The problem of racism from this view is a problem of individuals holding discriminatory beliefs or views which they do not profess in public but hold in private and act on when they can get away with it. It’s just the opposite.

Individual Western environmentalists may advocate anti-racist or anti-discriminatory agendas privately and often passionately, but “despite” themselves, they are pushed in public into actions which reinforce racist or discriminatory structures by the acceptable practices and repertoires of performance in the professional arena, including the arena of peer-reviewed science. The problem is not environmentalists’ beliefs, still less their morals, but rather a form of sociability or “public game” specific to their scientific and other social communities. A condition of membership in the community is not to probe racism too deeply.

The social groups I’m speaking of build much of their solidarity and sense of privilege and uniqueness on the pretense of neutrality and on the continual construction and repair of the very nature/human boundaries, which help constitute racism and ethnic discrimination with the structures of environmental science. Within environmentalism, racism is reproduced not so much by reinforcing or “replicating” individuals’ beliefs, but structural tendencies to preserve professional boundaries between science and to maintain a civic self-image and self-identity. These forms of sociality constitute a deep and continuing problem for a movement that practices ethnic discrimination in spite of itself—a movement that, unfortunately, is far more racist than the sum of its parts.

Extracted from a talk given at the seminar “Environmental Justice in a Divided Society,” Goldsmiths College, University of London, February 25, 2000. Reprinted from the summer issue of the journal, Greenpepper. For more info., visit www.squat.net/cia/gp.



BLUE REVOLUTION CONTINUED

continued from page 24

Letterman believes that the right to know what's in one's food is a basic right. Those concerned about genetically engineered fish have requested that at the minimum, genetically modified fish should be labeled, complete safety and environmental testing be conducted and corporate liability be in place to cover any potential harm.

Meanwhile, the FDA sees no reason why genetically engineered foods should require labeling or should be deemed unsafe unless the company fails to demonstrate scientifically that the allergenic component of the food is not transferred to the other item or if the nutritional content of the food is changed.

The FDA's Jim Maryanski said in a recent interview that "if we were to require labeling of all genetically engineered fruits and vegetables, it would not be merely a matter of putting a sticker on a tomato or a banana. Producers would have to segregate the genetically engineered foods from other varieties, whereas normally those are all just lumped into a barrel. Then what happens when you make tomato paste and that tomato paste is used to make pizzas? Does the label have to follow along through the food processing chain? It would increase the cost of these foods to consumers and would disrupt our complex food distribution system."

In fact, genetically engineered foods have already disrupted the country's food processing chain. On September 18, 2000, Friends of the Earth

announced the results of their sampling of taco shells from grocery stores. The Taco Bell Home Originals brand taco shells contained StarLink corn—a genetically modified corn not approved for human consumption. During the ensuing months, various products thought to contain StarLink were recalled.

"Seafood retailers and restaurants risk the same cost of sales that tortilla chips and taco makers suffered due to StarLink corn," says Larry Bohlen of Friends of the Earth. "Corn prices were compressed 20 cents per bushel last year costing farmers \$2 billion. Some economists contend that 10 cents was due to StarLink."

Over at Aqua Bounty, the company sees the critics not unlike the critics of any other new technology. "Any new technology undergoes a level of scrutiny," states Entis. "Electricity was around for six years before anyone would use it."

Shawn Cantel of Friends of the Earth thinks comparing the introduction of genetically engineered fish to the advent of electricity is a faulty analogy.

"This is a new technology, but not all new technologies are equal. Some have clear and obvious benefits," says Cantel. "Genetic engineering is one with clear and obvious problems. It's like using nuclear power to make electricity."

Reprinted from the October issue of The Fishermen's Voice, a publication for small-scale fishing communities fighting factory-style fishing and fish farming.

GE SALMON: Q&A

Q: Are genetically engineered (GE) salmon different from wild salmon?

A: Yes. They are fundamentally different from wild natural species. Genetically engineered salmon include a growth hormone at levels higher than that would occur in natural fish. These fish are capable of growing two to three times faster than farmed salmon grown under the same conditions.

Q: Are there GE fish on the market now?

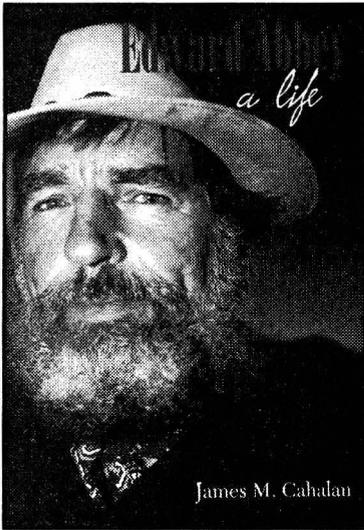
A: No, but some companies are planning to bring GE salmon to dinner tables as soon as possible. Other types of GE fish are also being experimented upon for commercial development including tilapia, trout and carp.

Q: Are GE fish safe to eat?

A: Genetic engineering of fish is an experiment so right now no one knows for certain whether or not these fish are safe to eat. Salmon have been genetically engineered so that producing growth hormone from another fish. They grow two to three times as fast. What this means in terms of the safety of the meat has not been investigated.

What we do know is that the fish's health could be compromised. Studies have shown that the excessive growth rates make growth deformities common, including in the head. Poor health of the fish might have downstream impacts on those who eat the fish. This needs further investigation.

Right now The FDA is examining the first commercial application for GE fish. They are looking at it as a "New Animal Drug" rather than as a food product.



Edward Abbey *a life*

BY DENNIS FRITZINGER

Edward Abbey: *A Life*, by James M. Cahalan, University of Arizona Press, 2001.

Edward Abbey passed away in March 1989—a

terrible blow to Earth First!. Abbey provided direction, humor, character, inspiration, even money. Abbey taught us to say exactly what we think about what we love. By being outspoken, he encouraged others to be outspoken. By being deeply committed to protecting wilderness, he encouraged others to share that commitment. He called himself an anarchist, but except for his thinking, he didn't show any evidence of it—no black clothes or body piercings. He had the mild demeanor of a college professor, which he was on occasion when he wasn't working as a forest service employee. He was wide-read, a critical thinker and hard worker. He was... well, to get a fuller picture I suggest picking up a copy of Cahalan's book.

Although not an Abbey scholar myself, Cahalan is, and he has done an excellent job researching sources, conducting interviews, compiling anecdotes. The question remaining is, what sort of story does he tell? What's his level of interpretation? Do we see the man? Or does, under the blizzard of facts and anecdotes, the subject remain elusive?

I felt that it did.

So much so that I bought a copy of *The New West of Edward Abbey* by Ann Ronald, and I was immediately relieved to find myself in the middle of a deep, thoughtful exploration of the man's writing. Ronald reminded me what brought me to Abbey's writing in the first place—the poetry, humor and outspokenness.

Abbey used his considerable skills working toward a goal—justice for the "Green World"—in both his fiction and non-fiction. This approach turned out to be fortuitous, as each has something the other lacks—you can pull a heavier load with two horses on a cart than one.

I first heard of Edward Abbey in 1976 when I was assigned *Desert Solitaire* as part of a desert studies class at Merritt College in Oakland. I was living off the GI Bill (again) after Congress passed an extension. This time I

decided to broaden my education by taking a bunch of science classes—of which desert studies was one.

I ate it up. And the class too, with a week-long field trip in the Eastern Mojave. As soon as I'd finished *Desert Solitaire*, I came across a newly published book by the same author—*The Monkey Wrench Gang*. I ate that up too. I was hooked, and I became one of the legions of waffle stomper-wearing Abbey fans.

The socio-cultural climate *The Monkey Wrench Gang* was born into was post-antiwar movement, post-Earth Day. There was enormous energy out there, partly created by Abbey's earlier writing and partly tapped by it. In a sense Abbey had found an unlocked hotrod, figured out how to hotwire it and take it for a joyride.

The joyride led up *Abbey's Road* and to Earth First!.

"The way I defined Earth First! in the beginning stages was that Earth First! was made up of Ed Abbey-style conservationists," explains Dave Foreman.

With the set purpose of demythologizing his subject, Cahalan does an admirable job of getting at the man behind the words. His first chapter is a compelling piece of writing that pulls you right in and doesn't let go.

This book is also a cautionary tale. We find out that

Abbey, while writing his incandescent prose, was in poor health, barely able to keep up. "One thing after another falling apart" was the way he described it—brought on by a drinking habit reminiscent of the hard-working, hard-drinking journalists in *A River Runs Through It*. Though Cahalan doesn't dwell on it, we know the reason for Abbey's demise and feel a lot of pain as the sympathetic individual he presents looks more and more like vulture food.

Abbey, interestingly, was not afraid of death, and he only had the usual regrets of not being around for things that

had meant a lot to him.

In the end Cahalan's portrait—clear-eyed yet sympathetic at the same time—won me over. It goes a long way toward revealing the real Edward Abbey and even further toward answering Abbey's numerous critics.



The last known photograph of Ed Abbey, at his final public appearance—a Tucson Earth First! rally against the University of Arizona's astronomy station on Mount Graham. This was March 4, 1989, 10 days before his death.

Songs to Fan the Flames of Discontent

An Interview with David Rovics

BY TURTLE

Ten years ago, when asked to organize a concert for Casey Neill, I felt he was asking our student group to interrupt the important work we were doing to stop an incinerator in our small Ohio town and put energy into something that would reap little or no benefit to the cause. We advertised the concert little and attendance that evening was so small it was laughable. Yet those who did come were rejuvenated listening to songs of resistance. I then knew that I had it all backward. The importance of music to the movement, the power of song, has been feeding me ever since.

I could say the same thing about David Rovics. David is striking the chords of activism with his music and has his own thoughts on the power of song. He is a whirlwind, constantly touring the US and abroad, always releasing a new CD and sharing his music with environmental, peace, labor, political prisoner and human rights activists.

Since David's music gives life to the struggle for justice and is an inspiration to many, here's an opportunity to learn a bit about what motivates him.

EF!J: As an artist, as well as an activist, what do you believe is the importance of music to environmental and social justice movements?

DR: My experience has been that music, along with other things like

art in general, as well as food, helps to build a community. In terms of fostering a sense of community, which helps along with so many other factors in actually building the community. "Building a culture of resistance," I like to say. Basically, protests without music and art are really boring, and it's really disempowering to keep on coming back to boring protests. People tend



Photo courtesy David Rovics

to not do it. But if people can make a point—and ultimately, of course, radically transform society—and have fun at the same time, music can communicate to folks in ways that other mediums might not be able to. Takes all kinds.

EF!J: What motivates your work?

DR: All of you wonderful people out there who are working to change the world. To quote Abbie Hoffman, I'm a cheerleader. I'm inspired by activists of various sorts around the world. Of course, I'm also motivated by the same sorts of things that make folks like you become activists in the first place. You know, destruction of the world by horrid multinational corporations and the like.

continued on next page

The Dying Firefighter

I saw the plane hit the building
The flames & the billowing smoke
I saw the glass, paper, metal & stone
Everything shattered & broke
I was there with my people
Engine Company 24
We rushed into the building
Got as far as the 35th floor
The black smoke & the heat
was like nothing
I'd seen in all of my years
With each step in that
blazing inferno
You could feel destiny near
In the midst of the falling girders
The sheet rock & God knows
what else
I tried to find the survivors
Those who made it to the stairwells
I carried the wounded to safety
If that's what you might
call the street
With bodies & boulders & metal
All crashing down by your feet
As #2 was collapsing
When only ten floors still stood
Everything was falling around me
Like it was made out of
cardboard & wood
It was just then I heard someone
Trapped underneath the debris
I started pulling at something
And that's when the fire got me
I was pinned 'neath the rubble
And the flames were licking my coat
And the pain, the unbearable agony
And then that was all that she wrote
But I just wish I could tell you
Before I am taken away
That I've seen a lot of this world
And there's something
that I gotta say
I don't believe in politics
I believe in the human race
I believe in the goodness of people
In New York or some far-away place
I believe in my daughter
And I believe in my wife
And may nobody's father be taken
To avenge the loss of my life
People may call me a brave man
And this may very well be
But the firefighters of Kabul
Are just as brave men as me.

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EF!J: Who were/are your inspirations as a songwriter? How have they influenced your music?

DR: In terms of other artists, I guess I'd have to plug Jim Page of Seattle, who I think is the greatest songwriter in the English language. More than anyone, Robert Hoyt and Chris Chandler were largely responsible for helping me out in terms of going in this general direction as a career, and I think they're both great artists. Otherwise, there are so many artists I've been inspired by. All of the usual EF! suspects, Casey Neill, Dana Lyons, Peg Millett. Also Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Buffy Sainte-Marie, Silvio Rodriguez, Pablo Milanez, Victor Jara, John Lennon, the list could go on fairly indefinitely.

EF!J: You seem to have a song for every occasion. Which is your favorite?

DR: My favorite is usually whichever one I've written most recently. I like *The Dying Firefighter*, I suppose. I was trying to humanize the heroic firefighters of New York City, while at the same time humanizing the people of Afghanistan, and I think I pulled it off. As for having a song for every occasion, some would say this as an accusation, but to me it's something to aspire to. That is, if you can write about the subject with familiarity and passion, something I always try to do. If it's a worthy struggle, it's certainly worthy of a song.

EF!J: Are there any songs that have challenged you personally or that you wish you had not written?

DR: I wrote a lot of horrible stuff when I was younger, and I'm embarrassed to hear most of it now. I'm always pleasantly surprised by a good line or two, but mostly it was awful, didactic songs from my early twenties. In terms of more recent stuff, which I generally like on an artistic level, I don't regret writing any of it. My tour of Israel was canceled for writing *Children of Jerusalem*, but I still believe in everything I wrote in the song. Perhaps I wish I could've written the song in such a way as to avoid alienating the Zionists, but sometimes songs have to alienate people.

EF!J: According to Wobbly minstrel Joe Hill, "A pamphlet, no matter how well-written, is read once and then thrown away—but a song lasts forever." What are the songs you've composed that live on?

DR: Well, in a sense, all songs have a shelf life. In a few hundred years we won't recognize our current form of English, so all the songs from this era will be unrecognizable, assuming our species is still alive. The ones that are about historical events are probably the longest-lasting. Current events evolve faster than history. The relevance of the Saint Patrick Battalion in the Mexican-American War will probably have no more or less relevance in 20 years than it has now. A song like *The Death of David Chain*, on the other hand, has a short shelf life. It's a bit too current to be long-lasting to most people. It mentions Pete Wilson, who is no longer the governor of California, Tom Brokaw, who will eventually retire and Charles Hurwitz, who will hopefully fall off of a cliff sometime soon.

EF!J: Your music often exudes a great deal of confidence and understanding of the enemy. What is the feeling you want people to get from hearing your music?

DR: I feel like music of a "political" nature (I put political in quotes because everything is political, and everything is personal. The dichotomy is a false one) has two basic functions. One is to inspire, the other is to educate. So my goals are to inspire people to act, to sing about what folks are doing in order to encourage them to keep it up and to educate people about the realities of the modern world, in the hopes that by doing so they will act to change it.

EF!J: Can a song really change anything and make our world better?

DR: I think it was Marx who said that art reflects reality. He might have said that reality doesn't reflect art, I'm not sure. In any case, I think that while art reflects reality, the reverse is also true, perhaps to a more limited extent. I think that a song, like a book or an event or any number of other things that happen or that can be made to happen, can

influence people and thus help to make our world a better place.

EF!J: You have a diverse musical repertoire: some of your songs are inflammatory, while others are not. How does this reflect your own views, politics or thoughts on tactics in the movement?

DR: Hm. I guess I'd say different songs are appropriate for different occasions, just like tactics. Sometimes it's time to make certain issues dividing-line issues. Other times it's more appropriate to find unity around some principle contradiction we're facing and allow other issues to be more on the back burner. I'm probably offending someone horrifically by saying this, but I believe it to be true. We're trying to build an effective movement. It feels good to be right, but it doesn't necessarily build a movement.

EF!J: Certainly, you have many tales from the road. How have you grown from your travels? What have you learned that you did not expect to?

DR: I guess I feel like I've met so many wonderful people. More, I imagine, than I might meet staying in one place, but I don't know, 'cause I've never really done that since leaving the suburbs as a teenager. More than anything, traveling has brought about the realization that there are good people everywhere doing great work. They often feel really isolated from each other, because they don't get to see the world the way I do, to see that activists are everywhere. Everywhere I go, I find local activists, local brilliant intellectuals, local artists, all kinds of folks whose names aren't widely known, and it feels great. People teach me all kinds of stuff, and I grow as a result, I hope, as a human being and as an artist.

EF!J: Given you probably believe the "strength of one" is "feeble" as the old Wobbly song says, have you ever had any singing partners you'd like to create more music with?

DR: I've often recorded and jammed with other artists, which I enjoy tremendously. Singing harmony and playing with other instrumentalists is one of life's greatest highs (when it's good), right up there with making love under the stars or



taking over the streets of a city. I like playing solo, but if I had my druthers I'd play with other musicians more often. The main obstacle is having another mouth to feed on the road, but hopefully I'll figure out how to get around that one.

EF!J: With your continual touring schedule, how are you able to support yourself?

DR: Completely through the efforts of local activists who value music (and mine in particular) and set up paying gigs. As you know, the activist community is perpetually broke, but in spite of that I've been able to feed myself, keep the truck running, go to a dentist every once in a while and come out with new CDs periodically.

EF!J: Any last words you'd like to share with the EF! Journal?

DR: Hope to see you on the road and in the streets!

David Rovics newest CD release (November 2001), Living in These Times, can be ordered from the Earth First! Journal for \$17. Songs include, The Dying Firefighter, International Terrorists, Saint Patrick Battalion, and No One is Illegal. To contact David either to book a gig, buy a songbook or CD or just to send your regards, he can be found at POB 995, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130; (617) 747-4460; DRovics@aol.com; www.davidrovics.com.

STRIKING CHORDS AGAINST THE EMPIRE DAVID ROVICS WINTER 2002 TOUR

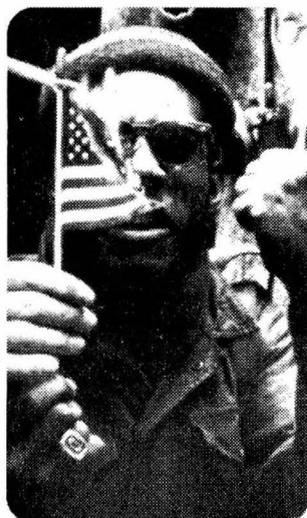
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 Sonoma County, CA, Feb 14 •
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 Columbus, OH, March 15 •
 Louisville, KY, March 16 • PA, March 17-18

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announcement

An Alliance of Indigenous Peoples & Anarchists

The growing movement of resistance to corporate globalization is grounded in a long history of indigenous peoples' struggles against colonization (Westernization). In many parts of the world, indigenous peoples are still resisting. They are fighting against the mercenary forces of global capitalism, our own domestic enemies. Global fascism requires combat from all those affected by it, and those people fighting against civilization must unite.



To this end, I wish to be involved with a publishing project that will publicize native peoples' struggles against corporate domination and help us in the First World identify their primary enemies here, so that we can combine our efforts and energies.

Please contact me if you are interested in undertaking this project. What is necessary to start:

- A long-term mailing address.
- People with resources, or access to resources, to assemble, publish and distribute the zine.
- People willing to make a commitment to this project.

Contact Rob "Los Ricos" Thaxton #12112716, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310.

The Quilombo Project

First, a survey of anarchists of color. Then, interviews and reports in the anarchist and alternative presses.

Then, new theories, new projects, new communities, new...

Please come, find out about us, participate if you consider yourself an anarchist and a person of color or support the project if you don't.

Contact the Quilombo Project at POB 8306, Ann Arbor, MI 48170; www.quilomboproject.org.

"There is no justifiable reason why there aren't more people of color who consider themselves anarchists, other than the fact that the explicit proponents of anarchism in the US have catered to white circles they felt comfortable in, echoing the huge divide along the lines of race that still exist today in the rest of society."

"[Anarchism] is what we make it and what we want it to be, and it must be inclusive and designed by and for the most marginalized groups struggling for liberation."



Anarchist People of Color Website is Live

The new Anarchist People of Color (APOC) website has been launched, and we welcome your comments, links, etc. The website emerged from the APOC discussion list and serves to encapsulate many discussions and tendencies in the movement—from globalization to tenant/poverty-rights organizing to articulating the need for more people of color in the movement to networking with fellow anarchists of color.

www.illegalvoices.org/apoc

Call to Action Against the WTO Summit in Qatar

Peoples Global Action calls on all grassroots social movements, community-based organizations, trade unions, student organizations, indigenous peoples, farmers organizations, autonomous collectives and everyone who wishes to participate around the world to carry out actions against the World Trade Organization (WTO) during the next ministerial summit in Doha, Qatar, November 9-13.

The WTO's aim is simple: to remove anything that gets in the way of big business and free trade, upholding the freedom for multinational companies to act as they please. Made up of 135 member countries, the WTO polices international trade rules and continues to set an agenda that places profit above people and the planet.

Faced with a rapidly expanding grassroots resistance to capitalist globalization, the WTO has fled to an isolated desert dictatorship for its next meeting.

Resist the WTO throughout the world through direct action and civil disobedience wherever communities are destroyed and ecosystems sacrificed for the sake of free trade!

Regardless of whether the WTO meeting is maintained or not, we will be in the streets, because the streets are ours. Grassroots organizations are organizing the following kinds of actions and call on others to do the same:

- Awareness-raising campaigns against the WTO and the effect of their policies on a global and local level: community based consultations, counter-meetings, public debates, publications.
- Maximum disruption of the work of the trade ministers attending the conference: demands for the publication of national positions, blocking of communications or departures of delegations, etc.
- Mass actions on a national and international level: work stoppages, road blockades, occupation of stock exchanges and other financial institutions (New York, San Francisco, São Paulo), liberation of grain stocks (India) on November 9.
- Decentralized local action: land occupations, creative demonstrations of alternatives from November 9-13.

ments

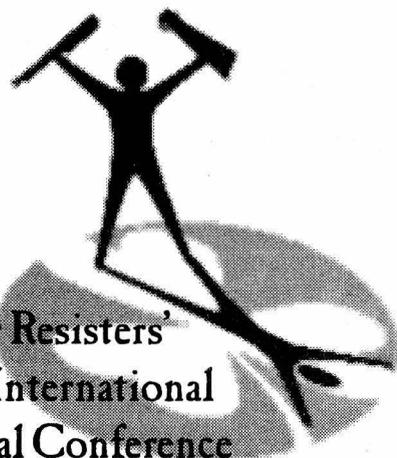
2002 Political Prisoner Calendar

Representing freedom fighters from liberation movements and struggles for self determination in Puerto Rico, Mexico, US and Canada, the 2002 Political Prisoner Calendar will raise funds for prisoner medical support.

The calendar features information on death row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, American Indian Movement prisoner Leonard Peltier and many former members of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army who are still in prison. Also included is information on the recent history of Native resistance to colonization in Canada, the Puerto Rican Freedom Fighters who remain incarcerated and the prisoners being held in Mexico as a result of the eight month-long student strike at *Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico*.

To order a calendar, send check or money order (made out to QPIRG Concordia) \$15 for individuals or \$25 for organizations. Add \$3 shipping for the first calendar and \$1 for each additional calendar.

Contact the Calendar Committee, c/o QPIRG Concordia, 2130 Mackay RM 102, Montreal, PQ H3G, Canada; freppcalendar@onebox.com.



War Resisters' 2002 International Triennial Conference Dublin, Ireland

"Stories and Strategies—Nonviolent Resistance and Social Change"

Under this title, War Resisters' International (WRI) is inviting activists from around the world to come to Dublin, Ireland from August 3-10, 2002, for WRI's 23rd Triennial conference.

The conference theme, "Stories and Strategies for Nonviolent Resistance and Social Change" is especially fitting for a conference in Ireland, where storytelling is a rich part of Irish culture. Sharing stories, from personal narratives to case studies, is a creative and empowering way to build community among peace activists around the world. Everyone attending the WRI Triennial is encouraged to bring stories to share about campaigns or individual efforts at resisting violence and building peace.

WRI is actively seeking international interest and support for the Triennial. If you would like to attend or if you would like to support this effort with a financial contribution, please contact War Resisters' International, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N1 9DX, UK; triennial2002@wri-irg.org; www.wri-irg.org/tri/tri02.

The Inside Books Project

A means of distributing books directly to prisoners, the Inside Books Project sends books and literature to people incarcerated in Texas prisons for free. An all volunteer-run project, the need for Inside Books is inexhaustible.

Donations of books, preferably paperback and in usable condition, are greatly appreciated.

For more information, contact the Inside Books Project, c/o 12th St Books, 827 W. 12th St, Austin, TX 78701; (512) 647-4803.

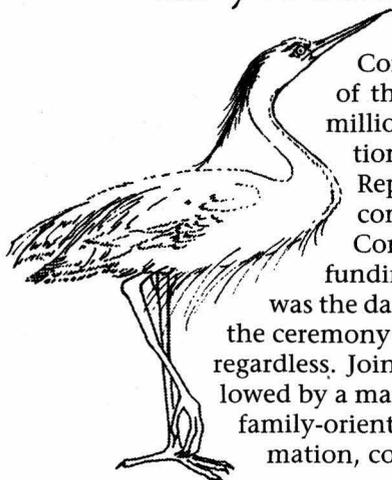


Rally to Save the Animas River

Durango, Colorado · November 9

Congress last year authorized construction of the Animas-La Plata (A-LP) project. \$21 million in funding for first year pre-construction work was approved by the House of Representatives. Action in the Senate could come at any time. It's not too late to stop it! Congress can still do the right thing by not funding the A-LP boondoggle. November 9

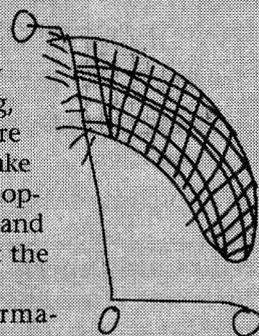
was the date for the project's groundbreaking, but the ceremony has been canceled. The rally will occur regardless. Join us for a noontime rally in town followed by a march to the river. This will be a peaceful, family-oriented, nonviolent event. For more information, contact Living Rivers at (435) 259-1063.



Buy Nothing Day · November 23

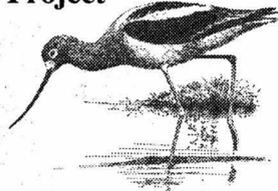
On the busiest shopping day of the year, the day after Thanksgiving, people from more than 30 countries take a break from the shop-till-you-drop frenzy and cast a vote against the global economy.

For more information, contact Adbusters at (604) 736-9401; www.adbusters.org.



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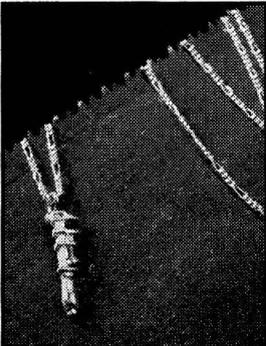
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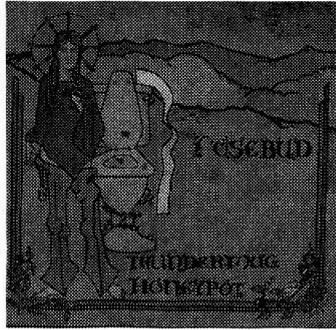
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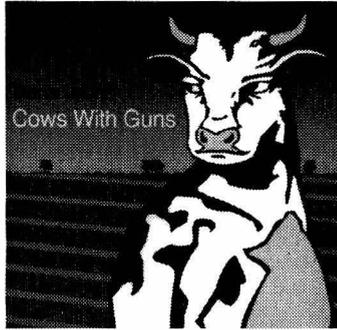
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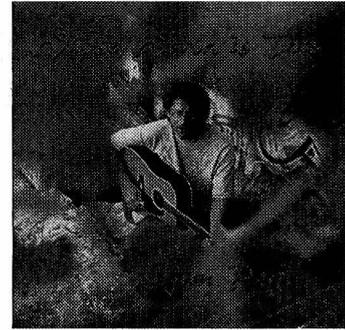
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THE EFFECTS OF PRISONS



BY ERIC WILDCAT HALL

Presenting a first hand look at the effects of prisons, prisoner Eric Wildcat Hall expresses his thoughts concerning the building of prisons in rural areas and the impacts to the local environment.

The state puts out poison to kill birds that nest within prison compounds and destroys the nests and any eggs or young therein. If there is even a small body of water nearby that will attract geese, they will be poisoned or killed in some other manner because they are attracted to the large areas of grass inside the prison. Between the fences, prison employees will put down gravel which will intice killdeer and other ground nesting birds to nest thereon. These nests will also be destroyed, which is very serious as many ground nesting birds such as the killdeer are endangered. At night, the huge lights that illuminate the prison attract curious raccoons, opossums and porcupines who climb the outer fence and eventually get tangled and caught in the rolls of razor wire. Woods around the prison will be cut back to at least a 100 foot perimeter

beyond the fence, and here in Pennsylvania the Department of Corrections built a firing range for guards to practice their marksmanship with firearms, including automatic weapons. Whenever a prison is built near a state or national forest, the prison will get contracts to build fire roads and to harvest trees and use cheap inmate labor to do this.

And such, a glimpse behind the razor wire shows the tragic environmental destruction wreaked by the prison industry.

The services that will be located near the prison cater to the desires of the thousands who will travel or relocate to the area, with motels, fast food restaurants and gas stations to

be built as near to the prison as possible. Privately owned land will be bought up by businesses for housing. Eventually, the whole area will be urbanized and become a permanent Republican district, guaranteeing election/re-election of the Republican politician term after term who lobbied for the prison to be built in his/her district.

Prisons use surveillance technology and hire additional personale to counter any potential threats from family and friends that travel into the area to visit a prisoner and to discourage any family or friends of prisoners from moving into the area. They only want pro-government, pro-police minded people moving into the area so as to insure a Republican majority. This is what rural prison construction is mainly about, in addition to separating prisoners from family with long distances between them.

Minority visitors to these areas will be racially profiled for harassment to discourage their visiting a prisoner. All of which will have an effect on any activist groups associated with protection of the environment, who will

have to travel into high security areas to protest logging and road building within the forests.

I believe that it is imperative that activists use any means (short of killing and serious bodily injury) in effort to halt new prison construction.

The capitalist elite and their politicians perceive that as they continue to oppress and exploit that there will be a return to the more disruptive tactics of the late 1960s and 1970s. They build high security prisons so as to insure the space is available to imprison those who are opposed to the New World Order of capitalist exploitation of human beings and natural resources. The government doesn't even need these prisons now, they are building them nationwide to be prepared to fill it up with activists, just as they previously did.

UPDATE ON PRISONERS

•*Standing Deer*, who was released exactly one week before the attack of the WTC, would like to thank you all for your unwavering support, not only in times of crisis, but throughout his 25 years of incarceration.

He would greatly appreciate it if some of you would write him sometimes, as he wishes to acknowledge his appreciation personally, and come to know for himself the many people who placed a safety net beneath him so that he is here today alive and free.

He is still in a state of bliss and has not quite shaken off the golden dust of freedom yet!! He is also busy trying to become acclimated to life out here. It is not always easy, to re-adjust oneself after 25 years behind bars, but *Standing Deer* is a strong, valiant warrior. His efforts to re-adjust to the outside world are strong and valiant and are to be admired.

Contact *Standing Deer Wilson*, 977 Bunker Hill Rd #113, Houston, TX 77024.

•*Carey Marcio* was released after serving a sentence for trespassing on national forest land where the Department of Livestock set up one of their buffalo traps.

Prisoner Support: *They Need Your Support*

Ecodefense

•Jeremiah Rush Bowen, #108016, DCC, 1140 East 10 Rd, 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 Raiser 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.

•Susan Heitker, 16677 Riverside Dr, Nelsonville, OH 45764. Sentenced to 30 days in jail on October 22 for protesting logging in Ohio's state forests.

•Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310. Sentenced to 22 years for 11 charges relating to two arsons in Eugene, Oregon.

•Craig "Crittter" Marshall, #13797662, SRCI, 777 Stanton Blvd, Ontario, OR 97914. Serving a five-and-a-half-year sentence for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of unlawful devices.

•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 del Tigli, 14 13900, Biella, Italy. Serving 12 years for a number of direct actions 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.

•Iñaki Garcia Koch, Carcel de Pamplona, C/San Roque, Apdo, 250, 31080 Iruñez, Pamplona, Navarra, Spain. Serving just under five years for cutting cables on the construction site of the Itoiz dam.

•Lee Hinlin EX7748, HMP Perry Rd, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 3AG, England. On remand for criminal damage to quarrying equipment at the Nine Ladies quarry.

•Silvano Pellissero, Com. Mastrolerto, Via Ferrerinoli 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, but not English.

Animal Liberation

•Neil Bartlett, #FW7083, HMP Lewes, Brighton Road, East Sussex, BN7 1EA, England. Arrested August 28 on suspicion of making hoax telephone bomb threats to various animal and Earth abusers.

•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.

•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.

Anti-Globalization

•Robert Thaxton, #12112716, 2605 State St, 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.

•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 1/A, 10745 Route 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002. Serving 35-75 years for helping to ship arms to Central American resisters.

•Linn (Lenny) Chavez, c/o SAIC, POB 28703, Oakland, CA 94694; saic@igc.apc.org. A 36-year-old AIM activist and Kiowa man, Lenny was cutting wood at his home when he was attacked by a right wing Aryan group member. The men grabbed Lenny's chainsaw, threatening him and all those at the property. Fearing for his and his family's life Lenny drew his penknife and inflicted non-lethal injuries to the attacker. While the other man went free, Lenny was charged with attempted murder.

•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.

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

Prisoner Support Groups

•Anarchist Prisoner Legal Aid Network, 818 SW 3rd Ave, PMB 354, Portland, OR 97204; aplan@tao.ca.

•Friends of MOVE, POB 19709, Philadelphia, PA 19143.

•Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, POB 583, Lawrence, KS 66044; (913) 842-5774.

•North American Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network, POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440; naelpsn@tao.ca.

•UK Earth Lib. Prisoners Support Network, 16 Sholebrooke Ave, Chapeltown, Leeds, LS7 3HB; earthlibprisoner@mail.ca.

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Warrior Poets Society
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Earth Liberation Front
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naalfpo@tao.ca; www.animalliberation.net

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Earth First! Journal

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DIET FOR A NEW AMERICA

A Modest Proposal

misery is unimaginable to any species, human, tree or bird that still has a heart, sap or song.

Anarchy would assert that these folks can somehow be awakened, that they can be empowered, saved, shown the light or liberated. Or even better, that they will one day decide to save themselves.

Let's face it though, most people suck. They are neither capable of, nor willing to master their own lives, and it's for their own good—and the good of all—if we eat the fucking sheep.

Yes, cannibalism is the tactic I am advocating, though admittedly it isn't for everybody. Unlike most of our other tactics, its effectiveness does not depend on gaining recruits or having a critical mass. It satisfies not only the stomach, but also the conscience of that rare person who feels that it's not enough to symbolically "defend" the wild, but more than anything longs to be wild.

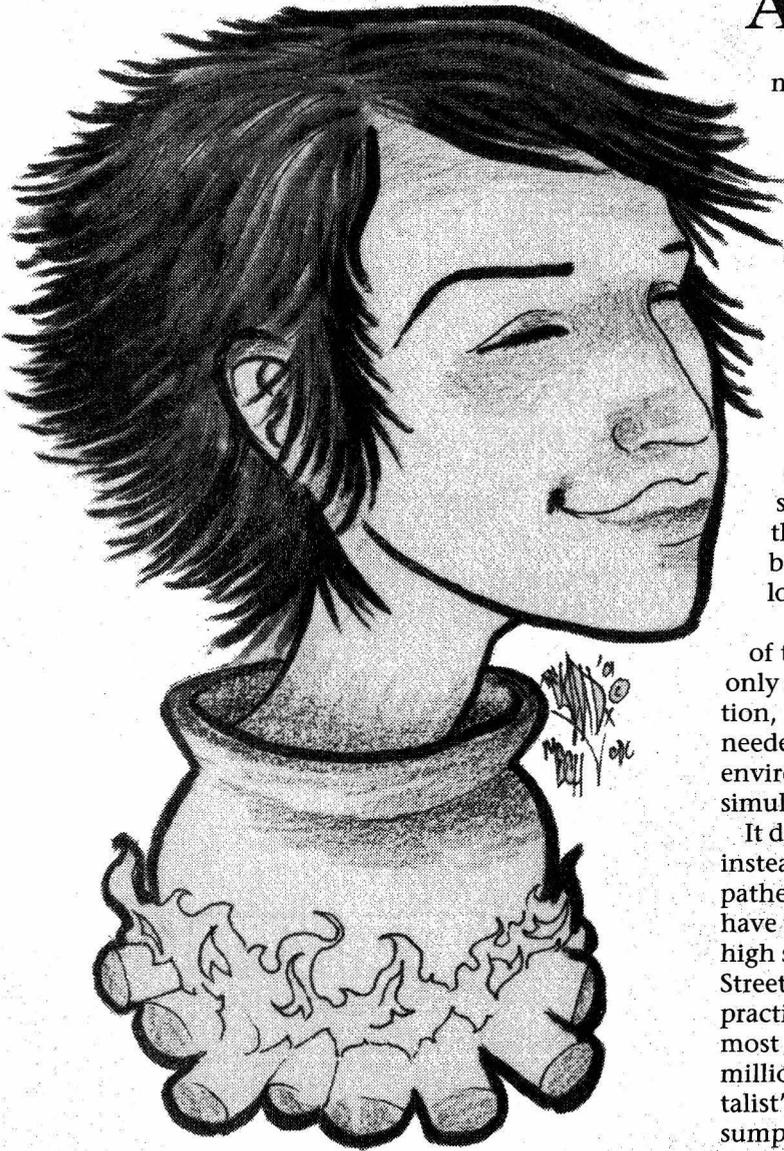
Cannibalism is strategically sound and is an example of the permaculture multi-use principle at its best. Not only does it reduce both overpopulation and global starvation, but eating the rich would serve to free up much-needed resources. This, turn in, will relieve some of the environmental strain caused by overconsumption while simultaneously helping the economy.

It does not dilute its message for a media sound bite, but instead bites the anchorperson in the throat. Instead of pathetically begging politicians for table scraps, we can have them for the main course. Imagine... savage tribes of high schoolers head hunting in the burnt remains of Wall Street. Artists and activists—malnourished no longer—practicing with their homemade bows on the slowest, most bountiful game while it lasts. The once starving millions now exchanging recipes for "country fried capitalist" over dinner and canning colonialists for later consumption. And Buddha-bellied ex-gangsters lounging around in recovering clearcuts, picking their teeth and belching beside their cook fires.

The pacifists will be opposed, but they are the most nutritious anyway, with all their special diets and wheat grass enemas. The strict vegans will have to overcome some dogma—or else arm themselves. Some folks may be too nasty to eat, but we can still hunt them for sport.

So broil a bureaucrat, roast a republican, try some monarch-a-la-king. Pass me a copdog. Do you know what they put in those things? Sauté a CEO and try some fried Freddie's with capitalist custard and papal sauce. Just cut out the bad parts and cook the rest well!

John Robbins is an angry kid who doesn't believe in killing anything more beautiful than himself. He hasn't tried any of the tactics that he suggests here—and he'd never admit it if he had. He's waiting until he finds his band of wannabe feral were-revolutionaries, and until then he's sitting around fantasizing about it.



BY JOHN ROBBINS

Wild critters are alive until they're dead. Unfortunately, most Americans these days are neither alive nor totally dead. They sleep but do not dream, and they breathe but never very deeply. They stumble through their days and argue unconvincingly (between complaints) that they are happy. Medication and entertainment keep people numb and distracted. Elation and anguish are strangely absent from their lives, just as large predators are missing from the landscape. Statistically, stubbed toes and paper cuts are the main source of adrenaline for the middle class. Though they can muster up tears for strangers who died in the latest plane wreck or for Oprah's tragic guest, they seem to come up a quarter short for the bum in their doorway. They'll never experience a gore wound, tumble down a mountain or even get punched in the nose. Their pain is worse. It's the suffering caused by an atrophied spirit. In few cases can it ever be cured, and the

Most Wanted eco-Terrorists



Warren Stephens
Stephens Inc.



Steven Paul Jobs
Apple



August Busch III
Anheuser-Busch



Maurice Greenberg
American Intl. Group



Vance D. Coffman
Lockheed Martin



Jack M. Greenberg
McDonald's Corp.



Michael Eisner
Walt Disney



William Esrey
Spring FON



Bernard Ebbers
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Arthur Levinson
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Lee R. Raymond
Exxon Mobil



John F. Welch
General Electric



Gerald Levin
AOL Time-Warner



Michael Dell
Dell Computer



Luis Gerstner Jr.
IBM



Dr. Ray R. Irani
Occidental Petroleum



Charles Hurwitz
Maxxam

The Earth is not dying, it is being killed, and the people who are killing it have names and addresses.

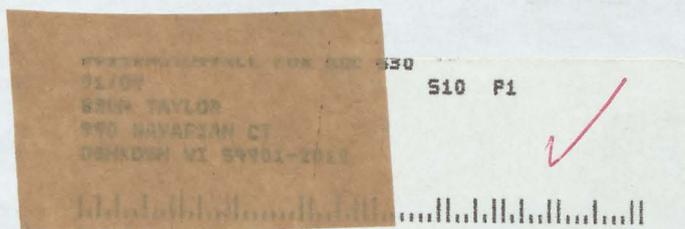
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ignorance
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